

FIWC

January Newsletter

Happy New Year to all our members as we reflect upon our past achievements, even during these most challenging times, and look forward with hope and determination to the time when we can once again gather in the company of one another. Although we are unable to meet as a group, due to the Covid protocol, we CAN reach out to one another and strengthen the bond that unites us in our mission to contribute to the well-being of our Fripp community as well as those of our nearby neighbors in Beaufort County, demonstrating the Spirit of the Lowcountry.

With that in mind, we would like to share a few items of interest from our December calendar and update you on current and future activities.

December Activities

FIWC board members contributed to Fripp's holiday spirit by decorating the entrance Christmas tree, creating and selling Spirit of the Holidays gift baskets, and participating in the Holiday Feast feature of the December Trawler. Coordinated and hosted by Jan Manning and written and photographed by Erin Pickering, the Trawler article could have been a Southern Living exclusive! Thank you, Erin, for allowing us to showcase some of our favorite holiday recipes as well as provide some welcome publicity for our Women's Club!

Coordinated by Co-Vice-President Gayla Thomas, the sale of the Spirit of the Holidays gift baskets was a huge success...all 60 baskets being sold, and a profit of \$1498.77 being realized! Many thanks to all our generous contributors, including MacDonal'd's, Island Cookies by Kelly, Barclay Sharon, Donna Reichle, and, of course, Gayla.



Adding some Christmas spirit to Fripp!



ANNOUNCEMENTS

Covid Vaccine: As we all await the availability of the Covid vaccine, Nancy Wingenbach and the Outreach Comm. are exploring options of conducting a vaccination clinic on Fripp with area distributors. If that possibility can be arranged, we will notify everyone immediately. In the meantime, please explore all available options in case it will be unable to arrange on-site vaccinations.

Membership: If you haven't already done so, please send your renewal or new membership dues of \$20 to Melanie Dunn, 1 Kingfisher Cove.

Born to Read: Our membership generously contributed 65 used and 181 new books and a record \$700 toward providing reading materials for young children in our area. We are especially grateful to Mary Jacobs for her donation of 120 new books.

2021 Program Highlights

As the Community Center remains closed due to Covid protocol, we have, sadly, had to cancel our speakers for the scheduled January, February, and March meetings. However, because we feel their commitment to their community truly represents our theme of The Spirit of the Lowcountry, we would like to feature them in our monthly newsletters.

This month's speaker was to have been Theresa Edwards, Executive Dir. of Love House Learning Academy (LHLA), a Beaufort outreach organization serving the needs of the community. Their programs include providing after-school care, a senior daycare program, and a summer learning academy. During the coronavirus crisis, she and her staff became concerned about seniors and other shut-ins receiving proper meals and partnered with the Gullah Farmers Cooperative in distributing healthy produce to those struggling during the pandemic. Unlike Meals on Wheels, which requires a payment for their services, LHLA provides these delivered meals free of charge. Sadly, during these past months, 19 of their senior clients died of Covid-related issues. Applying for federal grants, including HUD assistance, Pastor Roberts said they are updating their kitchen facilities in order to prepare meals more efficiently at a reduced cost. They are also accepting any community contributions for this project at Love House Learning Academy, Program for Senior Feeding, P.O. Drawer 4132, Beaufort, SC 29903.

Theresa Roberts, the Executive Director of the Love House Learning Academy (LHLA) of Beaufort, right. In 2015, Ms. Edwards was appointed by then Gov. Nikki Haley to the SC Domestic Violence Task Force, and in that year, the LHLA was founded. The LHLA expanded programs already in existence since 2009 to 9 additional locations throughout Beaufort.



Until we can meet again in person, please stay safe. On behalf of your Fripp Island Women's Club Board, I wish you all a 2021 filled with hope, peace, and good health.

Donna Reichle, Co-Vice-President,
On behalf of the FIWC Board of Directors