



The Porch Club of Riverton

The Garden District

Oct./Nov. 2015

Inside the Porch Door

October

Mon., Oct. 5, 9:30am

Stitchery

Tues., Oct. 6, noon

General Meeting /

Opening Luncheon

Wed., Oct. 7, 9:30am

Garden Tour Planning Meeting

Thurs., Oct. 8, 10:00am

Membership Committee Meeting

Mon., Oct. 12, 9:30am

Stitchery

Tues., Oct. 13, 7:00pm

Evening Meeting: Renovating

Strawberry Mansion

Wed., Oct. 14, 3:00-6:00pm

Rummage Sale Set Up

Wed., Oct. 14, 7:00pm

Flower Show Meeting

Thurs., Oct. 15, 1:00-7:00pm

Rummage Sale Set Up

Thurs., Oct. 15, 7:00pm

International Outreach

Fri., Oct. 16, 11:30am

Public Issues

Fri., Oct. 16, 6:00-9:00pm

Rummage Sale

Sat., Oct. 17, 8:00am-noon

Rummage Sale

Mon., Oct. 19, 9:30am

Pumpkin Painting / Arts Creative

Mon., Oct. 19, 11:30am

Literature

Fri., Oct. 23, 10:00am

Home Life

Mon., Oct. 26, 9:30am

Stitchery

Mon., Oct. 26, 6:00-9:00pm

Shopping Spree

Tues., Oct. 27, 6:00pm

Board Meeting

Wed., Oct. 28, 7:00pm

Garden/Conservation Meeting

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The Porch Club of Riverton

CLUB PRESIDENT: JoAnn DiNoia,

EMAIL: jaydinoia@verizon.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Mindy Ryan,

EMAIL: mindymryan@yahoo.com

Autumn is the second season when every leaf is a flower

Dear Ladies,

Welcome! Fall is here, and so we begin our 126th Porch Club year. Meetings, lunches, and activities will soon be filling the pages of our calendars. Friendships will be re-kindled, and new memories will be made. The blending of our faithful, experienced members with our new eager friends promises an exciting year for our club.

October starts us off with our Opening Luncheon, Tuesday, October 6 at noon, where we will be greeting each other and exchanging stories from summer. I would like to thank our Luncheon Committee: Helene Lilholt, Pam Bowen, and Georgie Ackers for orchestrating it all. Great job ladies!

Our Fall Rummage Sale, always a fun event, is scheduled for Friday, October 16 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm and Saturday, October 17 from 8:00 am to noon. Mary Hannah, chairperson, is always looking for new members to participate in this fun event. You never know what treasures you might find.

Want to get a jump on your holiday shopping? Join us at the Porch Club Shopping Spree on Monday, October 26 from 6:00 pm until 9:00 pm. You will find beautifully hand-made gifts, jewelry, and one-of-a kind treasures.

Open House for Prospective Members is scheduled for Thursday, November 12 at 7:00 pm. This night is a great opportunity to invite friends who may have an interest in joining the club.

Our first trip of the year is planned for Thursday, December 3. We will be visiting the beautifully decorated mansions at Fairmount Park. This is the perfect way to get in a holiday mood. The cost of the trip will be \$75.00 and includes admission to the mansions, lunch, and your transportation. A non-refundable deposit of \$ 50.00 is due on Friday, October 30. The final payment of \$25.00 is due Friday, November, 20. Seating is limited. Sign up early. Vicky Basgil, chairperson of Ways & Means, will be collecting money at the Opening Luncheon.

Our busy year is about to begin. Hope you are all on board for a great time. See you in October!

Warmly,

JoAnn

Special Note on The Betsy Journal's Completion

Our Betsy Journal is available for all members to write their entries. Dottie Landolt has offered to be "Keeper of the Journal" and it's imperative that she know where it is at all times. We began, in September, with entries from the Stitchery Committee, and then will pass it along to those members prepared with their writings.

We'll attempt to have the journal available Monday mornings, at the Porch Club, from 9:30-11:30am, during General Monthly Meetings and Evening Meetings. If, as a Department or Committee Chair, you'd like to pass the journal amongst your members, the added help would be appreciated.

Also, keep in mind, that if you stitched for someone to "be remembered" on Betsy, please feel free to make an entry in her name. An alphabetical list of all members, current and past, will accompany the Betsy Journal to aid you in locating the correct page for your entry. We would like to have it completed by the end of this calendar year.

Membership

Kit Stahler-Miller, membership@theporchclub.org

Welcome back! The Porch Club is starting its 126th year, 2015-2016, with 198 members. Preliminary interest indicates that our ranks may swell and exceed 215 by January, and possibly peak at 220-225 members by year's end!

Our soaring membership is remarkable considering that from 1890-1895 membership was capped at 25 members. Clearly, this is a testament to The Porch Club's robust and growing reputation and to your influence in the community at large. I believe the founding and early members of The Porch Club are looking down on us, smiling with approval and appreciation, and cheering us on.

