Happy New Year, Fellow Members of the UWC!
UWC President Joan Clevenger

I believe that 2016 truly will be a good year for the University Women’s Club. We have all the traditional events to look forward to—the luncheons with interesting and informative speakers, the Spring Luncheon on April 8, and, after a summer break, the special events of fall and winter.

In addition, we are in the process of starting some new activities. We have already begun our new Financial Life Issues interest group which meets the fourth Tuesday from 5:15 until 7:15 p.m. We alternate guest speakers with regular meetings, during which we follow up with group discussion. On February 16, Connie Shih will hold a workshop on issues involving the use of iPads for those of us who are electronically challenged. It will be held at the Knox County Public Library’s Bearden branch from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Interested members can bring their iPads to get hands-on help on how to use them. Continued, Page 2
The University Women’s Club

The University Women’s Club (UWC) was founded in 1912 by Mrs. Brown Ayres, wife of UT’s twelfth president and a busy mother of eight. Her goal was to help women get to know each other better and to promote friendship and community among women faculty, especially newcomers to the University.

As the University has expanded its mission, UWC has also broadened its scope over the years. It’s our mission to continue to be a viable and relevant organization to include all women associated with the University, including faculty, staff, alumni, and wives of faculty and staff. In addition, UWC members fund a scholarship for UT re-entry students.

We meet the second Friday of October, November, February, and March for lunch and relevant presentations by stimulating guest speakers from the University community. The meetings are held at the UT Welcome Center from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. Luncheon cost is $12 and parking is available.

In addition to our scheduled meetings, we host an annual Holiday Reception and a Spring Luncheon, which will be on April 8.

Besides listening to excellent speakers at the meetings, there are opportunities to join special UWC interest groups, which include Book Review (day and evening), Financial Life Issues (speakers/discussions), International Dinner, Duplicate Bridge, Gourmet Luncheon, Swimming/Water Aerobics, and a Topic Luncheon at the Orangery. New interest groups were added this year. Others are under consideration, and your thoughts of new ones are always welcome! (See President’s letter, next column.)

President’s Message, Continued

There has also been interest in starting a Daytripper group to plan and carry out trips to the many places of interest in and around Knoxville. We have not yet taken our first trip, but we hope to start in the next few months. In addition, several people have expressed an interest in forming a travel interest group where we will share our collective knowledge of travel groups, ways to save on travel expenses, and places to explore regionally, nationally, and internationally. One of my personal goals is to start an annual picnic in the fall at which members can bring their family, including children and grandchildren, and interact with other members they otherwise rarely see. If you are interested in any of these activities, please contact me (joan.clevenger@aol.com) or Caroline Graber (crgraber@aol.com).

I look forward to seeing you all in the coming months.

Joan Clevenger

UWC 2016 Programs

You won’t want to miss these power-packed programs, as the UWC rounds out the year. So be sure to add these dates to your calendar now!

Friday, February 12
Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., UT Welcome Center
Speaker: Dr. Deborah Harrell
Associate Professor, Finance
UT Haslam College of Business
Topic: Investing in the Financial Markets
Today—Facts and Feelings

Friday, March 11
Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., UT Welcome Center
Speaker: Dr. Tonjanita Johnson
Vice President, Communications and Marketing, UT System
Topic: A Pinch of the Old, a Dash of the New: A Fresh Recipe for Interpersonal Communication

Friday, April 8
Spring Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m.
Cherokee Country Club
**Our February Meeting—**
**A Focus on Your Money and You**
*By Sharon Littlepage*

When it comes time to do something about your financial situation, do you run the other way or stick your head in the sand? Join us on February 12 to explore hard questions for smart women.

You’ve worked hard for your money, and maybe you’ve been socking it away for your future nest egg. But is it “resting” in a savings account that “rewards” you with a paltry one percent interest rate or even less?

What about buying opportunities in the stock market? Have you been sitting by in paralysis or fear due with the Dow fluctuations?

If you’re not sure what to do, then listen up. Help could be on the way.

Deborah Harrell, UT associate professor of finance and Haslam College of Business investments professor, will be the featured guest speaker at our February 12 meeting.

Her topic is “Investing in the Financial Markets Today: Facts and Feelings,” and will include information on the "Sit-It-Out-Syndrome" and investing by females.

Dr. Harrell received her doctoral degree in finance from the University of Florida, Gainesville, and worked in the banking, legal, and utility industries for more than ten years prior to entering academia. Her research interests include the areas of investments, corporate misconduct, and business ethics.

