

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN - DIOCESE OF ALABAMA  
MINUTES OF BOARD MEETING - FALL CONFERENCE  
OCTOBER 9, 2008  
ST. STEPHEN'S EPISCOPAL CHURCH  
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dee Buzby, Gethryn Giles, Marilyn Atkins, Carolyn Woodson, Barbara Carpenter, Alleen Cater, Frances Lowe, Liz Ensey, Sallie Lowe, Tana Branch, Bea Strong, Cheri Blair, Brenda Mayhall, Cathy Blackney, Joan East, Lisa Gruner, Fiona Watts, Nancy Thompson, Linda George, Jane Dickson, and Tora Johnson.

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Alyce Smith, Valerie Burnes, Anne Kimzey, Lisa Parrish, Andi Silberman, Sally Sinclair, The Reverend Deacon Katy Smith and The Right Reverend Henry N. Parsley, Jr., Ex Officio.

**Guest:** Marcie Cherau, Tybee Island, GA

**Dee Buzby, Diocesan President,** opened the meeting with a prayer at 9:18 a.m. She welcomed Marcie Cherau, Province IV Representative on the National ECW Board and announced that Kay Meyers, National ECW President was also to be a guest later.

Due to the lack of a quorum at the September 2, 2008 Board meeting, the four motions that were passed were reintroduced. They were: 1) Minutes of the April 8, 2008 Board meeting, 2) ECW Budget for 2009, 3) Ratified online vote to extend the trial period to fairly judge the success of Women's Weekend by committee, and 4) to open a separate bank account at Regions Bank for Women's Weekend. All four motions carried.

**Minutes:** Gethryn Giles moved we accept the minutes of the September 2 Board meeting as amended. Motion carried. The minutes are on the website [www.alabamaecw.org](http://www.alabamaecw.org).

**Treasurer's Report:** Carolyn Woodson reported the ending balance in the Operating Fund as of 9/30/08 is \$9,630.13 and the summary of accounts is \$24,588.90. The complete report is on the website [www.alabamaecw.org](http://www.alabamaecw.org).

**Calendar Handbooks:** Gethryn Giles handed out the 2009 Calendar Handbooks. She called attention to the blue sheet and the lavender sheet in each parish president's calendar. With the bishop's approval, she hopes to feature one parish mission or ministry for 9 or 10 months in the 2010 calendar. At the January retreat, a decision will be made regarding changing the format of the Calendar/Handbook.

**UTO:** Barbara Carpenter thanked everyone for their prayers and support and also for the UTO memorial given in memory of her daughter. Barbara announced that the 2008 UTO grant recipients have already received their checks but will receive a certificate today during the business meeting. Minge Pointer, recipient of one of the 2008 grants, asked Barbara to tell the board that the new oven is working very well; they have already been able to make much more bread and spread God's love throughout the community. Barbara stressed the need to encourage 2009 grant applications be sent in by mid December to Carpenter House. Only one application from the Diocese of AL is allowed and one from our companion diocese, which is Haiti.

**CPC:** Brenda Mayhall reported that nine seminarians will each receive \$246.14 for a total of \$2,215.27 given from the CPC Fund.

**Mission and Ministries:** Fran Lowe said that the "blue sheets" describing outreach programs in our parishes will serve as a resource for others interested in doing similar projects and will have a contact person to consult.

**Corresponding Secretary:** Lisa Gruner said we had 115 registered for Fall Conference of which 41 registered online.

**Scholarship:** Nancy Thompson brought the article from *The Apostle* with the pictures of the 15 students who won the ECW Scholarships. Nancy plans to follow-up with an article in *The Apostle* about the individually named scholarships. She said this year all applicants complied with submitting their most recent federal tax return.

**Nominations:** Jane Dickson moved the slate of officers for 2010 - 2011, President-Elect, Fiona Watts; Secretary, Nancy Thompson; Treasurer, Jill Whitten; and UTO, Brenda Mayhall be accepted. The motion passed. The slate of delegates and alternate for Triennial will be Dee Buzby, president;

Gethryn Giles, president-elect; Barbara Carpenter, UTO; Fran Lowe, missions; and alternate, Marilyn Atkins, secretary. Bea Strong moved the slate for Triennial be accepted. The motion carried.

**Women's Weekend (WW):** Cathy Blackney announced the speaker for WW will be Sissie Wile, Interim Director of EFM at Sewanee. Women's Weekend will be the 3<sup>rd</sup> weekend in May (May 15-17, 2009).

**Fall Conference:** Liz Ensey thanked the individual parishes in the Birmingham Convocation for hosting the dinner, wine and cheese, registration, name tags, goodie bag, lunches and snacks. Milo's donated 40 gallons of tea. Janet Robertshaw made the beautiful heart gifts in the goodie bag. Martha Black was the food coordinator, Olivia Weingarten handled registration and Lynn Edge made the name tags.

Looking ahead two years, Gethryn Giles said that in 2010, Fall Conference will be held October 7 & 8.

**Corporate Gift:** Cheri Blair moved the Corporate gift of \$2,000.00 for 2009 go toward our ACTS2 pledge of \$65,000.00. The motion carried.

**Clergy Pictorial Directory:** Lisa Gruner will work on updating this pictorial directory. It was suggested that convocation coordinators be responsible for updating clergy information in their convocations. It was also suggested that someone take pictures at Fresh Start which would include all new clergy.

**Parish Leadership Training Event (PLTE):** Gethryn Giles announced the date for the Parish Leadership Training Event will be March 28, 2009, at St. Luke's, Birmingham. This will be an all day meeting. Details will be worked out at the Board Retreat at Camp McDowell, January 9 & 10, 2009.

**St. Claire's needle arts guild:** Alleen Cater has prepared information for a web page that Sally Sinclair will add to our website. The object is for people with like interests to find each other. Alleen will provide updates to Sally.

**New Business:** The surprise gift that the Right Reverend and Mrs. Henry N. Parsley, Jr. brought back from the Lambeth Conference will be raffled

off. Tickets will be \$1.00 each or six for \$5.00 and the proceeds will go to ACTS2.

**Publicity:** Fiona Watts announced the deadline is December 1 to get an article in the January *APOSTLE*. Space is being reserved for the Fall Conference write-up in the December issue.

Dee reminded the board to have a representative from their parish sign up for the Parish Sharing Session Friday morning. Each person will have two minutes to highlight the activities of the past year.

Marcie Cherau, Province IV Representative on the National ECW Board, thanked Dee for inviting her. She issued an invitation to all the women of Province IV to join the National ECW Board at a luncheon followed by a round table discussion, March 6, 2009 in Loranger, LA at the Solomon Episcopal Conference Center. Marcie also extended an invitation to attend the Women of Vision Conference, which is a spiritually based leadership development program, organized by the National ECW Board, in Waverly, GA, January 23 - 25, 2009. A brochure with details is available from Dee and is also available online at [www.nationalecw.org](http://www.nationalecw.org). Marcie handed out copies of the *Communique*, a publication of the news and views of Episcopal Church Women. Anyone wishing to be on the mailing list should contact Mary Ann Ransom at [mransom1@bellsouth.net](mailto:mransom1@bellsouth.net). Marcie writes an article on *Radical Hospitality* in the *Communique* and will be featuring a recipe for Scones from the Mountain Convocation Fall meeting in Mentone.

**Diocesan President Dee Buzby** adjourned the meeting at 10:38 a.m. with all reciting the Closing ECW Prayer in the Calendar Handbook.

Respectfully submitted,

Marilyn D. Atkins  
Secretary