

## Into The Community

By: Starr Miller and Deborah Maher



Last year's scholarship winners with member Barbara Underwood, winners were LaToya Wingate, Nina Ramsey, Minnie Miller and Lindsay McGriff.

ne day soon after we moved to the Lake Norman area I found myself at the Harris Teeter cheese counter talking to a lovely stranger about goat cheese. That is now one of my favorite moments! It is through that chance meeting that I ultimately joined the North Mecklenburg Woman's Club. It was through Dawn Bradford, my lovely cheese shopping compatriot, that I found 100 of the smartest, kindest women that I have

had the privilege to meet.

The reason I share this is to introduce you to this same group of women. The North Mecklenburg Woman's Club women together to promote and support social, educational and civic progress in the communities where its members live. In existence since 1914, it was originally known as the Huntersville Women's Club. As the towns north of Charlotte grew, so did the club, which now has over 100 members of all ages who live throughout the Lake Norman area (including Iredell and Lincoln counties). Our longest term member has been in the group 53 years and the members range in age from young mothers to smart and sassy grandmothers.

Throughout the year, members involved in volunteer service, projects and fundraising—the proceeds of which are returned to the many worthy nonprofits in our community. The club's major fundraiser is a spectacular Fall Fashion Show held in October at River Run Country Club. This

year, the wonderful fashions were provided by Dillard's at Northlake. Several corporate sponsors also helped us put on an amazing event: Do A Little Floral, The Style Merchant, MJ's Sugar Shack, Standpoint Technologies, LKNSavings and Fifth Third Bank. The money raised will provide scholarships to local women who wish to return to school and improve their lives.

There are several fundraisers throughout the year, including our Red, White & Green Auction, where club members bring holiday gift bags filled with item(s) valued at \$25 to be auctioned off by the club president, Denise Carter. It is not unheard of to find she's convinced you to spend \$35 for a delicious, homegrown tomato (all for a good cause). In February, the club will hold its first Parade of Tables and in the spring we will have our Plant Sale with gorgeous flowers supplied by Metrolina Greenhouses.

There are also many social functions allowing members to get to know each other. Some of the fun activities include Book Club, Lunch Bunch, Movie Mania, Bridge Buddies, Golf Groupies, and Wine & Dine. Members can be as active as they want to be in the club's many projects, and you can count on friendships being formed and lives being changed for the better.

The Club meets at NorthStone Country Club at 10:30 am on the first Wednesday of each month. If you are interested, please call Sue Keener at 704-948-1644. We also offer an evening meeting the first Tuesday of each month at 6 pm at Positano's in Birkdale Village. RSVP by emailing NMWClub@ gmail.com.

