



## WCWU SUMMER 2023 NEWSLETTER

### A WELCOME FROM THE PRSIDENT

First, I'd like to thank you all for honoring me with the position of president. Second, I would like to thank all those who have come before me for all your efforts in keeping the Club going and growing for the last 113 years. I'd especially like to thank the wonderfully dedicated and loyal members of the Club for all you have done by participating in events, chairing, agreeing to be on committees, passing along communications, and being open to change as we all moved through the pandemic.



With that, I'd like to welcome you all to the post pandemic era of the Woman's Club! As we move forward in this transition period there will be opportunities for in-person events and meetings as well as possibilities for virtual attendance at some of our gatherings, allowing more to "Meet, Give and Live" as the Woman's Club motto states. Another way to engage in the Woman's Club is to agree to become a Chair, propose a new group, or offer to become part of an existing committee.

To thank and give back to Club members, the Woman's Club is committed to keeping the cost of luncheons at the current rate for members. The Club itself will cover the cost of any price increase from the vendor. Another way the Club is recognizing its members is by sending new members and renewing members a welcome packet with directions for the Club directory and events that will remain on the Woman's Club website. Tributes is a third way Club members can honor each other, special events & occasions or remember a dear loved one.

As the incoming president, I've been asked to say a few words about myself. I first became involved with the Woman's Club at a Planning Meeting. Immediately, I noticed the eagerness of members to embrace new directions, activities, and events. I realized how much the Club wanted to grow and help others at the same time. With that, I joined the Woman's Club as the New Member Chair which I held for 2 years moving to become the Director, Communications for 4 years. This is not my only affiliation with Washington University. I am an alumnus of the Washington University School of Liberal Arts and have participated on alumni committees. As an employee, I came back to Washington University first as a learning specialist consultant, which I still am for the School of Medicine. In 2001, I also took a full-time

#### Executive Committee

**Sarah Fowler-Dixon**  
President

**Margaret Israel**  
Vice President

**Iris Malone**  
Director, Educational  
Programming

**Jane Schaefer**  
Director, Membership

**Helen Wall**  
Director, Communications

**Charlene Kass**  
Director, Service to the  
University

**Elena Maksaeva**  
Director, Symposium  
Luncheons

**Phyllis Markus**  
Director of Finance

**Nancy Dunaway**  
Recording Secretary

**Lisa Schmidt**  
Treasurer

**Carmen S. Dence**  
Immediate Past President

**Laura Vetter**  
Coordinator  
(314) 935-6013

role in human subjects research with the School of Medicine. Maintaining these roles, I helped create the Clinical Research Management program at University College, recently renamed the School of Continuing & Professional Studies, and taught in the program for 15 years. I hope I can bring all my experiences, knowledge & insight, and maybe connections to benefit my role in leading the Woman's Club. Help me spread the word by linking the Woman's Club website to your LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter or other social media accounts.

Warmly,



Sarah Fowler-Dixon

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## SPRING EVENTS

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### Spring Symposium Luncheon and Annual Meeting

On April 28, the Woman's Club of Washington University gathered at the Ritz-Carlton for the Annual Meeting and Spring Symposium Luncheon. The Club met in the Lobby Lounge to greet one another before moving to the Bijou Room for the Annual Meeting. The new officers for the 2023-24 season were voted on and installed. The delicious lunch was followed by a marvelous talk about the Muny by the new President and CEO, Kwofe Coleman. Mr. Coleman stirred up many memories of visits to the St. Louis icon that has been open almost as long as the Woman's Club has existed. Over 50 Club members and guests were in attendance and were happy to be able to congregate in person once again.



President Carmen S. Dence hands off the role to incoming President, Sarah Fowler-Dixon



Executive Board members leaving their roles are Paulina Conner, Vice President and Linda Smith, Director of Finance. Carmen will remain on the board as the Immediate Past President.  
Not Pictured: Barbara Feiner, Director of Service to the University and Judy Joerding, Immediate Past President



New members of the Executive Board: Charlene Kass, Director of Service to the University; Helen Wall, Director of Communications; Phyllis Markus, Director of Finance; Margaret Israel, Vice President; Sarah Fowler-Dixon moves from Director of Communications to President; Carmen S. Dence moves from President to Immediate Past President



Members remaining on the Executive Board: Laura Vetter, Coordinator; Nancy Dunaway, Secretary; Carmen S. Dence, Immediate Past President; Jane Schaefer, Director of Membership; Elena Maksaeva, Director of Symposium Luncheons; Iris Malone, Director of Education; Sarah Fowler-Dixon, President



The Woman's Club's newest 50 year member Pat Owens expounds on her Club memories.



Event co-chair Jennifer Luner introduces speaker Kwofe Coleman, President and CEO of the Muny.



