

Fourth & Howard Streets  
Post Office Box 49  
Riverton, New Jersey 08077



The Porch Club of Riverton

The Garden District

Feb./Mar. 2017

# Inside the Porch Door

## February

**Wed., Feb. 1, 7:00pm**  
Membership Committee  
**Mon., Feb. 6, 9:30am**  
Stitchery  
**Tues., Feb. 7, 12:30pm**  
General Meeting / Tea  
**Fri., Feb. 10, 7:00pm**  
Evening Bunco game night, \$5  
**Mon., Feb. 13, 9:30am**  
Stitchery  
**Fri., Feb. 17, 11:30am**  
Public Issues  
**Mon., Feb. 20, 11:30am**  
Literature  
**Mon., Feb. 20, 12:00noon**  
Arts Creative 'Soup's On'  
**Mon., Feb. 27, 9:30am**  
Stitchery

## March

**Mon., Mar. 6, 9:30am**  
Stitchery  
**Tues., Mar. 7, 12:30pm**  
General Meeting / Tea  
**Wed., Mar. 8, 7:00pm**  
Evening / Rancocas Valley Singers  
in Concert  
**Mon., Mar. 13, 10:00am**  
Arts Creative  
**Wed., Mar. 15, 3:00-6:00pm**  
Rummage Sale Set Up  
**Thurs., Mar. 16, 1:00-7:00pm**  
Rummage Sale Set Up  
**Fri., Mar. 17, 6:00-9:00pm**  
Rummage Sale  
**Sat., Mar. 18, 8:00am-12:00noon**  
Rummage Sale  
**Mon., Mar. 20, 9:30am**  
Stitchery  
**Mon., Mar. 20, 11:30am**  
Literature

Continued on Page 3

## The Porch Club of Riverton

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR: Rita Vittese,  
EMAIL: ritavittese@gmail.com  
ART DIRECTOR: Mindy Ryan, EMAIL:  
mindymryan@yahoo.com

## Loving Words from Your President

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

— Eleanor Roosevelt

Such heartfelt words for February, a month dedicated to love. Love of family, love of friends, and love of one another. Mothers, wives, confidants, and friends - these are just some of the roles we so lovingly play in our daily lives. Yes, we do it all willingly, lovingly, and with no questions asked. So, during this special month, I encourage you to take time for yourself, to do something you truly love and enjoy with someone with someone hold dear to your heart. And perhaps, find a new pursuit.

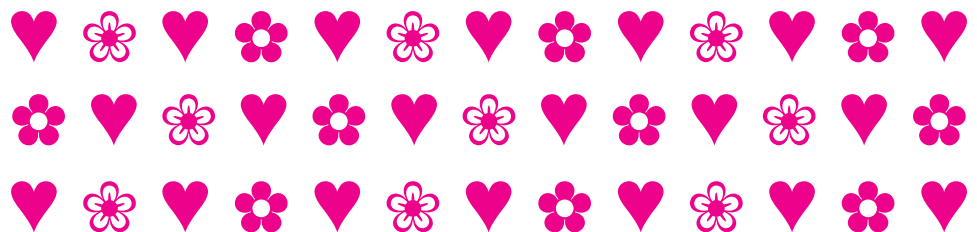
February at the Porch Club offers us several opportunities to pursue some new interests. At our general meeting and tea on Tuesday, February 7 at 12:30pm, we welcome renowned storyteller, Dorothy Stanaitis. Dorothy will present, *They Came by Sea*, a program celebrating heartfelt stories brought to America from our immigrant forbearers. On Friday, February 10 at 7:00pm, get together with friends for a night of fun at our first ever Bunco night! Admission is only \$5.00 (which will go towards cash prizes). Snacks are included! And, on Monday, February 20 at 12:00 noon, share your favorite soup and recipe at the ever popular Soup's On event.

Please make note that our March general meeting, originally scheduled for March 7 at 12:30pm, will now take place on Tuesday evening at 7:00pm. This switch up will give our working members a chance to attend a general meeting. We are delighted that we will have the popular Rancocas Valley Singers perform at this meeting. This amazing chorus is largely made up of singers from Medford, Cinnaminson, Palmyra, and beyond.

