



*The Porch Club of Riverton*

*The Garden District*

**February/March 2014**

# Inside the Porch Door

## Calendar

### February

**Wed., Feb. 5, 12:30pm**  
General Meeting/Tea, My Friend Jackie-O

**Mon., Feb. 10, 9:30am**  
Stitchery

**Tues., Feb. 11, 11:30am**  
Historic Gardens of Mt. Holly

**Sat., Feb. 15, 10:00am**  
Set Up Night in Sicily

**Sat., Feb. 15, 5:00-9:00pm**  
Night in Sicily "That's Amore"

**Mon., Feb. 17, 11:30am**  
Literature

**Tues., Feb. 18, 12:30pm**  
Arts Creative, Soups On

**Tues., Feb. 18, 11:30am**  
Public Issues

**Thurs., Feb. 20, 7:00pm**  
Garden Tour Kick-Off Meeting

**Mon., Feb. 24, 7:00pm**  
Evening Meeting: Women's Issues & Opportunities

**Fri., Feb. 28, 9:30am**  
Arts Creative, Trip to Academy of Natural Sciences

### March

**Tues., Mar. 4, 7:30pm**  
General Evening Meeting, Mike Cabot, comedian

**Fri., Mar. 7, 9:30am**  
Arts Creative, Colored Pencil Drawing

**Fri., Mar. 7, 6:30-10:00pm**  
WAM Trivia

**Mon., Mar. 10, 9:30am**  
Stitchery

**Wed., Mar. 12, 3:00-6:00pm**  
Rummage Sale Set Up

**Thurs., Mar. 13, 1:00-7:00pm**  
Rummage Sale Set Up

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*The Porch Club of Riverton*

CLUB PRESIDENT: JoAnn DiNoia,  
EMAIL: jaydinoia@verizon.net  
NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Mindy Ryan,  
EMAIL: mindvmrvan@yahoo.com

## Loving Words From Your President

Dear Ladies,

*"To handle yourself, use your head; to handle others, use your heart."*

*— Eleanor Roosevelt*



*President Joann DiNoia displays a decoration created by our ladies for Smithville Mansion.*

What heartfelt words for a month dedicated to Love. Love of Family, Love of friends, Love of Club, Love of One Another. What roles we do play in our daily lives; wives, mothers, confidants, friends. We do it all so lovingly. No questions asked... Yes we do it all. So during this month I encourage you all to take time for yourself, to do something you truly love and enjoy with someone you hold dear to your heart.

Speaking of something fun, February holds a bunch of heart-warming happenings at our club. Our general meeting finds us having tea with the best friend of Jackie-O. This is sure to be a delightful afternoon. Don't forget your hats and gloves.

Love is also in the air as we get ready for our Night in Sicily "That's Amore" with a special dinner being catered by Georgetti's

Our other departments are also buzzing with many interesting things as well. Arts Creative will be hosting Soups On on February 18, and also planning a trip to the Academy of Natural Sciences on February 28. And let us not forget about our Evening Department. There will be an

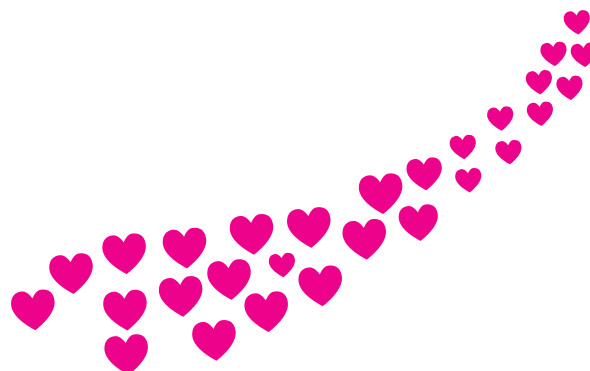
evening meeting on February 24 on Women's Issues and Opportunities. Come out and join the fun.

As always, check your directories, and mark the events you don't want to miss.

Sending you all XOXOXO

Warmly,

**JoAnn**



## Evening Meetings

**Kit Stahler-Miller,**  
**Kitsmiller200@comcast.net**

Thanks to everyone who came out to support the Evening Department programs in the fall. We had two wonderful slide show and book signing programs. "The Capital of the World: Philadelphia's Race to Host the United Nations" (with a focus on New Jersey's role) by Charlene Mires from Rutgers in October. Then "Garden Lunacy: A Growing Concern" by Art Wolk, "the Dave Barry of gardening" co-sponsored with the Garden/Conservation Department, gave us a fun-filled evening in November. Both programs were interesting and well received.