So treat yourself to a pre-Valentine’s Day luncheon with UWC, beginning at 11:30 a.m. at the UT Visitors Center. Perhaps you’ll take away some “sweet” tips and a new level of confidence on ways to make your money work better for you.

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**Teaching Leadership**

**Meet Incoming UWC President**

**Dr. Kathy Lasater**

Dr. Kathy Lasater was appointed UWC First Vice President last fall by the UWC Executive Board upon Patricia Jobe’s resignation. Patricia regretfully resigned from the office due to family issues. Kathy will assume the role of UWC President upon officer installation at our Spring Luncheon.

Although retired from the UT Department of Human Resource Development, Kathy is still excited about teaching. She is currently teaching Education for Ministry (EFM) for the East Tennessee Episcopal Diocese with a focus on lay leaders in the church. Among her other activities is the UWC International Dinner group, the monthly Table Topic group, and keeping up with UWC correspondence.

Kathy is also enjoying new hobbies of oil painting, flower arranging, and writing short stories. Her two sons and families live in Florida and Indiana, so she stays busy traveling to visit grandchildren.

“The UWC is a vital organization which offers so many opportunities for learning and leadership. I look forward to serving the membership as an enjoyable experience,” Dr. Lasater says.
How Our UWC Scholarships are Changing Students’ Lives
by Betty Craig, UWC Treasurer

When the University Women’s Club awards a scholarship to a returning student, often we help make a difference that changes that woman’s life. Just take a moment to read the comments below from some of our recent recipients and applicants for these awards.

Scholarship aid for women reentering college is not as available as are awards for traditional students entering fresh from high school. In many cases, the UWC scholarship made the difference in these women completing their degrees or their ability to pursue it full-time. I hope you will be generous in supporting this cause to aid more re-entry women in completing their degrees and realizing their dreams by contributing to the UWC Scholarship Fund.

To receive tax credit, make your check out to the University of Tennessee and note in the memo line UWC Scholarship. If you are not interested in tax credit, your check may be made out to University Women's Club, noting the UWC Scholarship in the memo line.

Recipients’ Comments in Thank You Letters

“Together we have four jobs, two full-time school schedules, and three kids who rely on us to make it through to the other side of the rainbow. Opening your letter telling me that I have been granted this scholarship brought tears to my eyes…it serves to reassure me that I will be able to finish my degree and that it will be worth it in the end.

“Your gift will be put to amazing use. …May this letter in some small way help you understand what an enormous impact this will have on my education and my family’s future.”

“Upon degree completion, I hope to carry on my passion for art into my career path…. The knowledge and skills I continue to gain at UT can make this dream a reality and your generosity gives me the opportunity to make school my full-time focus.

“I cannot thank you enough for this opportunity. I greatly appreciate your generous support of my education. I will work hard to honor your scholarship commitment and continue to make education my top priority.”

Statements from Women Applying for UWC Scholarships

“I am an independent student…I work to support myself while trying to go to school at the same time….I do not receive financial support from anyone…therefore I must cover the overwhelming expense of college myself. Receiving this scholarship would help me be able to continue on this challenging and rewarding journey and meet my future goals.”

“My immediate goal is to graduate with a degree in Chemical and Biomolecular Engineering so that I can obtain a job that will financially support my family without government assistance. …My long term goals are to earn a Master’s degree and Ph.D. My heart’s desire is to reach out to other women and children who have suffered trauma or abuse. I believe I can do that through research and by sharing my story of breaking the cycle of abuse and poverty. I am a single mother of five children…My youngest three are still in school living with me. Five years ago I started this path with almost no work experience and only a GED. Leaving an abusive marriage of eighteen years and going from stay-at-home mom to single parent left me with very few options for employment.

“I no longer qualify for Pell Grant. I will not give up, and I will keep working toward this goal somehow, no matter the difficulties that lie in my path. I have worked too hard and survived too much to allow anything to prevent me from reaching my goals of graduating with my degree, financial self-sufficiency, and helping others through research.”

Her comments after receiving a UWC Scholarship—“I cannot tell you how much I appreciate the support to finish my degree. It is coming at a very crucial time and making a huge difference in my ability to graduate this year.”
University Women’s Club Interest Groups, 2015–16

This year the University Women’s Club is focusing on our many interest groups. In addition to attending the interesting monthly meetings, members are able to learn something new, exercise a little, or expand their horizons by attending one or more UWC interest groups.