Event co-chair Barbara Bindler welcomes guest speaker Kwofe Coleman.



Members enjoyed a Welcome Reception in the Lobby Lounge of the Ritz Carlton and moved to the Bijou Room for the luncheon, meeting and speaker presentation.

## The Big Dig

On Tuesday, May 9, 18 Butterfly Friend volunteers gathered in the Elizabeth Gray Danforth Butterfly Garden for the annual planting event, The Big Dig! Volunteers planted 23 beds, watered plants in and constructed chicken wire fences around the newly planted beds for safety from the bunnies! They enjoyed the company and being in the garden during this fantastic beginning.



You can join the garden fun every Tuesday at 9:00 am! Email co-chair [Lee Anne Quatrano](#) with questions or for more information.

Pictured: Big Dig Volunteers 2023

## UPCOMING EVENTS

### FALL WELCOME RECEPTION

A Joint Event with the Butterfly Garden Party

**Tuesday, September 12, 2023**

**4:00 pm**

The Elizabeth Gray Danforth Butterfly Garden  
Forsyth Blvd

**This is a free event**

More information about the event and RSVP process will be sent closer to the event.

### SCHOLARSHIP ENDOWMENT GAME DAYS

**Wednesdays - November 15, 2023 & March 13, 2024**

**9:45 am – 3:00 pm**

THE CLARENDALE  
Lake Forest Lounge

We will serve lunch with dessert, coffee, and tea near noon.  
A full day of FOOD, FUN, & FELLOWSHIP for only **\$40/person** donation.

### FALL SYMPOSIUM LUNCHEON

Friday, November 3, 2023  
11:00 am - 2:00 pm

Maggiano's Little Italy  
Richmond Heights, 63117

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## CHANGES TO UNIVERSITY COLLEGE

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In 2009-10, as part of the centennial celebration, Woman's Club members established the Centennial Scholarship Endowment with a gift of \$50,000. The goal then, as it continues to be, is to provide financial support to:

- Non-traditional students returning to college after spending some time in the work force, and
- Students who are attending college for the first time after spending time in the work force.

In the spring of 2018, the executive board voted to change the name of the endowment to honor Risa Zwerling Wrighton, the former First Lady of Washington University. Over the past two decades, increased member support and steady endowment growth has allowed this important fund to support five annual scholarships. The annual scholarships have been awarded to students in what was formerly known as University College. As of June 2023, University College became the School of Continuing & Professional Studies (CAPS). The Woman's Club will continue to offer annual scholarships to students within the School of Continuing & Professional Studies.

**[From The Source at Washington University]** The new name reflects the university's commitment to serve adult learners of all ages and backgrounds through focused degrees and custom programs that align with the St. Louis job market.

"At Washington University, we believe that education is a lifelong endeavor," Chancellor Andrew D. Martin said. "CAPS will give students the knowledge, support and flexibility they need to advance in their careers, acquire new skills and grow personally and professionally."

Currently, approximately 1,150 students are enrolled in School of Continuing & Professional Studies. In addition to its certificate and degree programs, the school administers the [Prison Education Program](#), which offers a college education to incarcerated students at the [Missouri Eastern Correctional Center](#) in Pacific, Mo., and the [Women's Eastern Reception, Diagnostic and Correctional Center](#) in Vandalia, Mo. CAPS also hosts the [Osher Lifelong Learning Institute](#), which offers student-led courses, lectures and events for older learners. It also is home to the renowned [Summer Writers Institute](#), which invites writers of all backgrounds to hone their craft with leading authors. To read more visit The Source at: <https://source.wustl.edu/2023/06/washu-launches-school-of-continuing-professional-studies/>

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## DID YOU KNOW?

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- Several of our Interest Groups meet *year round!* You can join Arts and Crafts, Butterfly Gardeners, Canasta, Dancing Damsels, Mah Jongg, Out and About or Scrabble all summer long. Check the [website](#) for more information about each group or [print a schedule](#).
- You can sign up for any special interest group by contacting the Chair or Co-Chairs

or join us at the Fall Welcome Reception on September 12, 2023 where information on all the special interest groups with sign-up sheets will be available.

