



GFWC- South Brunswick Islands, Inc.
Club History: January- December 2016

Executive Board:

President, Melon Corsini; First Vice President, Chris Angotti;
Second Vice President, Tammy Kesky; Recording Secretary, Tori Humphrey;
Corresponding Secretary, Susan Gibble; Treasurer, Barb Stephens;
Co-Treasurer, Peggy Truesdale; Parliamentarian, Lynn Watkins;
Historian, Kimmie Durham; Photographer: Marie Marshburn; Immediate Past
President, Cindy Hewett

2016 was successful year for GFWC-SBI and our community. We, as club women experienced the true gift of love, kindness and serving others through our club projects and events. What makes our club remarkable, is that through personal everyday life events, we still come together to assist those in need within our community. Some club women lost loved ones, some had to care for aging parents, some were caregivers to ill family members/friends while others experienced joy at the birth of a new grandchild. We celebrated those joys of life together. There were pageants that were won, there were weddings, graduations, new jobs, new homes, attending community events together and celebration of birthdays. Our faith gives us hope, our hope gives us strength and our prayers uplift one another!

Working together for the greater good is the hallmark of our club!

January we held our meeting at Loaders Grill in Ocean Isle Beach. GFWC-NC President Elect, Ann Landis served as our Installing Officer for our new officers, club awards and inducting new members. Our new members inducted were Beth Elliott and Kimberly Reed, with Jack DeGroot rejoining. The following club women were recognized: Rookie of the Year: Jennifer Kuhnemann; Polly Greenwood Russ Clubwoman of the Year: Tammy Kesky and Cindy Hewett; Kay Batten Congeniality Award: Marie Marshburn; Melon Corsini Clubwoman with Heart Award: Donna Trest; Brenda Register President's Award: Melon Corsini; and the Judy Holden Citizenship Award: Chris Angotti. We focused on our upcoming SOUPer Bowl fundraiser. Our 7th Annual SOUPer Bowl was held on February 6th and we raised over \$5700 to feed the hungry in our community! The monies were divided equally amongst: BFA, Wings Backpack Ministry and SBI Interchurch Council Food Pantry.

Our February meeting brought a seasoned transfer member from Florida, Sharon Bard to join our club. We spoke about the District 7 Arts Festival and upcoming GFWC-NC Arts Festival. A few of our members participated in the District Arts Festival bringing home ribbons. Club Woman of the Month was presented to Cindy Hewett. The importance of getting "back to our roots" and having active CSPs was deemed as an important criterion for our club this year. President Corsini will make time for CSPs at each club meeting.

Our March meeting focused on member safety with Sgt. Bart Reaves of the Brunswick County Sheriffs Office at Arbor Landing. He spoke about women's safety and the benefits of preparedness that come from training. Peggy Truesdale scheduled a RAD training program for members to attend. We focused on our next fundraiser, Juleps & Jazz.

Our April Meeting's Program was sponsored by International Affairs and Joe Russell spoke about missions and needs. Juleps & Jazz report was given and being less than a month away, we were

operating like a well-oiled machine. This is one of our signature fundraisers and well received by the community. Carol Petrea spoke about an upcoming fundraiser for The First Tee of Brunswick County featuring Whitney Layne on May 22nd at the Museum of Coastal Carolina. Deanna Inions also mentioned that donations to TFTBC in memory of Harrison Taylor were being requested. Club Woman of the Month went to Tammy Kesky.

Our May meeting was highlighted by our successful Juleps & Jazz which was held on May 7th raising funds "Derby Style". With our Jazzy Juleps, spectacular food, silent auction, photo booth, win/place/show, our grand satchet on the "Hat Walk" and of course, the viewing of the Kentucky Derby, we reaped the rewards of all that hard work raising nearly \$13,000 to fund multiple causes throughout our community. The May meeting was held at Inlet View Restaurant honoring our Sallie Southall Cotten scholarship recipient, Sam Zeng. We also inducted a new member, Debbie Rajca. We were asked to support the Shallotte Juniors with individually wrapped desserts for the Survivors at Relay for Life.

A short hiatus was enjoyed June thru August, and we returned to a September meeting focusing on early education by Smart Start of Brunswick County. Gerri Cox presented the Nominating Committee.

October found us at Mulberry Park on Main Street Shallotte, where the Conversation CSP dedicated the Herb Garden Project. Produce from the garden will be donated to the SBIC Food Pantry. Many thanks to club member Barb Stephens' husband, Vic for his green thumb in keeping our garden well maintained. Shallotte Finance Officer & Assistant Town Administrator, Mimi Gaither joined us for the dedication.

Loaders Grill was the place for our November meeting and Annual Holiday Baked Goods Auction. Good food and great spirits enhanced our evening of fun. The efforts of our auctioneer, Polly Russ and the generous hearts of the club women and their guests led us to raising \$2,800 to support charitable causes within our community. Club Woman of the Month was presented to Tammy Kesky.

Our December meeting sponsored by the Arts CSP was held at Next Generation Canvas & Cocktails. A fun holiday painting was completed by the women that attended. Club Woman of the Month was presented to Lynn Watkins.

We had another spectacular year as clubwomen of the GFWC-SBI and supported the community vigorously! With kind hearts and giving spirits, we engaged the community to assist us in exceeding our goals. If you are ever in need of ANYTHING, this group of loving and independent women will ALWAYS have your back! Looking ahead to 2017, feeling grateful and blessed to work side by side with these EXQUISITE women.

Kimmie Durham
GFWC-SBI Historian 2016