## Home Life/ Social Services

**Dottie Fresco, 856-786-0789**

We will be collecting non-perishable food for the Bread of Life Food Pantry at the February and March meetings. The pantry provided food for an average of 96 families each month in 2013 and is dependent on private donations from people like us. Donations tend to decline in the first months of the year since we are all recovering from holiday spending. However, the need does not diminish. Families still need to eat. Please be generous as you contrast the bounty of your own pantry against the empty shelves of others'.

We will be collecting newborn/preemie clothes in April and May to take to the Ronald McDonald House in May.

## Calendar Continued

**Fri., Mar. 14, 6:00-9:00pm**  
Rummage Sale

**Sat., Mar. 15, 8:00am-noon**  
Rummage Sale

**Tues, Mar. 18, 11:30am**  
Literature

**Tues., Mar. 18, 7:00pm**  
Garden Tour Meeting

**Wed., Mar. 19, 1:00pm**  
Arts Creative, Scrapbooking Workshop

**Fri., Mar. 21, 11:30am**  
Public Issues

**Mon., Mar. 24, 7:00pm**  
Evening Meeting, Women in History

**Fri., Mar. 28, Noon**  
Book and Author Luncheon



*Cathi Rendfrey, Director of The Women's Opportunity Center (WOC) in Burlington*

## "Women's Issues and Opportunities"

Monday, February 24 – 7:00pm

We are fortunate to have Cathi Rendfrey, Director of The Women's Opportunity Center (WOC) in Burlington discuss the many facets of what the Center's program does. She will address her role and current issues such as Human Trafficking and Alimony Reform.

Cathi Rendfrey is the recipient of numerous awards. In 2012, Cathi was named "Women's Advocate of the Year" by the South Jersey Chapter of NAWBO and received the Soroptimist International "Governor's Award". She was named a "New Jersey Hero of 2011" by First Lady Mary Pat Christie.

## International Outreach

**Iris Gaughan, iggaughan@gmail.com**

We received the following thank you note from Kimberly Jones, our ChildCare International child, for the combined birthday and Christmas gift card we sent her in early December:

*Thanks for the card, the gift box and the \$100 to Walmart. I will buy hygiene stuff I need. I had a wonderful Thanksgiving. I hope you had a good one. I can't wait until Christmas break. I am finally 13 now. I have seven siblings. We are all growing up so fast. My Mom has three more years till the oldest one moves out. Thank You, Kimberly Jones*

Approximately \$375.00 has been raised thus far for the UNICEF's fund for the refugee children of Syria.

The International Luncheon on January 7, was well attended despite the single digit cold weather temperature. Since this was a combined Christmas tea (canceled because of snow conditions) and International Luncheon, the emphasis for the afternoon was Peace... peace in our world, our town, our homes.

## Programs

**Phyllis Rodgers, partea@comcast.net, 856.786.8422**

Our March evening meeting will have us laughing out loud! We will host Mike Cabot who is an impressionist, comedian, and quintessential showman. By blending the art of comedy impressions with good natured audience participation, he delivers a performance unlike any other impressionist in the business. For more than a decade, Mike's hilarious, on target impressions of today's hottest celebrities (in addition to many classic celebrity personalities) have consistently proven to entertain any audience. Because he works clean, his act is perfect for our Porch Club venue. Save the date! March 4 at 7:30pm.

## Public Issues

**Elizabeth "Betty" Dunn  
ecarrolldunn@gmail.com**

On January 22, after a luncheon meeting at Red Lobster, the members of the Public Issues Committee delivered groceries to the Bread of Life Food Pantry. Approximately \$240.00 worth of groceries and a check for \$100.00 were donated.

There will be no meeting in February for Public Issues.

On Friday, March 21 at 11:30am, The Public Issues Committee will host a speaker from the Burlington County Sheriff's Office to discuss Senior safety and services. All members of the Porch Club are welcome to join us for this meeting. Please let me know if you wish to attend.