- Guest Members of the Woman's Club are welcome to attend any special interest group or event hosted by the Club, giving them the opportunity to explore all the Club has to offer for 1 year before joining.
- The Dancing Damsels of WashU will be performing at the Ferguson Library on Saturday, July 22, 2023 from 1-2:00 pm.
- The chair of the Dancing Damsels, Carmen S. Dence, was chosen by the Missouri Folk Arts Program to receive one of the inaugural Missouri Living Traditions Sustainer Fellowships! This award recognizes the artistic excellence and lifetime achievement of living traditional artists in Missouri. The winners are selected from a competitive pool of public nominations. The fellowships honor individuals' deep-rooted contributions to their art forms and to the vibrant communities in Missouri that the artists support.
- Patti Bubash took a 10 day tour of Portugal and Spain with the Fulbright Alumni Association Travel Program in May. The group traveled from Lisbon to Madrid. She also took a Faith Journey tour to France and Italy with Fontbonne University to commemorate their Centennial Celebration. This group traveled to Paris, Lyon, Le Puy and Rome.
- In May, Phyllis Langsdorf was installed as President Elect of National Council of Jewish Women STL. She will take office in May of 2024.
- Sheri Sherman will be inducted into the University City High School Wall of Fame for 2023. She is the only woman from the Class of 1965 to receive this honor. The Ceremony will take place September 29th.
- This spring Linda Lindsey has given talks related to Afghan immigrants for the Ethical Society and Oasis. The talks were entitled *Afghan Refugee Resettlement: Focus on Women* and *St. Louis as a Welcoming Community*. These talks raise awareness about the ongoing problems related to the Taliban's rampage on women.
- Marcia Bernstein, Sylvia Silver, Diana Bose and Karen Johnson Fields are now residents at Clarendale Clayton.
- Julie Nicolai, authored the book *Enslavement and the Underground Railroad in Missouri and Illinois*. She will have a book signing at the Novel Neighbor bookstore in Webster Groves on Monday, August 21st at 7:00 PM. For more information or to register, please visit the [Events Page](#) of Novel Neighbor's website.

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## MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

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### Patricia Owens

By Suzanne Doyle

Although in the last year or two Pat Owens has stepped back a bit from her 50 years of active involvement in the Woman's Club; she extols her experiences in the Club as among the highlights of her long life—soon to be 87 years. Especially the opportunity for meaningful friendships that can last a lifetime.



Pat discovered the Woman's Club as a young mother of three when her husband, William (Bill) Owens, joined the Anesthesiology Department at Washington University in 1973 after completing his residency in Boston at Massachusetts General. The couple had met when Bill was a medical student at the University of Michigan, and Pat taught young patients at the University Hospital. (She recalls with a deep poignancy the plight of a teenager she met with who was consigned to the isolation of an iron lung.) Pat had been born and grew up as an only child in Detroit then pursued education at a small liberal arts college, Alvion, in Michigan before attaining her MEd in Special Education at the University of Michigan. After Pat and Bill married in 1964, he joined the Navy, they were stationed in Charleston, South Carolina, where their first child, daughter Pam, was born, then at the Camp Lajeune Navel Medical Center in North Carolina, where their son David was born. Immersed in baby care—their last child, Susie, was born during Bill's Boston residency—Pat no longer served as a teacher (outside her busy home).

When the family moved to St. Louis, the children were two, four, and six years old; they settled in Des Peres among many young families. As the children grew older, Pat looked for ways to become more active and found that the wife of her husband Bill's Anesthesiology Chair belonged to the Washington University Woman's Club. That woman, Joan Stephen, who would become President of the Club, invited Pat to investigate the Club, then sponsored her membership. Pat quickly engaged in a number of activities and was especially drawn to the creation and maintenance of the Elizabeth Danforth Butterfly Garden. She notes that "Ibby" Danforth was a warm, hospitable friend of the Club and invited the Board to meet informally in her home throughout William Danforth's chancellorship, meetings Pat remembers as fun and companionable. Interestingly, Bill and Pat seemed to echo her friend Joan's trajectory: Bill, like Joan's husband, became Anesthesiology Chair and in 2000 Pat was selected as the Club President (after and before Pat Sarantites, who was President twice). In most of the years since her presidency Pat continued to pursue her interest in the Butterfly Garden, to play bridge, to plan and participate in the outings of the Out and About group, to read and talk about books in the Literature group, and to host and write with the Creative Women Writers.

More recently, after traveling the world, visiting every continent but Africa, Pat and Bill have moved into a senior living residence, Mason Pointe. Two of their fully grown children, Pam and Susie, live nearby with their husbands and children. Son David is a practicing cardiologist in Seattle; he and his wife have an eleven year-old son. Susie is a stay-at-home mom, trained as a physical therapist; she has three children, two sons and a daughter, twenty, thirteen, and ten years old. Pam, who has three sons, 24, twenty, and sixteen, and has earned her PhD, conducts research in health policy. Pat and Bill can be as active and they'd like at Mason Pointe, which tempts them with tai chi practice, Bible study, a short story group, and dance parties every Friday night, but Pat is most invested now in writing a family history for her children and grandchildren. Her fifty years at the core of the Woman's Club will surely play a significant part in that narrative as it has in her life.

