



*The Porch Club of Riverton*

The Garden District

**Dec./Jan.2017-18**

# *Inside the Porch Door*

*Dates and meetings are subject to change. Please visit our website for updates.*

## **December**

**Mon., Dec. 18, 11:30am**

Literature

**Thurs., Dec. 21, 1:00pm**

Garden/Conservation

## **January**

**Mon., Jan. 8, 9:30am**

Stitchery

**Tues., Jan. 9, 12:00pm**

International Luncheon

**Wed., Jan. 10, 7:00pm**

Evening – Yoga, Nutrition, and Health

**Mon., Jan. 15, 11:30am**

Literature

**Mon., Jan. 15, 7:00pm**

Arts Creative - Valentine Stamp Card Workshop

**Thurs., Jan. 18, 10:00am**

District Meeting

**Fri., Jan. 19, 10:00am**

Undecorate the Porch Club

**Fri., Jan. 19, 10:30am**

Home/Life

**Mon., Jan. 22, 9:30am**

Stitchery

**Mon., Jan. 29, 9:30am**

Stitchery

## **The Porch Club of Riverton**

CLUB PRESIDENT: Phyllis Rodgers,  
EMAIL: partea@comcast.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Carole Lange,  
EMAIL: carole.lange@gmail.com

ART DIRECTOR: Mindy Ryan,  
EMAIL: mindymryan@yahoo.com

## *Letter from the President*

Greetings Ladies,



Our beloved Porch Club was a wondrous haven of holiday spirit this month.

Bedecked with enchanting decorations and brimming with merriment, our traditional Holiday Tea created special memories. As we savored delectable treats brought by all and enjoyed festive music thanks to our Chorus, we welcomed and embraced new members and forged new and old friendships. Our Departments collaborating together resulted in many holiday spirited activities. Arts Creative and Garden/Conservation transformed our clubhouse into a wondrous Candyland which took our breath away.

Our Evening and Arts Creative Departments gave us a night of fun with a cookie swap, ugly sweater contest, and ornament exchange. Public Issues and Home Life were busy working together to provide dinner for the Ronald McDonald house and hosted a lovely Tea for the residents at Riverview Estates. So much goes on behind the scenes of our Departments that many of our membership never get to see...the planning, rehearsals, shopping, set up and cleanups.

Working together, we share the joy of accomplishing the "little things that make a difference". We also make light of the task that is before us. Thank you to all the ladies of this club who are involved and do not hesitate to share their time and talents. Remember...no one respects a talent that is concealed". So don't wait to be asked—volunteer your talent—be one of our Porch Club ladies who help to make this such a fine institution of tradition, love, and camaraderie.

Enjoy the rest of the Holiday Season. May it be filled with loving activities shared with family and friends.

Wishing all of you a happy and healthy 2018.

## *Phyllis*



*Members arrive to see the club's seasonal decorations and a table full of delicious treats.*



# Membership

Kit Stahler-Miller, [membership@theporchclub.org](mailto:membership@theporchclub.org)

Five new members joined the Porch Club at the Christmas Tea on December 5 – Helene Hartman, Helen Hughes, Ruthie Mills, Doreen Nelson, Bernadette Pantano, and Maggie Rovner.

Six new members are expected to be initiated on December 13 – Camille Crane, Sara Holland, Mary Ann McCusker, Joan Scharff, and Valerie Stills. And on January 9, Rosemary Kay will be installed making a total of 24 new members. We are delighted to welcome them and look

forward to helping them find their 'perfect places and activities' with us.

## Club Woman of the Year Award Nominations

Announcing the Club Woman of the Year Award Nominations. The Porch Club's Club Woman of the Year Award was established in 1987 to recognize one of our own outstanding women. The award is presented once a year.

Nominations are to be based on the

individual's volunteer service in Federated Women's Clubs at any level: federal, state, or local, and her volunteer activities which revolve around religious, political, educational, and any other volunteer activities. The only requirement is that they be a volunteer.

Request a nomination form from Kit Stahler-Miller, Membership Chairperson, via email or pick it up at a meeting.

Deadline for submission: Tuesday, March 6, 2018



*Newly installed members at the December 5 Christmas Luncheon.*

# International Outreach

Maggie Auer, [maggieamsw@gmail.com](mailto:maggieamsw@gmail.com)

Iris Gaughan, [iggaughan@gmail.com](mailto:iggaughan@gmail.com)

A record breaking \$528 was collected for UNICEF through the Trick or Treat Halloween boxes. The boxes were placed in local businesses. There were also several individual contributions. In recent memory this is the largest amount collected for this event.

January 9, 2018 is the date of this year's International Luncheon. The focus organization is Women for Women International. Since 1993, Women for Women International has helped more than 462,000 marginalized women in

countries affected by war and conflict. We serve women in 8 countries offering support, tools, and access to life-changing skills to move from crisis and poverty to stability and economic self-sufficiency.

