

**EPISCOPAL CHURCH WOMEN-DIOCESE OF ALABAMA  
MINUTES OF THE BOARD MEETING  
JANUARY 7 & 8, 2011  
AT CAMP MCDOWELL**

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Gethryn Giles, Fiona Watts, Jill Whitten, Sallie Lowe, Nancy Thompson, Jolai Jenkins, Marilyn Atkins, Brenda Mayhall, Jane Wood, Paula Bird, Joan East, Valerie Burnes, Dee Buzby, Barbara Carpenter, Fran Lowe

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Marsha Hurt, Mitzi Waldo, Judith Comer, Linda George, Yolanda Seawright, Lynn Edge Reeves, Beth Ensey, Sally Sinclair, Joanna Brooks, Alyce Daniel

**GUESTS:** The Right Rev. and Mrs. Henry Parsley (Becky) and the Rev. and Mrs. Mark Johnston (Maggie)

**Friday, January 7, 2011**

On Friday evening, the Board gathered in Stough Lodge for dinner. Special guests were Bishop Parsley and his wife, Becky and Mark and Maggie Johnston. After dinner, Bishop Parsley and Becky joined the board for an informal talk at Miss Mary's Cabin.

**BOARD MEETING, SATURDAY, JANUARY 8, 2011**

Gethryn Giles, Diocesan ECW President, called the Board meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Marsha Hurt prepared a devotional for the board to be read in her absence. Barbara Carpenter read a responsive reading adapted from "Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year", Hymnal 1982. Barbara also read Isaiah 43:18,19,20 21 accompanied by a responsive reading.

**MINUTES:** Fiona Watts moved that the minutes of the October 8, 2010 Board meeting be accepted as corrected. The motion carried. The minutes of the 121<sup>st</sup> Annual Meeting at the Fall Conference were reviewed. Jane Wood submitted an addition to the minutes naming and thanking those in the Cheaha Convocation for their help with the 2010 Fall

Conference. Marilyn Atkins moved that the minutes be accepted as amended. The motion carried.

**TREASURER'S REPORT:** Treasurer, Jill Whitten reported a beginning balance as 1/4/2011 of \$22,567.97. Total disbursements of \$15,286.99 left an ending balance of \$7,280.98. Barbara Carpenter moved that the report be accepted as given. The motion carried. The treasurer's report is posted on the ECW website [www.alabamaecw.org](http://www.alabamaecw.org).

**ASSISTANT TREASURER:** No Report

**CALENDAR HANDBOOK:** President Elect, Fiona Watts, announced that after sending the 2011 Calendar Handbooks to everybody, she has a least 40 – 50 more for sale. Fiona has selected the theme, “Welcoming the Stranger”, for the 2012 Calendar Handbook. Convocations will be asked to share their parish's “welcoming” ministries. How do the parish and the parishioner welcome a stranger? She stated that this theme is particularly important as we welcome our new Bishop. Fiona will ask the new Bishop to speak at our 2012 Fall Conference. She requested that all information regarding the 2012 Calendar be turned into her by June.

**PRESIDENT-ELECT:** Fiona led the discussion on the future purchase and use of the President's Pen. In the past, the board has purchased a new pen for each outgoing president at the current market value. A new pen purchased in 2011 will cost approximately \$ 600 - \$700. In 2010, Mary Lou Johnston bequeathed her President's Pen to the ECW Board. These bequeathed pens will be used by future ECW Presidents during their lifetime.

Nancy Thompson made a motion that the board only purchase a new president's pen when a bequeathed pen is unavailable. Jane Woods seconded the motion. The motion carried. It was suggested that a committee be formed to discuss other issues concerning the pens. Archivist, Valerie Burnes, stated that it is important that the Presidents' names and their terms of office be engraved on the pens.

