

HOME Sweet HOME

Vol. 4, Issue 1

Marion Women's Club & Home

Winter 2024

Local celebrities dancing to 'make history'

Valerie's Views...

Dancing and Dreaming...

Your help = Our dreams. Thank YOU for allowing us to dream BIG — most recently by **renovating the crumbling, deteriorating front porch & foundation** — our BIGGEST dream to date (*see below*).

Savings from our 2022 & 2023 Galas and our "Front Porch/Foundation Friends" campaign covered the \$133,000 needed to restore the iconic front porch, making it **safe for another 100 years!** Thank you for sharing our vision to complete this project.

We're still dreaming BIG! Funds raised at our 5th Annual Gala will bring us one step closer to creating the "Women's History Resource Center" from the deteriorating carriage house, located behind the historic home. It will house **one of the most complete records of women's history in the nation** while providing archival access for historians, students, and visitors. A small office will house our growing Women's Club operations. Because we'll be around for another 100 years... **thanks to YOU!**

With sincere gratitude,

Valerie

Valerie Wigton, President—Marion Women's Club



Bart Hooper, MidState Contractors, and WCH President Valerie Wigton celebrate the newly restored Front Porch.



MAKING HISTORY — Ben Albright, Dr. Kate Finney, Linda Sims-Pickett, Dan Bradshaw, Ray Grogan, Jennifer Lawson, Mya Campbell and Rueben Castillo are "Turning Up the Heat" at the Club's "Enchanted Evening" Gala March 2. Funds raised will help to renovate the carriage house (above) into the "Women's History Resource Center" to house the Club's rich archives (from 1895 on), a learning lab, and office space for growing Women's Club operations. —photo by Brandy Gatrell

'Enchanted Evening' sponsors shine like GOLD

Community partners are shining their light — and support — for the Club's 2024 Gala.

Please join us in thanking them for supporting our mission, vision and programs:

PRESENTING SPONSOR: OhioHealth

GOLD: Finney Family Dentistry; Lu Chivington, ReMax Select Associates

SILVER: Alluvial Private Wealth, Boyd Funeral Home, Cherrie's Hope Foundation (*in memory of Cherrie Field*), Foundations Health Solutions/The Meadows of Marion, Harding Executive Properties, Marion Logistics Services, McDaniel Automotive, Nucor, Sika Corp., Wigton Wealth Management at Stifel

DANCE FLOOR SPONSOR: Modern Woodmen of America

FRONT PORCH SPONSOR: Park National Bank

STAR SPONSORS: 3D Private Wealth Advisors, The Fogle Group at Stifel, Nancy E. & Tom Hafer, POET Biorefining, Doris & Steve Schwartz, Sims Brothers Recycling, Sisler Companies, and Union Home Mortgage

TWIRL & WHIRL SPONSORS: 4U Health & Wellness, Ryan & Sarah Campbell, Cooper's Bowl, Cummins Facility Services, Dostal & Kirk, Fahey Bank, Hyundai Marion, MTC, Marion OB/GYN, Mathews Honda Acura, Angie Tanner Miller/Coldwell Banker Realty, Judy Tong, United Church Homes, and Stephen J Chaney VFW Post 7201.



'Empowering Women' project earns Barlow Brilliance Award



Like *Ida Barlow*, (left) who bequeathed her home to the Marion Women's Club in 1945, *Jenni Hypes*, executive director-Marion Aspire Ministries, believes in empowering women and strengthening community.

Hypes' "*Strong Women – Stronger Marion: Enrichment Day 2024*" was chosen for the 2023 "Ida Barlow Brilliance (\$1,000) Award."

"My hope is that participants will unlock new potential which will lead to stronger women, and a stronger Marion," Hypes explained.

The award recognizes a local woman entrepreneur or nonprofit leader whose innovative program benefits our community — while aligning with the Women's Club mission to empower women and enrich the community. Jer-Zee owner Barb Pine won the 2022 award for her "Story Time" program designed to improve literacy rates.

"*Strong Women – Stronger Marion*" is designed to give participants opportunities to explore new skills and make connections with others.

Follow "The Marion Women's Club & Home" on Facebook for details.



**Jenni Hypes, 2023
Ida Barlow Brilliance
Award Winner**



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ROSES FOR M'LADY—Club Archivist Keily Cunningham (left) points out the contrast of the "Roycroft Rose" newly painted wall color against the historic home's quarter sawn oak woodwork. It's believed Ida Barlow used the color when building the house in 1903. "It's critical to maintain the home's historical integrity with the paint color as close to the original as possible," Cunningham notes. "The color is also indicative of the Arts & Crafts era, which is found throughout the home."



You Go, Girl!

2024 Gala proceeds are designated for Phase I & II renovation of the Women's Club Home carriage house into the **Women's History Resource Center** providing public access to the Club's rich archives that tell its 130-year story of clubwomen impacting and improving the community.

Kris Ruebush, (left) a 30-year plumber with Bowers Heating & Cooling, Findlay, digs trenches to install new plumbing. Phase I should be complete by July 30.

Bringing history to life, inspiring service in 2024

- **March 2:** "Enchanted Evening" Dance Gala
- **March 22:** OSUM Student Plays w/ New York City Playwrights & Community Actors
- **May 4&11:** Front Porch Landscaping & Planting Work Days
- **May 23:** Front Porch Dedication & Annual Meeting
- **June 5:** Women's Wellness Wednesday
- **July 13:** "Brunch, Tea & Tour Through the Generations"
- **Sept.:** "Ohio Open Doors" (date TBD)
- **Sept. 1:** WCH Ida Barlow "Brilliance Award" Applications Open
- **Oct. 31:** WCH Ida Barlow "Brilliance Award" Applications Close
- **Nov. 2:** Holiday Art & Craft Fair
- **Dec. 12:** "Handbags for Hope" Holiday Party



CHEERS TO OUR PAST & FUTURE — Board Members (l-r) *Sharol Herr, Nancy E. Hafer, Margaret Sumner, Keily Cunningham, Valerie Wigton, Pam DeGood, Lynette McCullough, Deb Stark, Vickie McClellan, Lu Chivington, Lisa Bush and Doris Schwartz* plan for — and toast to — 2024 at their annual strategic planning meeting. WCH Members *Donna Coldren and Sue Schwamberger* recently joined the board.

Make your impact: MarionCountyFederationOfWomensClubs.com/Our-Funds