Thanks to all members who have proposed and endorsed members and acted as buddies to welcome and ease the transition of new members into The Porch Club.

We tried something new this year instead of waiting until year's end. By the time you read this newsletter, we will have had our New Member Brunch on Sunday, September 20 at the Porch Club to welcome our 12 new and reinstated members plus their proposers and endorsers. The brunch was sponsored

by the Membership Committee and the Board of Directors to provide an informal setting to help all of us get to know each other better and to share the wealth of talents, friendships, growth, and delightful opportunities awaiting our new members as we collaborate, learn, have fun, and provide community service.

**Open House for Prospective Members
Thursday, November 12 at 7:00pm**

If you know anyone who would like to come and learn more about The Porch Club, please call me, Kit Stahler-Miller at 856-261-0251 or email me, kitsmiller20@comcast.net, their name, address, phone, and email address so that I may send them an invitation to the Open House. Please come to the Open House to greet them and help them learn about our many activities that support our volunteer mission.

Membership application forms can be found on the Porch Club's website, or if you would like an application for a friend, please contact me. The Porch Club is always eager to welcome women who are interested in joining our ranks and supporting our many activities. The Evening Group is steadily attracting and

supporting the needs of women who are unable to attend day programs and events. All members of the Porch Club may attend any Porch Club meetings and events.

Rummage Sale

Mary Hannah,
Riverton914@aol.com

Fall brings colorful leaves, a break from the summer heat, and what else? The Porch Club Rummage Sale is coming! Wednesday, October 14 will be set up and accepting donations from 3:00 to 6:00pm. October 15 donations will be accepted from 1:00-7:00pm. Friday, October 16, bring your donations from 1:00-4:00pm. The sale starts Friday, October 16 at 6:00 and closes at 9:00. Saturday, October 17, we are open from 8:00am-12 noon. Our famous "bag sale" is from 11:00am-12 noon. All proceeds support local children's and women's charities. Thank you for your consistent support! Any club member is welcome to give a little or a lot of time to make the sale a success. Stop by! We'd love to have you be part of our team.

Evening Meetings

Pat Brunker, patebrunk@comcast.net

Jan DeVries@Janet.B.DeVries@comcast.net

**Historic Strawberry Mansion Program
Tuesday, October 13 at 7:00 pm**

Historic Strawberry Mansion is celebrated as the largest of the Fairmount Park Historic Houses, filled with antiques, fine art, and collectible treasures from the 18th and 19th century. Beth Kowalchick, president of the Committee of 1926, partners in the restoration, will give a slide presentation about the restoration and conservation of the mansion as well as the collection and history of the house. This is an opportunity to learn before we go visit in December.

**Somethin' Punkin'
Cook-Off / Tasting Event**

Wednesday, November 4 at 7:00 pm

We are assembling teams of three to six people to participate in the Somethin' Punkin' Cook-Off. Team Captains will call their teams together to select their recipe and then cook as a team either at

someone's home or at the Porch Club. If cooking at home, finishing touches must be done at the Club. Entries may be ANYTHING that contains pumpkin as an ingredient—from pumpkin martinis to appetizers, soups, main dish, and desserts. Our Master of Ceremonies for the evening will be the ever-popular Bill Brown, Mayor of Riverton. Judges will be Grace Scheffler, owner and chef of Orange Blossom Café and Peggy Messina, owner and chef of The New Leaf Tea Room. Prizes will be awarded in the pumpkin theme. Don't miss out on the fun! VOLUNTEER NOW to be on a team or serve as a Team Captain. We know that someone out there is Riverton's great pumpkin cook! Volunteer to be a Bake-Off Team Captain or a Team Member by contacting Jan or Pat.

In addition, if you have a wonderful pumpkin dish to share, but don't want to be part of the competition, please bring it that night. Sharing is always welcome!

Calendar *Continued*

November

Mon., Nov. 2, 9:30am

Book Wreath Making / Arts Creative

Tues., Nov. 3, 12:30pm

General Meeting / Tea

Wed., Nov. 4, 7:00pm

Evening Meeting: Somethin' Punkin' Cook-off

Mon., Nov. 9, 9:30am

Stitchery

Wed., Nov. 11, 7:00pm

Flower Show Meeting

Thurs., Nov. 12 7:00pm

Open House for Prospective Members

Mon., Nov. 16, 9:30am

Stitchery

Mon., Nov. 16, 11:30am

Literature

Wed., Nov. 18, 7:00pm

Garden Tour Planning Meeting

Fri., Nov 20, 2:00pm

Public Issues – Tea at Riverview

Mon., Nov. 23, 9:20am

Stitchery

Mon., Nov. 30, 9:30am

Decorate Club for Holidays

Garden/Conservation Department

Carole Lange, Carole.Lange@gmail.com
Sandy Scheer, sscheer506@verizon.net

We have a number of exciting events and projects scheduled over the remainder of the year.

