



NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY WOMAN'S CLUB

www.ncsu.edu/womansclub

"To unite NC State University women in common interests and to promote the welfare and advancement of the University"

NEWSLETTER December 2011

Vivian Hughes, President
851-1475

Chris Cammarene-Wessel, Editor
515-7678 or chris_wessel@ncsu.edu

Message from President Vivian Hughes

HOLIDAY GREETINGS! Do you have as much trouble as I do realizing Christmas is just days away? Is shopping ahead for you, or are you already finished? Mine is all ahead. Shopping aside, I hope your Christmas s a merry one, spent with family and friends.

What a sense of pride Dr. Marshall Stewart's presentation encouraged us to feel as he discussed the enormous contributions the women of Family and Consumer Sciences have made to North Carolina Families for the past 100 years. As he emphasized, each of s has, in some way, benefitted from their expertise. And Wilma Hammett's book, *Ordinary Women, Extraordinary Service*, does a beautiful job of confirming that impact. I went home with my copy and began reading immediately.

Looking forward to seeing everyone at our December Christmas Dinner, when spouses and other guests join us for a festive evening. We will have dessert!



**NCSU Woman's Club December 15 2011 Meeting
6:00 p.m. Cocktail Reception with Cash Bar, Followed by Dinner
University Club's University Room**

Program: Holiday Food, Fun and Fellowship

Hostesses: Ann Frazier, Peggy Chilton, Joy Frauson, Susan Hunter, Mae Marshall, Betsy Meldau

Reservations Due: Friday, December 9 to Betsy Meldau.

Cancellations should be phoned in to Betsy Meldau at 851-2295 no later than December 12 for refund. Cancellations later than that date, ticket price must be paid in full.



RESERVATION FORM

Lunch Cost: **\$20 per person. Checks payable to: NCSU Woman's Club.** Reservations (with payment) must be received by **Friday, December 9, 2011.**

Mail to: Betsy Meldau, 1302 Chaney Road, Raleigh NC 27606.

Number of Reservations _____ Member Name _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Guest(s) Name(s) _____

Total Lunch Payment Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make your checks payable to NCSU Woman's Club.



Carol Caldwell Scholarship Endowment Report from Anne Porter

Thanks to everyone for their continued support of this endowment through outright gifts and support each meeting of the on-going raffle. Please remember this special scholarship endowment with your annual tax-deductible gifts in memory or to honor a special friend or loved one. All donors will be listed in the December program, if Anne receives your gifts by December 9. (All donors will also be listed in the April program.)

Thanks to Debbie Yow, our November and December special drawing (to be held at the December meeting) will be for two great seats at the NCSU/UNC Basketball Game on February 21. Thanks to all the ladies who made their gifts at the November meeting. What a great end-of-the-year tax-deductible gift!!

Remember..... Please make checks payable to NCSU Foundation, Inc., noting Carol Caldwell Scholarship Endowment. (Please **DO NOT** write "raffle" on your check.)

1 for \$3 or 2 for \$5 or 4 for \$10 or 6 for \$15 or 10 for \$25 or 12 for \$30 or 25 for \$50 or 50 for \$100.... Well you get the idea!

Something else to consider....

When you review your estate plan, please remember that a will bequest or other planned gift is an easy but very important way to support this worthy endowment. NC State has several outstanding planned giving personnel, who would be happy to talk with you – a free, no obligation service! (I can give you their contact information anytime.)



Holiday Traditions in North Carolina

Old Christmas

When the Julian calendar switched to the more accurate Gregorian calendar in 1582, Christmas “moved” from January 6 to December 25. But many European countries refused to change calendars for years, and continued to celebrate Old Christmas. The new calendar took time to make it across the ocean and be adopted by the colonies, so Old Christmas continued here as well.

Some interesting Old Christmas traditions have survived over the centuries. One of those traditions is called Breaking Up Christmas, which is best known in the mountain region of the Tarheel State. In the old days, with winter being a slow time of year, the people just kept on celebrating from December 25 until January 6 (Twelfth Night Eve), taking turns hosting music, dancing, and feasting at one another’s homes.

A fiddle tune was written by an unknown songwriter to honor the Breaking Up Christmas tradition:



MORAVIAN STARS ARE ANOTHER COMMON NORTH CAROLINA CHRISTMAS TRADITION®

“Hooray, Jack and Hooray John,
Breaking up Christmas all night long.
Way back yonder, a long time ago,
Way down yonder alongside the creek,
I seen Santy Claus washing his feet.
Santa Claus come, done and gone,
Breaking up Christmas right along.”

The mountain folk tell the story that at the stroke of midnight on Twelfth Night Eve the barnyard animals can be seen kneeling, and no matter how cold the weather the elderberry bushes will bloom. Other old traditions include are not removing ashes from the fireplace or changing the bed sheets during the Twelve Days of Christmas, December 25 through January 6th. To do so was believed to invite bad luck for the coming year.

The Outer Banks town of Rodanthe has long maintained the custom of observing Old Christmas. After celebrating modern Christmas on December 25, people in Rodanthe and a few other places on the Outer Banks enjoy another Christmas Day on January 5. One feature of Old Christmas in Rodanthe is the appearance of "Old Buck," a four-footed creature looking something like a bull which is said to roam the forest during the year. At Christmas he appears to dance and frolic among the celebrating children and adults. Music, bonfires, and oyster roasts also mark this unusual North Carolina event.