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## MEMBERSHIP REPORT

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The current membership of the Woman's Club stands at 148 members and guests. Please renew your membership by July 15, 2023! This can be done by credit card [online](#). It is safe; your information is protected by the Washington University data processing protocols. If you prefer to pay by check, you can print out a [membership form](#) and mail the form and a check into the office. If you have any questions regarding membership, please contact our Membership Chair, [Jane Schaefer](#).

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## TRIBUTES

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The Woman's Club of Washington University accepts tributes to honor and to remember events, special occasions, and those dear to our hearts. Tribute donations may be directed to any of the Woman's Club endowment funds: Risa Zwerling Wrighton Scholarship, Elizabeth Gray Danforth Butterfly Garden, or Lecture Fund. Tributes are acknowledged in the Woman's Club newsletter, email notifications, and by a personal note sent to the donor.

- Emily Williams has made a tribute to the Club in memory of L. Mike Rice
- Audrey Mathews has made a tribute to the Lecture Fund in memory of Elsie Glickert
- Ellen Feinstein has made a tribute to the Scholarship Fund in memory of Robert Feinstein, MD
- Roberta Gutwein has made a tribute to the Butterfly Garden in memory of Lorraine Gnecco

Recently we have lost a few of our beloved members of the Woman's Club.

JoAnn Mulcahy passed away on April 15, 202. Her obituary can be viewed [here](#).

Greta Camel passed away on May 26, 2023. Her obituary can be viewed [here](#).

A contribution to Washington University's Olin Library will be made in memory of these valued members.

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If you are interested in making a gift or tribute, please contact Laura Vetter at 314-935-6013 or [womansclub@wustl.edu](mailto:womansclub@wustl.edu).

**To give by mail:**

The Woman's Club of Washington University  
7425 Forsyth Blvd., MSC 1228-414-2100  
St. Louis, MO 63105

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## 20 YEAR & TIER MEMBERS

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**Eliot Society Members**

Maya Jerath

**Benefactor Members**

Paulina Conner, Lee Anne Quatrano

**Sponsoring Members**

Assimo Azariadis, Elissa Cahn, Barbara Feiner, Margaret Israel, Charlene Kass, Alki Lappas-Case, Charmaine Leonard, Tedi Macias, Pat Sarantites, Linda Smith

**Sustaining Members**

Gisela Ahadi, Andrea Atkinson, Faith Berger, Marcia Bernstein, Carole Bever, Barbara Bindler, Carmen



Dence, Karen Johnson Fields, Sarah Fowler-Dixon, Elaine Greenbaum, Cary Hobbs, Connie Kahn, Barbara Kodner, Catherine Krucylak, Betsy Lawlor, Linda Lindsey, Sara Loyet, Gloria Lubowitz, Jennifer Luner, Ingrid Lutzeler, Phyllis Markus, Judith McKelvey, Elfriede Olney, Sibylle Ott, Pat Owens, Diane Rankin, Paula Smith, Sarah Stauffer, Celia Sutera, Nancy Tankersley, Edith Tashma, Serry Thakor, Helen Wall

#### **Honorary Members**

Paulina Conner, Connie Kahn, Tedi Macias, Anne McDonnell, Ellen Wallace, Anabeth Weil, Risa Zwerling Wrighton

#### **20+ Year Members**

Gisela Ahadi, Carole Bever, Judy Dudukovic, Charlotte Ellis, Betty Epstein, Ellen Feinstein, Elaine Greenbaum, Annaliesa Hanebrink, Margaret Israel, Alki Lapas-Case, Jackie Lipsitz, Ingrid Lutzeler, Tedi Macias, Judith McKelvey, Pat Sarantites, Jane Schaefer, Celia Sutera, Maureen Swihart, Charlene Taber, Serry Thakor, Risa Zwerling Wrighton

#### **50+ Year Members**

Marcia Bernstein, Betty Hudgins, Jan Kardos, Audrey Mathews, Pat, Owens, Marcella Rose, Rose Marie Salisbury, Katherine Sandel, Sylvia Silver, Carolyn Stern, Nancy Thompson

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## **OPPORTUNITIES**

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### **OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN**

Washington University in St. Louis has many opportunities for learning virtually. Please visit the following websites for more information:

Lifelong Learning Department: <https://osher.wustl.edu/>

Virtual Connections: <https://alumni.wustl.edu/events/>. These events require registration to receive a Zoom link.

The Brown School has a variety of presentations and webinars on the calendar. Visit <https://brownschool.wustl.edu/events/Pages/default.aspx> for a list of upcoming events, and to register.

For more events visit <https://atwashington.wustl.edu>

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Thank you for your continued support and dedication to our Woman's Club community!

### **Woman's Club of Washington University - Founded 1910**

Washington University in St. Louis, MSC 1228  
7425 Forsyth Blvd., St. Louis, Missouri 63105

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