## **ON-GOING BUSINESS**

**ACTS2** – Dee Buzby stated that 2011 is the ECW’s last year to complete its pledge of \$65,000 to ACTS2. Dee reported that \$5,184.58 is the total needed to complete our pledge. After a transfer of \$2,000 from the Corporate Gift account to our ACTS2 Campaign, we owe approximately \$3,000. Dee reported that the Fall Conference raffle netted \$1,080.00. Fiona stated that our convocations might be interested in helping with a fundraiser to finish our pledge. Mitzi Waldo and the Montgomery Convocation are aware that they are scheduled this year for an ACTS2 fundraiser and the 2011 ECW Fall Conference. Gethryn suggested that perhaps we can combine the Wednesday night dinner of Fall Conference with an ACTS2 fundraiser.

**2011 Fall Conference** - The 2011 Fall Conference will be held on October 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> at St. John’s in Montgomery. Elizabeth Wheatley-Jones is the guest speaker. When scheduled, Gethryn will attend the first planning session.

Fiona stated that future Fall Conference’s need to have an audio-visual person dedicated to help the speaker with her presentation.

### **CONVOCATION REPORTS**

Gethryn requested that each convocation coordinator check with her before announcing the dates of future convocation meetings. Although the president or president elect do not have to be present at the meetings, they need to be able to clear their calendars as soon as a date has been selected by the coordinator and her parish. It is imperative that each Convocation elect new coordinators and treasurers this Spring. This will ensure that their names and all contact information get to President-Elect Fiona Watts by her calendar deadline of June.

**BIRMINGHAM:** Alyce Daniel was not present. The new Birmingham Coordinator for 2013-2013 is Diane Weatherford.

**BLACK BELT:** Paula Bird announced that St. Michael’s in Fayette will host the Black Belt’s Spring meeting on April 16<sup>th</sup>. A nominating committee has been selected for the election of new officers in the Spring. The Black Belt plans to host the 2013 Fall Conference.

#### **Cheaha:**

Jane Wood reported on the 2010 Fall Conference hosted by the Cheaha Convocation. The total expenses for Fall Conference were \$3,197.87 with a net income of \$563.50. The alms collected at the Fall Conference were

\$836.00 with half (\$418.00) designated to Krik? Krak! and half (\$418.00) designated to The Diocesan ECW Scholarships. Gethryn thanked the Cheaha Convocation for a job well done. Gethryn mentioned she would like the nametags at Fall Conference to be used with care by all convocations so they will be available at future Fall Conferences.

The Cheaha Convocation will be electing new officers for the positions of treasurer and convocation coordinator. Marilyn Atkins has agreed to serve as the Cheaha representative to the ECW Diocesan Scholarship Committee after the resignation of Rachel Ray.

Cheaha's Spring meeting will be hosted by St. Luke's, Jacksonville, at a date to be announced. Michael Rich, St. Luke's, has just returned from Crochu, Haiti, where they started the Krik? Krak! lunch program. He and, possibly, a clergy spouse involved with Krik? Krak! will be the guest speakers.

**East Alabama:** Jolai Jenkins announced that the East Alabama Spring meeting will be at St. James, Alexander City, on April 9<sup>th</sup>. The Reverend Judith Comer will be the guest speaker.

**Montgomery:** No report

**Mountain:** No Report

**Tennessee Valley:** Joan East reported that President-Elect Fiona Watts spoke at Tennessee Valley's last convocation meeting. Tennessee Valley has been formed a nomination committee for their 2012-2013 officers. Joan reported that they have someone interested in the position of convocation coordinator. The Spring meeting is scheduled for May 3<sup>rd</sup>, at St. Matthews in Madison, Alabama. Joan reported that Tennessee Valley collected \$110.00 and designated it for ACTS2 over Christmas.

At 10:22 a.m., Gethryn adjourned the meeting for a short break.

## **REPORTS:**

Archivist: Valerie Burnes reported that she has received all the loose records (1970-1980) of the ECW from Carpenter House. Two options to archive

them would be to either give them to the Birmingham Library as the Diocese or to keep them at her house. There are a total of 8 boxes.

Valerie also mentioned the need for storage supplies. The archival supplies are expensive, but are acid free and would preserve the records.

After discussion on where to store the records and the cost of supplies, Fiona made a motion to table the discussion until the April meeting. Jill Whitten seconded the motion. The motion carried. Before the April meeting, Gethryn asked that Valerie check with Rob Morpeth on the type of materials the Diocese uses to store their records. Treasurer, Jill Whitten, will check the budget regarding expenditures for the archival supplies. A full report may be found at [www.alabamaecw.org](http://www.alabamaecw.org).