Each month, money is collected at the day and evening Porch Club meetings for our sponsored child, Kevin Zapote Mezquite from Mexico. This money is distributed through Child Fund International. In addition to the quarterly donation, we send an additional Christmas and birthday gift to Kevin.



*Kevin Zapote Mezquite*



## Garden District Meeting

The Porch Club is honored to host the January 18, 2018 Garden District meeting at our Clubhouse from 9:00 am to approximately 1:00pm. Brunch is provided by the visiting clubs. Many representatives

from the District's clubs will share their news, information, and activities led by our District VP, Joelle Wentz. Porch Club members are encouraged to attend and

hear about what goes on in other clubs. We do need to be represented so please RSVP to Phyllis Rodgers if you are able to attend even a portion of this meeting.

## Home Life / Public Issues

**Gerri Dietrich, [gadietrich@msn.com](mailto:gadietrich@msn.com)**

**Sue Hadden, [susanhadden904@icloud.com](mailto:susanhadden904@icloud.com)**

**Cathy Morris, [cathymorisc@yahoo.com](mailto:cathymorisc@yahoo.com)**

Once again the Porch Club contributed to the Camden Ronald McDonald House by preparing dinner on Thursday, November 30. The Ronald McDonald House provides temporary housing for families whose children are receiving inpatient or outpatient services at local hospitals. This project was started by developing a menu and then shopping for all of the necessary food and preparation supplies. Many ladies did some preliminary preparation a day or two prior to our visit at the home. Home-cooked meals provide comfort and nutrition to anxious

parents and their children after a long day at the hospital. We served casseroles, tater tots (which were a big hit with the children), salad, and desserts. We enjoyed talking with the families, who are from several different states and countries.

This was a team effort. Those who participated in some capacity included: Gerri Dietrich, Sue Hadden, Cathy Morris, Judith Fuhrer, Anita Matyjaszek, Bernie Holmes, Sue Dechnik, Julie Luciano, Jeanne Giles, Sheila Hines, Jackie Greco, and Betty Dunn. A special thanks to Richard Dietrich for his help.



*The ladies pose with Ronald McDonald after serving food to the families staying at the house.*

## Garden/Conservation

**Marilyn Entenmann,**  
**herbgardender1117@gmail.com**

Wow! The year has flown by. On December 21 at 1:00pm we will be wrapping up our year with a wonderful Natural Greens Centerpiece Workshop. Please call me if you have not already reserved a place. You will need to bring a container, scissors, clippers, a glue gun and any special embellishments. I will be providing the wet oasis, assorted fresh greens, floral tape and ribbon for a bow. The cost is \$5. You must sign up for these items to be there for you!

As of the first of the year we will be throwing ourselves into planning for the 2018 Garden Tour. We encourage everyone to join in the fun. There is a great opportunity to get involved. Proceeds from the Garden Tour benefit your club. Meetings will be announced in the weekly email blasts.

## Evening Department

**Aylin Bucci, Co-chair, asbucci@gmail.com**  
**Lois Robinson, Co-chair, lorobin99@aol.com**

The Evening Department has been quite busy planning and organizing Fall/Winter events for your enjoyment. The Holiday Party and Cookie Swap held on December 13 in partnership with Arts Creative added something new this year – an Ornament Game. Members brought a wrapped ornament and played as we read a fun Christmas story.

We are also very excited to help you start 2018 on the right foot. Join us on January 10 at 7:00pm for an Evening of Yoga, Nutrition, and Health! We'll enjoy healthy snacks as we listen to an expert to share healthy lifestyle tips.

## Annual Shopping Spree

This year's Shopping Spree showcased the works of twenty five vendors all with unique and beautifully crafted items. The proceeds benefit our Special State Project. Our own Stitchery Committee made nearly \$400 selling handmade bookmarks and Christmas tree ornaments. Kudos to all involved in making this year's annual sale another highly successful event.



*Our own Carole Martucci sold her one of a kind handmade cards*

## Arts Performing

**Sue Fay, suefay56@gmail.com**  
**Naomi Horn**

Arts Performing, Chorus, had a small, but dedicated and enthusiastic group for the Christmas Tea Concert. They sang some favorites, many with audience participation, as well as some new songs which emphasized remembering the true meaning of Christmas as well as loving one another. As usual, Naomi Horn put on an energizing and well played performance for us all.



*Naomi Horn  
at the piano*

## Ways and Means

**Vicky Basgil, vickybasgil@yahoo.com**

The Bird House that is now being passed around at each meeting is symbolic of our Porch Club home. Its purpose is to raise awareness of the need to continue to maintain our building that we hold in perpetuity for future generations of Porch Club members. The money collected helps offset repairs and maintenance to the building. At the December Tea, Ways and Means collected \$102. Thank you so very much for your support.

On February 10, 2018, we will partner with the Evening Department for a fund raising event. Mark your calendars!

## Programs

**Bobbie Beck, Chair, paul062@verizon.net**

February's program, 'Charity Extravaganza', will be highlighting some of our charities that we support each year through monetary and In Kind donations. They will have displays and give a short overview of their work, and lots of time for you to talk to their representatives about their services. Right now, we have the following service organizations coming: Cathedral Kitchen, Camden Forward School-Urban Promise, Emergency Services-Providence House and the Interact Club of Palmyra High School.