Why not decide to try a new one or two this year?

**Book Review—Days:** meets in members’ homes on the second Wednesday of the month at 10 a.m. The December meeting is a luncheon, and so is the May meeting, when books for the next year are chosen.

**Book Review—Evenings:** meets at the home of Caroline Buckner at 7:30 pm on the fourth Monday night of the month year round. Members submit suggestions for books for the coming year and the books are chosen at the August meeting. Members volunteer to review a selection.

**Duplicate Bridge:** open to anyone who has an interest in playing, prior experience is not necessary. The group meets at Elmcroft Senior Living Center, 8024 Gleason Dr., Knoxville, TN, 37919 on the first Tuesday of the month at 9:30 a.m. A fee of $2 is collected at each meeting to cover cost of refreshments and meeting space.

**Financial Life Issues:** University Women Investors (UWIN) has changed its name and focus this year. The group is now the Financial Life Issues and members are not investing money as in years past. They continue to meet on the fourth Tuesday of each month at 5:15 p.m. on the UT Agricultural Campus. Programs are presented by members of the group as well as outside speakers on financial issues such as retirement, investments, Social Security, Medicare, mortgages, and other topics.

**Gourmet Luncheon:** meets in members’ homes or a local restaurant on the third Thursday of the month at noon. The group focuses on fellowship and friendship. This is a great way to meet more University women in a nonstructured environment.

**International Dinner Group:** composed of members, individually or with spouses or partners.

The group meets monthly in a member’s home (usually the second Saturday night) to enjoy food from a menu chosen by the host. Each member brings a dish, recipes supplied by the host. The activities also include a Holiday Brunch in December, a night-out at a local restaurant and an end-of-year picnic.

**Topic Luncheon Group:** meets at the Orangery on the first Thursday of the month (except August) for lunch and a presentation. Each member will present a short program related to the main topic, followed by group discussion. When all members have had a chance to present a program, a new general topic will be chosen.

**Water Aerobics:** Participants are led through an easy but active water aerobics workout each Thursday morning from 9:30–11 a.m. at the UT Student Aquatic Center pool from September through April. Membership in the Aquatic Center is not required. Swimming expertise is not required. A small one-time donation (usually about $25 each member) goes to fund a lifeguard for the season. Parking permits are available through the UT Evening School.

The Day and Evening Travelogue groups are not meeting this year.

We are always open to ideas for forming new groups. Please let us know your interests!!!
Our History—
UT Knoxville First Lady Martha Holt, 1959-1970
By Audrey A. Duncan, UWC Historian

My husband, Roland Duncan, and I arrived in Knoxville in the fall of 1960 in time for him to take up his position in the UT Knoxville history department as the Latin American specialist. He was replacing the position vacated by retiring Ruth Stevens, although no one could replace this well-known personality who really was a current events specialist, being very politically orientated. In retirement she became a popular local TV commentator as she explained her opinions to local people in a well understood down home jargon. However, we arrived when it was a time of “in with the new and out with the old” for a new UT presidency had been installed on July 1, 1959, when Andrew D. Holt had become UT’s sixteenth president, a position he was to hold for the next eleven years.

President Holt’s presidency, or Andy, as he was known by one and all, was marked by a burst of energy unsurpassed in the University’s history, to quote Milton Klein, a history professor who compiled a thorough history of UT. Student enrollment tripled; faculty and staff doubled. Eight new buildings were added to the Knoxville campus; the Space Institute was developed, a college in Chattanooga became UTC, the Phi Beta Kappa chapter came to UT, and a science program incorporated the Oak Ridge National Laboratory.

Klein further emphasized that Holt’s role was that of the University’s publicist and ambassador of good will. He cultivated good relations with public officials, with the faculty, and the students. Holt described his leadership in these words: “Surround yourself with people who are smarter than you are; then listen to them; let them spread their wings; then give them credit for what they have accomplished.”

President Holt’s wife Martha had been a member of the UWC for many years until she passed away in 2011. It is said that behind every great man there is a great woman, and I think that was so with the Holts, for Martha was one of those beautiful, gracious southern ladies who inspired others to emulate. She was president of the UWC from 1957 to 1958 and in her later years her daughter Fran would bring her to the meetings.