# Art Performing/Music/Drama

Susan Fay and Naomi Horn, [suefay56@gmail.com](mailto:suefay56@gmail.com), 856-234-4031

Due to the cancellation of the Christmas Tea, the chorus did not get an opportunity to entertain the membership and show the fruit of their many rehearsals. Instead, there will be a spring concert at the May meeting when snow and ice should not be an issue. Rehearsals will begin in March. Any one is welcome to join the group.

## Monday, March 24 - 7pm

A Glimpse of Women Who Shaped History, co-sponsored by the Evening Department and performed by The Porch Club Performing Arts Drama Department, Concept and Direction by Lynn Johnson.

Back by popular demand and in honor of Women's History Month, the Performing Arts Drama Department will portray a host of women who greatly shaped and influenced the role, status and achievements of women throughout history.

Portrayals of historical and contemporary women who shaped history may include:

- Abigail Adams, Wife of John Adams, and who asked him to "remember the ladies"
- Susan B. Anthony, Early suffragette arrested for illegal voting in 1872
- Mary Van Meter Grice, Co-founder of The Porch Club and NJ PTA, and first president of The Porch Club
- Alice Paul, Led the fight for the 1920 passage of the Right to Vote. Author of the Equal Rights Amendment
- Rosa Parks, Arrested for refusing to move to the back of the bus. "Mother of the Civil Rights Movement"
- Gilda Radner, Comedienne. "Gilda's Club" was named for her. The Porch Club donated money to Gilda's Club.
- Erma Bombeck, Writer and humorist. Some bookstores refused to carry her books after she worked for the passage of the Equal Rights Amendment.

# Domestic Violence Awareness

Barbara Toritto, [Btoritto@aol.com](mailto:Btoritto@aol.com)

Hello Ladies. I have wonderful news to share with the club. As a result of the very successful raffle of a "Spa Basket" at the Shopping Spree, this committee was able to donate 16 pairs of pants, 16 tops, 6 bra tops, 18 pairs of underwear, numerous sock slippers, and 6 pillows to Providence House. There was a request for a flat screen television and a wall mount for the children's playroom. Due to a very generous donation from an anonymous person, we were able to fulfill that request as well. Everything was delivered before Christmas to the shelter and was gratefully received. This was a very successful mission due to the generous purchases of raffle tickets from many of the club members and I would like to personally say "Thank You" for your support.

The committee is still working on bringing the "Teen Dating Violence" program to Palmyra High School and is waiting to hear back from the prosecutors office for their availability.

# Ways and Means

Nancy J. Anderson, [nancyjanderson@comcast.net](mailto:nancyjanderson@comcast.net)

Marge Ziegler, [m.a.ziegler@comcast.net](mailto:m.a.ziegler@comcast.net)

WAM TRIVIA! A fun game to test your mind skills and learn some interesting facts too! Our second edition of TRIVIA will be on Friday, March 7, 6:30-10:00pm. The cost is \$10.00 per person which includes a light dinner, coffee, tea, and desert. B.Y.O.B. A fun night for adults! Get your team together now and reserve a table. Don't forget to name your team. Call me for questions and reservations: Nancy Anderson 609-410-1602 or email [callnancy@comcast.net](mailto:callnancy@comcast.net)

Our second fundraiser event is a very special one. "A Night in Sicily" That's amore! Bring your Valentine. Saturday, February 15, 5:00pm-9:00pm. Catered by Georgetti's and held at the Porch Club. Delicious appetizer, salad, pasta dishes, desert, coffee and tea. B.Y.O.B. \$22.00 per person Reserve your table now as seating is limited.

Call Nancy Anderson 609-410-1602 or email [callnancy@comcast.net](mailto:callnancy@comcast.net). Please mail your checks, payable to the Porch Club of Riverton, to reserve your seat by February 7 to: 725 Perkins Lane, Edgewater Park, NJ 08010.

# Literature / Education

Cora Lee Page,

[crpage1@comcast.net](mailto:crpage1@comcast.net)

Literature Group is meeting Monday, February 17 at the Porch Club and our March meeting will be at the home of Betty Dunn on Tuesday the 18th. All meetings are at 11:30am. Everyone is invited. Bring a light lunch. Beverage and dessert will be provided.

We are making plans for our Book and Author's Luncheon to be held Friday, March 28 at 12 noon at the Porch Club. Our distinguished authors are Dr. Michael Rushnak and Deborah Whitcraft.

