Oriental Woman's Club General Meeting, June 3, 2025

Call to Order at 11:45 p.m. by President, Ellen Blackmon. Ellen reminded everyone to silence their cell phones.

The Pledge of Allegiance to the United States Flag: Led by Sally Farrell.

Inspirational Reading: Marguerite Garrett reminded us that there is a connection between humanity and nature. She shared that research shows there are energy fields in plants that resonate with human emotions. She emphasized kindness and gratitude in community interactions.

Scholarship Luncheon: Today's meeting is a special meeting that includes a luncheon that recognizes our scholarship recipients. The luncheon hostesses are Carol Young and the Education Committee.

Today we recognize:

Kristin Powell, a student at Pamlico County High School. Kristin is the recipient of the \$2000.00 Girls on the Run scholarship. The Oriental Woman's Club contributes \$500.00 towards this scholarship. Cathy Delcambre, Head Coach of Girls on the Run, acknowledged Kristin's academic and extracurricular activities. She will be attending NC Central University, with a major in nursing.

Samiyah Renee Maiden, a student at Pamlico County High School is the recipient of the \$3000.00 Hargrove scholarship. Susan Van Meter acknowledged her accomplishments. Samiyah spoke and shared that she will be attending UNC Charlotte with a major in psychology with plans to get her masters in occupational therapy, specializing in autism.

Susan Van Meter then introduced Wyatt Lawton Grant, a graduate of Arapahoe Charter School. He is the recipient of the \$3000.00 Cather's Scholarship. He plans to get his associates degree from Pamlico Community College and then through the Pirates Promise program progress to East Carolina Universities robotics and fine art program.

Accolades were given and President Blackmon invited everyone to enjoy the luncheon. After the luncheon the guests were thanked for their attendance and excused from the OWC general meeting.

General Meeting

Minutes of Previous General Meeting: These have been read and approved and posted on the website. Elizabeth Sabiston, Julie Wiegand and Sarah Dougherty will read and approve the minutes of this meeting, compiled by Kim Hutchins.

Treasurer's Report: The report for the previous month has been accepted for file and posted.

Special mention: President Blackmon read a letter from the late Carole Herman's son, Jeffrey. He sent the letter to President Blackmon following a memorial that was held in his mother's honor. The letter recounted Carole's love of the Oriental Woman's Club and in her honor he donated \$5000.00 to fund the teacher mini-grants for years to come.

Membership: Sharon Morgan, membership chair, recognized June and July birthdays since we will take a summer break after this meeting until September. August birthdays will be recognized at the September meeting. There were 22 members present for today's meeting.

New Business:

Program Reports

Arts: Carol Young had no new items.

Building Manager: Susan Jaeger was not present to report.

Dessert of the Month Raffle: Maryellen Bickel reported approximately 70 tickets have been sold. She has additional tickets available for anyone wanting to sell them over the summer break.

Community Life: Gay Webster reported the next American Red Cross blood drive will be held on June 13.

Education: Carol Young reported teacher Mini-grant applications have been sent out to Pamlico County High School, Pamlico Christian Academy, and Arapahoe Charter School and are due back no later than July 1, 2025.

Garden Program: Julie Wiegand reported the next road cleanup day will be June 25th with a signup sheet in the back of the room.

Golf Tournament: Sign-up sheets for donations or volunteering at the tournament are in the back of the room with volunteers needed. The tournament also needs packages of golf balls and food items for the continental breakfast. President Blackmon announced a golf tournament committee meeting June 30th at 10:00.

Ladies of the Neuse: Marguerite Garrett reported that the next workshop for making Croaker Festival trophies will be from 9 a.m. to Noon on Wednesday, June 4th. Marguerite also reported First Citizens will allow us to sell Croaker Festival hats in their lobby, as we have done in the past. Sharon Morgan and Elizabeth Sabiston agreed to sell Croaker Festival hats prior to the parade.

The next Executive Committee meeting will be held August 26th at 10:00 am and the next General Meeting will be September 2nd at 1:30 pm.

Our guest speaker for September will be Steven Hollowell, Pamlico County Clerk of Superior Court. He will discuss wills and estates.

Our guest speaker for October will be Tonya Jordan, Director of Hospice of Pamlico County. A fashion show will be held during this meeting with members wearing fashion purchased from the Hospice Thrift Store. Come dressed to impress.

Ellen Blackmon adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted by Kim Hutchins and Donna Crothers.