In March a group from The Burlington Entertainers will wow us with their tunes from the 60's. This group is under the direction of Ms. Diana Dohrmann.

## Shopping to Benefit the Club

**Treasurer, Pat Bruner, patebrun@comcast.net**

Now you can shop online and support The Porch Club of Riverton on Amazon Smile.

1. Make sure you have a regular Amazon account
2. Go to smile.amazon.com
3. Follow the instructions. In the search bar, type in "The Porch Club of Riverton." Then select New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs. Location: Riverton, NJ from the list
4. Do your regular shopping from smile.amazon.com
5. Smile, you've helped your favorite charity just by doing your regular shopping!



# Arts Creative, Stitchery, and Crafts

MaryLou Schofield, [mlscho@verizon.net](mailto:mlscho@verizon.net),  
Donna VanHoy, [artdvh@gmail.com](mailto:artdvh@gmail.com)  
Carol Hoinsky, [cihhun@aol.com](mailto:cihhun@aol.com)

Arts Creative had a busy December. We decorated the Porch Club for the holidays and had a Christmas Bowl Workshop, a Cookie Swap, and Holiday Party with the Evening Group.

On January 15 at 7:00pm we will start the New Year with a Valentine Stamped Card Workshop. Maureen Murray will

share her creativity and expertise to help everyone create beautiful rubber stamped cards.

Tuesday, February 20. we will have a Rock Painting Workshop. See next month's Porth Door for time and more details.

We would like to wish everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Holidays, and a Healthy and Happy New Year.

We would encourage you and thank you for supporting our department.



## Stitchery

Dottie Landolt,  
[dclandolt@aol.com](mailto:dclandolt@aol.com),  
Mindy Ryan,  
[mindymryan@yahoo.com](mailto:mindymryan@yahoo.com),  
Karen Sulock, [kmsulock@aol.com](mailto:kmsulock@aol.com)

The Stitchery group has decided to take a few weeks off before the holidays to finish our projects and ready our homes for friends and family. We will get together again in the new year on Monday, January 8 at 9:30.

We have many projects for the spring including knitting a hat with Karen Healey and Carol Sewter and Swedish embroidery with Sheile Hines and Karen Sulock.

Projects, dates, and facilitators will be announced in the weekly email blasts and future issues of the Porch Door.

## The Betsy Journal Entries Deadline

Pam Bowen, [pambow60@comcast.net](mailto:pambow60@comcast.net)

As many of you know, there is a journal related to the Betsy Flag on which many of you either stitched a square or paid to have one stitched for you. Related to that project is the journal which entitles you to make a statement, dedication, or just put your name on the page which corresponds to the number of the square you stitched on the flag.

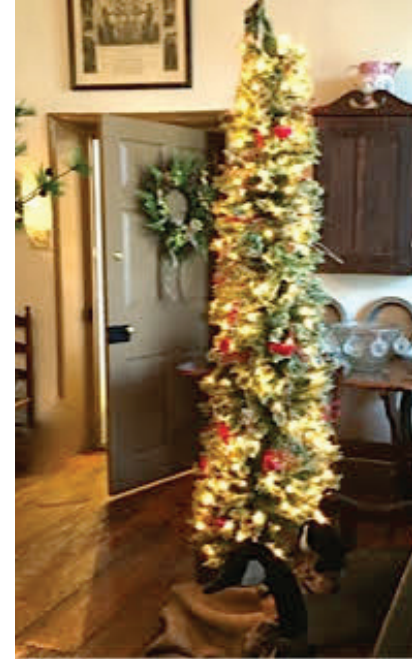
To some of you it may seem like a daunting task, to others, maybe unimportant. But once you read some of the entries, you will see they range from very simple to very heartfelt. You don't have to be Jane Austen or Ernest Hemingway but we would like to have your entry not only for current club members to enjoy but future generations of Porch Club members.

The time is drawing near when the scheduling and door to door service will end. To those whom I have been unable to schedule, I will make a last attempt to reach you through e-mail. Please email me or call me and we can work out a date where I can bring the journal to you and after a few days I will pick it up. Please don't miss this opportunity to make your entry. To those of you who have completed one, thanks so much for your cooperation.

This has been a rewarding experience for me meeting and getting to know so many of you during this project. Betsy has been a blessing in many ways.

# Decorating Committee

Carole Lange, Chair, Carole.Lange@gmail.com



*Once again, talented and creative members of the Decorating Committee traveled to Strawberry Mansion in Fairmont Park/Philadelphia and Smithville Mansion in East Hampton, NJ, to decorate these historic homes for the holidays. We had the enjoyable tasks of decorating The Tavern at Strawberry Mansion and the Annex at Smithville Mansion. The mansions are open for holiday tours during the month of December. A special thanks goes to Bill McDermott for his assistance and electrician skills.*

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