In recent times it has been my pleasure to belong to the Knoxville Wodehouse Society chaired by Kenneth Clevenger, husband of our current UWC President Joan Clevenger, and within this group I have become reacquainted with Fran Dotterweich and her husband William. Fran is the daughter of Martha and Andy Holt, and I asked her if she and her family could tell us a little about her mother, Martha, and her role as First Lady of UT. Fran provided the following essay.

Martha Chase Holt

Born in 1914, Martha Chase Holt spent her early years in Memphis, where her father worked as a lawyer. After the Depression, the family relocated to their farm in Lucy, Tennessee, near Millington. During her teens, she gave some indication of her future by taking the family’s car out for a drive on her own one day—never having driven before—and returning it safely. (To clarify her law-abiding status, licensing was not required in Tennessee until 1937.)

After studying for two years at Southwestern (now Rhodes) College, she graduated from Ole Miss, being a member of Chi Omega at both institutions. She taught second grade in Memphis before she met...
Martha Holt, Continued

and married Andy Holt, then the executive secretary for the Tennessee Education Association. They lived in Nashville, where her daughters Ann and Fran were born, then moved to Washington, D.C. during W.W. II, where Andy worked for the U.S. Army, helping young men prepare for military service across the U.S.A. There her son Andy Jr. was born.

After the war, the Holts returned to Nashville, where Martha held down the fort while Andy worked hard on legislation to fund education in Tennessee. From 1949 to 1950 he served as president of the NEA, and Martha travelled with him across the globe. In 1950, the family arrived in Knoxville, where Andy served successively as Administrative Assistant to President Cloide Brehm, Vice President, and finally President of UT from 1959 to 1970.

Once in Knoxville, Martha embedded herself in the cultural and charitable life of the city, most especially for fifty years as a member of Church Street United Methodist Church. Beginning as a Brownie Girl Scout Leader, she was Vice President of the Tanasi Council, served on the boards of the Salvation Army and the YWCA, was President (as well as holding other offices) of the UT Faculty Women’s Club, Sequoyah Garden Club, APTA (at Ramsey House), and Athene Circle. She also held offices for the Knoxville Symphony League, PEO, and the Church Street United Methodist Women—including several years as Historian. In 1961, Beta Sigma Phi named her “First Lady of Knoxville.”

But most of her energies (beyond family) were given to the University of Tennessee. In addition to her work for the Faculty Women’s Club, she hosted events with great pleasure at the UT President’s home. These ranged from small events for visiting dignitaries to open houses of up to 2,000 people at graduation. A rough estimate is that she hosted 50,000 people during her eleven years as First Lady of UT. What a lot of lovely people she met!

A lover of travel, Martha journeyed to Mexico, Norway, Alaska, and Scotland in the years following Andy’s retirement. She collected both objects and furniture from her travels, and loved American antiques as well; she decorated her home with a gracious mixture of the faraway and local, the ancient and the new.

Martha read voraciously, from daily devotional material to wide-ranging fiction. She took great interest in publications related to Tennessee history and antiquities. A cultural omnivore, she took pleasure in visual art, music, dance, and theatre, and introduced her children and grandchildren to them at every possible venue.

In her devotion to her Lord, care for her family, curiosity of mind, support for the community, and joyous service to others, Martha Chase Holt left a great legacy for UT and for Knoxville. She had the boldness to take the car out herself, the ability to drive it around, and the commitment to get it back safely.

– Fran Dotterweich
Join Us on February 12 for Our Next Luncheon

Friday, February 12  
Speaker: UT associate professor of finance Deborah Harrell.

Topic: Investing in the Financial Markets  
Today: Facts and Feelings. See Page 3 for article about the talk.

Reservations by February 8. Cost $12. RSVP to Therese Leadbetter, telhome46@aol.com, 865-690-0445. Cancellations must be made by February 10, otherwise full payment is due.

Location and Time: UT Visitors Center, 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m.

Vegetarian meals are offered at all luncheons. Please request a vegetarian option when you make your reservation.

And Save These Dates, Too

The UWC ends the year with two outstanding programs: a luncheon lecture in March that everyone can learn from and our always wonderful Spring Luncheon in April. Please make plans to join us for both!

Friday, March 11  
Luncheon, 11:30 a.m.–1 p.m., UT Welcome Center  
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Vice President, Communications and Marketing, UT System  
Topic: A Pinch of the Old, a Dash of the New: A Fresh Recipe for Interpersonal Communication  
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