**Clergy Liaison/Krik? Krak! Project:** The Reverend Judith Comer was absent. A clergy liaison/Krik? Krak! report may be found at [www.alabamaecw.org](http://www.alabamaecw.org).

**Consultant:** Dee Buzby asked board members to encourage their parish delegates to the Diocesan Convention to consider a Bishop of the Diocese who would be supportive of the ECW. Fiona mentioned that there is a walk about on June 25<sup>th</sup> at St. Luke's in Birmingham and is open to the public. This is an opportunity to meet the candidates for Bishop. The election for Bishop is on July 16<sup>th</sup>.

**Church Periodical Club (CPC):** Chairman, Linda George was not in attendance. A written report may be found at [www.alabamaecw.org](http://www.alabamaecw.org). Only seminarians enrolled in a School of Divinity are eligible to receive CPC funds.

**Daughters of the King (DOK):** No Report

**Devotions:** No Report

**Events:** No Report

**Missions and Ministry:** The report can be found at [www.alabamaecw.org](http://www.alabamaecw.org).

**Nominating:** Marilyn reported that the nominating committee will compile a list of delegates and alternates for Triennial in July, 2012. This list will be presented at the 2011 ECW Fall Conference. Marilyn is also preparing welcome packets for the new priests in the Diocese of Alabama. These packets will be distributed to each new priest at the February convention.

Each packet will include a calendar, bookmark, UTO grant applications, ECW Scholarship applications, and information on all ECW activities.

Break: Board members took a break to meet The Reverend Mark Johnston at the Chapel of St. Francis for Holy Eucharist.

The board meeting resumed the meeting St. Mary's cabin at 12:30 p.m.

**United Thank Offering (UTO):** Brenda reported that the grant application process is electronic this year. Presently, two UTO grant applications have been submitted, Pre-School Partners at St. Luke's in Birmingham and the Shoals Family Center in Florence. These applications will be screened and submitted to the Bishop for his endorsement before being sent to the National UTO office. No grant applications have been received from our Companion Diocese in Haiti or Krik? Krak!

**Publicity:** No Report

**Scholarships:** No Report

**Webmaster:** Sally Sinclair submitted a website report. It can be found at [www.alabamaecw.org](http://www.alabamaecw.org). The board decided that treasurer, Jill Whitten, would submit quarterly reports on the website.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

**Women at the Well:** Gethryn stated that she would like to meet with Fiona, Beth Ensey, The Reverend Allison Carmody, and anyone interested in the Women at the Well on Thursday, February 10<sup>th</sup> (the day before the Diocesan Convention) to work on a Women at the Well Scholarship application. Gethryn would like to get an application designed to put in The Alabama Episcopalian by March or April. The Women at the Well Scholarships will be for either clergy or lay women who seek funds for help with attending activities or events needed for spiritual refreshment.

**Parish Leadership Training Event (PLTE):** Fiona discussed changing the times of the ECW sessions for PLTE. The board decided there would be a half-day morning session. Themes for the 2011 training event were discussed.

Gethryn announced that she has been asked to make a 5-minute presentation on the ECW during the Diocesan Convention. She will be speaking on Saturday at 2:30 pm. Gethryn will ask if the UTO offering boxes can be displayed during the convention.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Province IV ECW Conference:** The conference will be held at Kanuga, on June 6-8. Applications may be found on Kanuga's website at [www.Kanuga.org](http://www.Kanuga.org). Dee Buzby will be the Nomination Chair for the ECW Province IV, Jackie Robe will be there with her program, Believe in a Miracle, and Katarina Whitley will be the guest speaker. If anyone is interested, please contact Gethryn no later than February 15<sup>th</sup>. She needs to make the reservations for the group.

**Spring Board Meeting: April 12, 2011 at Carpenter House, at 10:00 a.m.**

The meeting adjourned at 1:30 p.m. with a prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy S. Thompson  
Recording Secretary

\* This is a preliminary copy of the minutes for your review. A corrected/approved copy will be posted after the next board meeting.