

HOME Sweet HOME

Vol. 3, Issue 3

Marion Women's Club Home

SUMMER 2023

Celebrate: Brunch, Tea & Tours July 22

Valerie's Views...

Planting Seeds of Success

Experience a unique, elegant tea as the Marion Women's Club presents **"Celebrate the Arts: Brunch, Tea & Tours"** at 10 a.m. Saturday, July 22, at the historic Barlow home, 1126 E. Center St., Marion.

"Teas have been important since our Club was formed back in 1895," explained Keily Cunningham, board member and Club archivist. "We found in our archives that a 1933 tea was held with the 'Nursing Committee,' another in 1952 celebrating Art, and a musical tea in 1957."

Open to the public, the brunch features live music with singer/songwriter TJ George. **Guests will experience a full range of the Arts, not only in the brunch** (provided by Marcela Barrios, Baires Restaurant) but also paintings, poetry, quilting, embroidery, Zentangle—and more.

"We'll showcase our members' incredible creativity on all levels," adds Pam DeGood, co-chair. **"It could be very inspirational — and bring out the artist in all of us."**



TEA FOR TWO...AND YOU — Brunch co-chairs Pam DeGood, Sharol Herr and Judy Tong showcase the Club's silver tea set (circa 1958) and other member-created artwork to be featured at "Brunch, Tea & Tour" July 22. For tickets (\$30), text or call WCH: (740)387-1366 or email your request: WomensClubHome@gmail.com. Reservation/payment deadline: July 17.



"Abuela" by Sharol Herr

What a way to begin my presidency: celebrating our Ohio Historical marker installation, providing FREE mammograms at Women's Wellness Wednesday (over), planting **"Nancy's Garden"** (see below, in honor of Past President Nancy E. Hafer), zapping a bee infestation, checking our basement after rain...

It's a fast and furious pace, but with **105 members, gracious donors and engaged community partners**, we're growing a bountiful "garden," honoring the seeds planted by early clubwomen and paving the way for future generations.

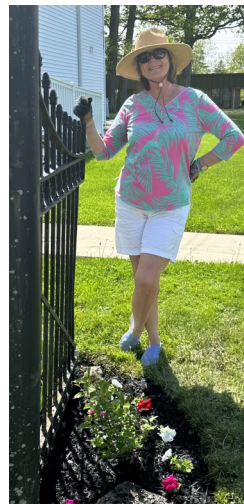
I'm honored to be serving as President, but even more so, **to be working alongside our Board and members, and you, celebrating our mission, vision and passion.**

Thank you for the many ways you help us plant our success.

Growing together,

Valerie

**Valerie Wigton
President-Marion Women's Club**



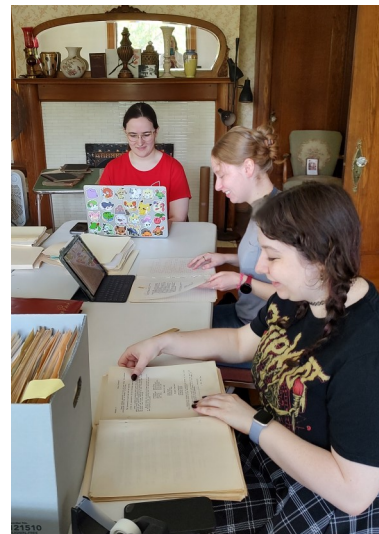
Connecting Legacies of Language & Literacy

The Marion Women's Club has again welcomed Ohio State Marion students to research its rich archives (*right*), discovering ways clubwomen and librarians have worked together to promote literacy in Marion — **ever since 1907, in fact!**

Supported by a university grant, the project is being led by **OSUM faculty team members Margaret Sumner (WCH board member) and her colleagues Nicole Patson and Ben McCorkle.** The next phase involves students volunteering at Marion Public Library, reading to children.

"They'll also record 'literacy narratives' of Marionites, **collecting personal stories about learning how to read and/or write,**" explains Sumner. **"And they'll create a public exhibit** highlighting their research, as well as Marion's deep engagement with literacy promotion—past, present and future."

A LABOR OF 'LITERACY' LOVE: OSUM students pore over Women's Club archives (from l-r): Casey Schetter and Cheyenne Anderson; and Stephanie Karrick, Abigail Smith, Sydney Schryer and (not pictured) Autumn Schafer.





Women's Wellness Wednesday's panel discussion, **"I'm a Survivor...and SO MUCH MORE"** featured intimate stories of hope and healing from (l-r, front row) Amy Garwood, Kate Beck, Laurie Snyder, and Terri St. Clair; and (l-r, standing) Doris Schwartz, Courtney Robinson and Sally McNamara Hughes. "It was so healing for me," said one panel member.

It's a Wrap: Women are Wild about Wellness!

Practice box breathing. Be the parent, please. The more "textural" your plate, the better. Read 'The Joy of Half a Cookie.' Google "The Rubber Hand Experiment." People can heal physically once they heal emotionally. If someone mentions suicide, take them seriously — call 988 — the new suicide and crisis line.

More than 100 participants gained valuable advice from local healthcare experts at the 2nd Women's Wellness Wednesday June 7. Topics ranged from sleep and eating disorders to cancer prevention, foods to avoid and foods to eat, how to spot "warning signs" that might point to depression or suicide in kids...and more.



IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:
OhioHealth

Teresa Roberts (left, with WCH volunteer Darla VanSickle) was one of **15 women receiving a free mammogram**. "I watch my grandbabies during the day, clean at night, and do child care on weekends — I just can't afford health insurance."

Marionite Merrill Cooper Bender surprised the Club with a \$5,000 **donation to support "Women's Wellness Wednesday" 2024** in memory of her beloved sister and friend, Janet Gail McCombs, who died of cancer in 2022. "My sister lost her battle," explained Bender. "When I heard Laurie's story at your 'Turn Up the Heat' (gala) in March, I was moved to do this in my sister's memory. If it can help just one woman, I'll be happy."

NOW... and Then



WCH Annual Meeting/Derby Style, May 2023



Making our 'Mark' in Marion ... and beyond

Did you know *the Barlows referred to their newly built home as "Waldheim?"* Or that early Women's Club members provided loans to college women, bought trash receptacles for the City, and provided dental clinics for low-income citizens? These details, and others, are found on the Ohio Historical Marker (inset, above) unveiled by 100 Rotarians, dignitaries and Women's Club members May 23.

The marker will soon be **surrounded by the Rotary Club Garden**, and is on the map of "Amazing Treasures," a summer scavenger hunt sponsored by the Marion Area Convention & Visitor's Bureau that runs through Sept. 1.

Kudos to WCH Board members **Margaret Sumner, Sharol Herr and Nancy E. Hafer** for overseeing the multi-year effort. To view locations of the 17 other markers in Marion County, and others throughout Ohio, visit RemarkableOhio.org.



Ida Barlow (far right) & friends, circa 1902

—photo courtesy Randy Winland & First Presbyterian Church archives

Make your impact: MarionCountyFederationOfWomensClubs.com/Our-Funds

