

*The 16th Annual Meeting of the Senior Women's Club was held on **January 8, 2008**. President Jeanne Miller opened the business meeting. A new slate of officers was approved by the membership with Lois Poston as President. Jeanne Miller presented the gavel to Lois Poston who gave her inaugural address. Luncheon followed*



***Dr. Linda Williams** opened the 2008 season in **January** paying tribute to the birthday of Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. with small vignettes from his early life.*

*Robert (Bob) Muller brought in a warm feeling on a cold **February** day as we watched slides of beautiful wild flowers, trees, ferns and wetland plants at the Royal Oak Nature Center.*



*The end of **February** the duo of Patricia Terry-Ross and Maurice Draughn performed a variety of music written for two harps.*

*Author and certified nutritional consultant, **Kay Huberty**, discussed food and nutrition to supplement our bodies. Also in **March**, history storyteller, Maureen Esther enlightened us on the life of young King (Tut) Tutankhamon of ancient Egypt.*

*In **March**, the **Special Events** Chair, Donna Kelly, took us on our first outing. A large group of **SWC members** ventured to the **Ren Cen** for lunch and took a tour of this magnificent building with a view of Detroit and the Detroit River.*

*Award-winning **Sue Nine**, professional volunteer, related the many social causes she has been involved in her entire life for Detroit and the State of Michigan.*

***April 22nd** brought us survivor and author, **Pierette Simpson**, who, with her grandparents, were rescued from the **Andrea Doria** when it sunk in 1956.*



*Sunshine in **May** brought out the members in colorful outfits to enjoy Tea and Crumpets and honor our Founders and Past Presidents at the **Annual Founders' Day Tea**. The sun continued to shine at our second meeting in May when Michael Bouchard charmed us with his experience as law enforcement sheriff of Oakland County. Past Presidents were honored.*



Meghan McCarthy, Chief Concierge of the Birmingham Townsend Hotel related interesting stories regarding celebrities staying at the hotel. The month of **June** also brought Michael Hauser—refreshing our memories of days gone by with the old movie theaters in Detroit and his affiliation with the Michigan Opera Theatre.

In **June**, we had another successful **Special Events trip to the Detroit Institute of Art**. Again, a large number of Senior Women signed up for lunch and an impressive tour of the newly refurbished museum.

We followed **Barbara Martin Bailey**, Forensic Artist, from Oakland County Sheriff's office, as she created a face from the skull of a young woman. **July** also brought us Bloomfield Hills Mayor Pat Hardy, teacher, charitable organizer, Republican activist and commissioner completing her third two-year term.



In **August**, **Nina Holden**, Vice President for Institutional Advancement for the College of Creative Studies in Detroit spoke on the history and prominence of the school in the community and for the future of the students with the newly purchased Argonaut building in Detroit. The end of August, Marian Randall, member of the Colonial Dames, displayed slides and told the history of some of the historical churches in Detroit.

The Community House was packed in anticipation of the **September Coldwater Creek Fashion Show**. Seven SWC members, dressed in lovely outfits, walked the runway to an enthusiastic crowd. On September 23, Emery King, Director of Communications for the Detroit Medical Center, spoke on his experience as a TV news reporter and how this has helped him in the operations of nine hospitals and institutions. Our own members acted as models for the show.



On a cool autumn day, the **Special Events Chair** lead a **bus tour to Frankenmuth, Michigan** for a ride down the Cass River on the Bavarian Belle paddlewheel riverboat, followed by a delicious lunch at the Bavarian Inn. Time for shopping in the village and at Bronner's Christmas Wonderland was also scheduled.

At our **October** meeting, **Tom Wilson**, radio host of "Somewhere in Time" brought us the nostalgic music of the Big Band era with his assistant, Heather Novak dancing the Jitterbug. We listened, teary eyed, as we heard Kate Smith sing "God Bless America."

In **November**, **Faith Fowler**, minister of Cass United Methodist Church and administrator of Cass Community Social Services related the many stories of help given to homeless people, as well as those losing their jobs and homes during our country's recession. She also works closely with a large group of developmentally handicapped people restoring their self-esteem. Faith Fowler and her assistant, Judy Harnish.



The last **Special Event** for the year was held on December 4th. With a little snow on the ground, 51 SWC members were in a festive mood to see **Irving Berlin's "White Christmas" at the Fox Theater**. A delicious lunch was served to us at the Foxtown Grille prior to curtain time.

In **December**, we listened intently to **Melissa Hope** tell us about Common Ground in Royal Oak and Pontiac and the street outreach program where she goes out on the street at night to reach teenagers that might be homeless.

Barbara Minard and Marion Beck have shared the Historian's responsibility of photographing all the luncheon speakers, SWC Board Members, Special Events, Founders' Day Tea, and the Fashion Show, so the images can be preserved creatively in the Senior Women's scrapbook.



Marion Beck – Historian 2008