Dr. Rushnak is the author of a medical trilogy, plus his latest book just released in November, also a medical mystery, titled Unseen Shadows.

The second author, Deborah Whitcraft, is coauthor of *Inferno at Sea*, the true story of the fire and sinking of the ocean liner, "Morro Castle" in the 1930's off the coast of Asbury Park. Ms. Whitcraft is also the president and founder of the Maritime Museum in Beach Haven.

Three baskets will be raffled off plus a 50-50. There will be a catered luncheon and the proceeds will go to the Literacy Volunteers of Burlington County in Willingboro. Tickets will be available at the March meeting for \$25 each.

# Garden/Conservation Department

Pat Bruner, patebrun@comcast.net

Pat McDermott, pmcdermott14@comcast.net

**Tuesday, February 11** – *Historic Gardens of Mount Holly: A Legacy of the Landscape*, 1:00pm

Master Gardener Alicia McShulkis brings the landscape to life as she takes you on a tour of the area's historic homes and gardens, many of which have vanished over time. Her presentation will include Ashurst's secret tunnels used by slaves escaping on the underground railroad, the summerhouse where Washington and Lafayette held councils of war and the ghost that haunts Langstaff's third-floor staircase. From the neatly sculpted Georgian hedgerows to the curved and meandering lines of Capability Brown, the history of Burlington County is written in the landscape.

**Thursday, February 20** – Garden Tour 2014 Kick-off Meeting, 7:00pm

This is our first planning meeting for this year's tour and is the most important meeting of the year. We are excited to be trying some new and different ideas for this year's tour. We need lots of help, as always. Several sub-committees need to be formed and we need people to head them up. We have six great gardens already signed up, but could use a couple more, so bring your ideas for pretty gardens as well. It's going to be great, but we need your input and help for planning.

## Membership

Jan DeVries, jdv5456@aol.com

I'm very pleased to report that four new members were installed at our January 7 meeting:

- Doris Downes
- Lynn Horan
- Lisa McElrath
- Judy Zapisek

Welcome to all of you! The Membership Department is looking forward to installing more new members in February, as well as introducing a good number of prospective new members for first and second readings. Membership is very appreciative to all of the current members who are reaching out to friends and inviting them to be part of The Porch Club. Keep up the good work!

Everyone is welcome, you do not have to be a Garden Department member. Hope to see you then.

**Tuesday, March 18** – Garden Tour Meeting, 7:00pm

Committee meeting. Progress reporting and planning continues. Check for where we are in the process of making this a wonderful tour.

**Conservation Chat** – The Nature Conservancy is a charitable environmental organization founded in the United States in 1951. Its mission is to "conserve the lands and waters on which all life depends." The Nature Conservancy works in more than 30 countries, including all 50 states of the United States. The Conservancy has over one million members, and has protected more than 119 million acres of land and 5,000 miles of rivers worldwide. The Nature Conservancy

## Rummage Sale

Mary Hannah,  
Riverton 914@aol.com

March 14-15

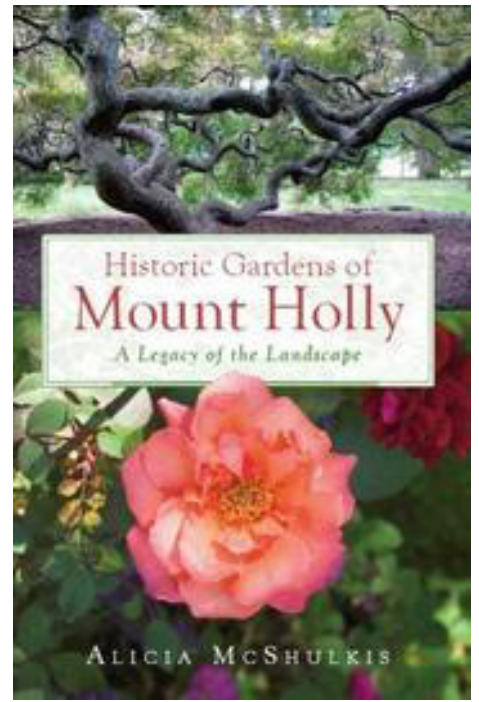
Time for spring cleaning! Go through your closets, attic, basement, garage and find those unused treasures. You haven't used it in years, but it is exactly what someone else needs. After you've cleaned, come and browse our selection of merchandise. You never know what you will find and our prices can't be beat.