The Flower Show Committee, still riding on the crest of our blue ribbon win at the Philadelphia Flower Show last winter, wanted to continue to meet over the summer months to get a head start on next year's submission. This exceedingly creative group of ladies has spent their summer searching for inspiration and ideas. The 2016 Philadelphia Flower Show theme is The National Parks as our parks are celebrating their 100th year anniversary! We are also very pleased to announce that Jenny Rose Carey, Director of Meadowbrook Farm, will be visiting the Porch Club in November.

As many of you know, we were asked to participate in a spring event called "Rooms in Bloom" at the Fairmont Park historic mansions. That invitation also

included decorating two of the mansions - Cedar Grove and Strawberry Mansion - for their upcoming holiday tours. We are very excited about that! Beth Kowalchik, Director of Strawberry Mansion will be coming to speak at an evening group meeting on Friday, October at 7:00pm.

Charles Street School in Palmyra has asked our assistance in decorating their school for an event they're planning the week of November 16th celebrating the PHS Flower Show, the National Park theme and conservation. The school participates in the Junior PHS Flower Show every year.

We will again have our very popular Holiday Wreath Making Workshop. (Date TBD)

Last but not least, this is a Garden Tour year so we hope the members will come out in force to support an event whose proceeds benefit our very own club!

General Meeting Program

Phyllis Rodgers, partea@comcast.net

On November 3, 12:30pm "The Language of Dreams" will be the program for our November 3 general meeting at 12:30. Our presenter, Dr. Jo Anne White, is an international author, speaker, and certified professional coach. She conducts workshops and seminars, consultation, and coaching in leadership, image enhancement, communication, employee relations, and women's issues. We are

pleased that she will be able to share her innovative, informative, and interesting program on something that we all actively participate in nightly. We are talking about dreams here! Dr. White will teach us the different types of dreams, how to increase dream recall, and show how dreams can benefit us in life, work, and relationships. We look forward to discovering the meaning and importance of our dreams.

Arts Creative, Stitchery, and Crafts

MaryLou Schofield mlscho@verizon.net, Donna VanHoy artdvh@gmail.com

Monday, October 19 at 9:30am - join us for Pumpkin Painting. Take home a pumpkin you painted yourself to decorate your home or fall table.

Monday, November 2 at 9:30 am - Let Joann DiNoia show you how to construct a beautiful Christmas Wreath out of old books.

Tuesday, November 17 at 10:00am - Donna Van Hoy will demonstrate making a Pumpkin Cheesecake. Perfect for your holiday table. Come see how it's done. And sample some scrumptious pre-made cheesecake while you watch!

Monday, November 30 at 9:30am - Come and help decorate the Porch Club

Public Issues

Elizabeth "Betty" Dunn
ecarolldunn@gmail.com

The Public Issues Committee held its first meeting on September 18th to discuss our agenda and the Special State Project for this year. This is the second year that we are supporting the National Alliance for Mental Illness (NAMI-NJ). The Porch Club has been asked by the Federation to participate in the BACK PACK project for the mentally ill.

People with mental illness face many challenges when trying to get the treatment and services they need. There has been an acute shortage of hospital beds and shelters for years, and many of the mentally ill are homeless and in need of support.

The Federation will be collecting back packs, filled with needed items, and donating them to local hospitals. The back packs will be given to discharged patients who are referred to a shelter housing those with mental health issues.

A list of the items needed to fill the back packs will be distributed at our General meeting on October 6th. Most of the items can be purchased at discount or dollar stores.

Public Issues will hold our Fourth Annual Tea at Riverview Estates on October 23rd. It is always a pleasure to meet with our friends at Riverview and listen to their stories. Good conversations, lots of laughter, and tea and cake fill our afternoon with fun.

for the holidays.

More coming...December will find us enjoying our 2nd Annual Christmas cookie swap, and in the winter months we will be looking forward to Maureen Murray's Valentine card making as well as additional spring projects. Keep tuned for details!

International Outreach

Iris Gaughan, iggaughan@gmail.com

The International Outreach Department will continue its focus to promote girls' education. A \$1000.00 check was sent to Katahdin Foundation's Girl Rising campaign for girls' education. A gracious thank you letter was received for our donation.

The IO Committee has decided to continue this project for the 2015-16 year. This year the project title will be "Change for Change : Promoting Girls' Education Worldwide." "Change for Change" is a Porch Club and Riverton School collaborative project to increase student and community awareness regarding the plight of girls' education in emerging countries. Last spring the Riverton students produced video clips exposing

the barriers girls face in getting an education. The student interdisciplinary (Social Studies, English and Art) project also raised \$243.00 for this project to be disseminated by the International Outreach Department.

In June 2015, a summer surprise (\$75.00 Visa gift certificate) was sent to

the PC ChildFund International sponsored child, Kimberly Jones. Kimberly is now 14 years old. The generous support of the PC members makes the gifts and the sponsorship possible.

UNICEF Halloween Trick or Treat Boxes will once again be distributed to members and community businesses.



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