Don't want to shop? That's OK because we always need volunteers to sort, display, and price merchandise along with assisting customers in finding the perfect item and collecting payment.

### Schedule:

12 March 3-6 pm..... setup  
13 March 1-7pm..... setup  
14 March 6-9pm..... sale  
15 March 8-noon..... sale

Contact Mary Hannah at 856-304-4434 for more information.



also operates more than 100 marine conservation projects globally. Check out their website for interesting conservation stories and opportunities to be involved in one of their conservation projects at [www.nature.org](http://www.nature.org).

**Earth Day:** April 22: Take Action!

## Flower Show

The flower show committee has been very busy. The theme of the 2014 Philadelphia Flower Show is "ARTiculture" and our theme - Surrealism in Motion - has proven to be very challenging. Pat McDermott wrote a brilliant Intent and we have Tracy Mahaffey, an award winning artist/sculptor from Rhode Island, helping us with the accessories. The Porch Club exhibit at the show is a window box and hanging basket. We hope you all will come out and see our entry at the Philadelphia Flower Show on exhibit from Saturday March 1 until Tuesday March 4.

### Yearbook Correction

Barbara Pilborough email:  
[pilchris5206@comcast.net](mailto:pilchris5206@comcast.net)

# A NIGHT IN SICILY



## **FUNDRAISER**

DELICIOUS CATERED ITALIAN  
DINNER BY GEORGETTI'S  
call and Reserve your table by 2/7/14

**DATE** SATURDAY, 2/15/2014

**WHERE:** THE "PORCH CLUB" OF  
RIVERTON, 213 HOWARD ST

**TIME:** 5 PM-9 PM "THATS AMORE"

\$22.00 PER PERSON, BYOB & Valentine

[callnancy@comcast.net](mailto:callnancy@comcast.net) or 609-410-1602



# Arts Creative Activities

Donna Van Hoy 786-1622

## February

**Soups On!** February 18, 12:30pm at the Porch Club. BYOB — Bring your own bowl and your best soup or dessert. We will taste test the soups and have a few laughs.

**Trip to the Academy of Natural Sciences**, Philadelphia, Butterfly Exhibit, February 28, 9:30am, carpool from the Porch Club. We will go to the live butterfly exhibit with our cameras or sketch pads. We might be able to use this information for Achievement Day. We'll find some lunch.

## March

**Colored Pencil Drawing.** March 7, 9:30am at the Porch Club. We'll discuss our butterfly photographs and start sketching from them.

**Scrapbooking Workshop.** March 19, 1:00pm at the Porch Club. We'll discuss your theme and help arrange your photographs on the scrapbook page

## Stitchery

Jeanne Bianchini, [jxstitch@gmail.com](mailto:jxstitch@gmail.com)

We continue to meet, as often as possible, and our stitchers continue to share their completed projects and many talents with all of us. On almost any Monday morning at the Porch Club, you'll find women knitting, crocheting, working on a needlepoint or craft project.

Recently, Karen Healey led our first knitting class. The knitters completed a spa/washcloth and some went on to more advanced projects. If you'd still like to learn this form of needlework, please let us know and we'll get you started.

The main focus of our group for the remainder of this year will be our Needlepoint Flag, Betsy. Those of you who have signed up to stitch a square will be contacted by Judy Zapisek to schedule a time that's convenient for you. If you haven't signed

up, but would like to join us, please contact Marylou Schofield, Judy Zapisek, or Jeanne Bianchini. The cost to stitch a square is \$5. At the present time, we are planning to stitch every Monday, mornings, afternoons, and evenings. If Monday doesn't work for you, we'll find a day and time that does work. Every member wanting to stitch will have a member of Stitchery with them to help guide you through your square. It usually takes between 1 - 1½ hours to complete each square. Please join us in completing our flag and representing all of our members.

We usually email weekly reminders of our meetings. If you'd like to be added to our email list, please contact Marylou or Jeanne.



*Close-up of the beginning stitching on the flag. Many of these were done by first-time stitchers.*

*A photo can't do justice to how beautiful this is. As of this photo 24 squares were completed with another one started just as this picture was taken. Make sure you get to be a part of this project.*

*Contact Marylou Schofield to make an appointment.*

Fourth & Howard Streets  
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