Finally, in March, it's everyone's favorite time, our Rummage Sale. Mark your calendars for March 17-18. Mary Hannah can always use your help setting up and selling. Your unwanted treasures are needed. As always check your directories, mark down the dates, and watch my weekly reminders. You won't want to miss out on the fun.

Warmly,

**JoAnn**



# Membership

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

We initiated one new member at our Christmas Tea: Maya Alkateb-Chami is now our youngest member at 29 years old and she met Elsie Waters, our most senior member at 98 years young. That happenstance was a joyous celebration!

Three new members were initiated at our January 3 International Program and Luncheon meeting: Beth Kowalchik, Julie Luciano, and Kathy Remetta. Three pro-

spective members were introduced with their first readings. There is also a queue of prospective members eager to join the Porch Club.

Membership appreciates members reaching out to friends and neighbors and inviting them to be part of the Porch Club. You are the life force of the Porch Club. Keep up the great work!

We look forward to helping our new

members find their perfect places and activities with us. Please greet them and welcome them at meetings and into our activities.

The deadline for receiving nominations for the Club Woman of the Year Award based on volunteer service is Tuesday, March 7. Request a Nomination form from Kit Stahler-Miller, Membership Chairperson, or pick it up at a meeting.



*New members, Beth Kowalchick, Julie Luciano and Kathy Remetta*



*Maya Alkateb-Chami, the youngest Porch Club member chats with Elsie Waters our most senior member*

# International Outreach

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

Eliza Roeck of National Center for Missing and Exploited Children was the guest speaker at the club's International Outreach Luncheon on January 3.

Eliza works as Child Sex Trafficking Specialist for this vital organization. In this role, Eliza provides critical policy support through training and congressional testimony focusing on establishing protections against internet facilitation of child sex trafficking and developing child serving agency response mechanisms.

Eliza is the niece of International Department's chairperson, Maggie Auer.

For more information go to <http://www.missingkids.com>.



*Eliza Roeck, specialist with The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children, speaker at the International Outreach Luncheon*



*International Luncheon celebrates ethnic cuisines*

## Evening Meetings

Pat Brunker, patebrunk@comcast.net, Jan DeVries, janet.b.devries@comcast.net

Thanks to everyone who supported our Craft Beer Night at Double Nickel Brewery. We were pleased to be able to help support Vicky Basgil and the Ways and Means Department.

Guests are welcome to the following events. Feel free to bring your friends.

### Bunco Night

Friday, February 10 at 7:00pm

We will get together to play Bunco. This is a fun, fast-paced party game that involves rolling dice with lots of camaraderie and friendly competition sprinkled in. Cash prizes, drinks, snacks, and a raffle basket filled with goodies. Cost: \$5 admission.

### Cabaret Night with the Rancocas Valley Singers

Wednesday, March 8 at 7:00pm

The wonderful Rancocas Valley Singers will present a musical evening, performing enjoyable lighter music from the realms of stage, screen and popular song. The majority of the singers are alumni of the Rancocas Valley Regional High School Concert & Chamber Choirs ranging from the class of 1987-2012. The group has recently performed at St. Andrew's Church in Mount Holly and Medford Leas. There is no charge for this concert, however, there will be a free-will donation collected to benefit the chorus' music and scholarship fund. Refreshments will be provided.



Rancocas Valley Singers will sing at March 8 Evening Meeting

## Arts Performing

Sue Fay, suefay56@gmail.com

What a fun year we have had in Chorus! We performed many old favorites as well as some new stuff thrown in just to keep us all on our toes. We celebrated Naomi's 90th birthday this year, and she never ceases to inspire and amaze us. She even played the holiday concert with a broken clavicle with nary a whimper. Special thanks goes to Helen Mack for helping with conducting this year. The alto section was especially glad she joined us.

Sometimes during rehearsals we get a little discouraged and think we won't get it right. But when it is performance time, it all falls into place, and we sound terrific. We all work hard, and it shows.

Our Porch Club Chorus runs the gamut from seasoned, trained musicians to those who just sing for the joy of it – we welcome all. Thanks for a great year and we look forward to singing our hearts out in 2017!



### Calendar *Continued*

Wed., Mar. 22, 7:00pm  
Membership Committee Meeting

Mon., Mar. 27, 9:30am  
Stitchery

Fri., Mar. 31, 10:30am  
Home Life

## Public Issues

Sue Hadden, hadalper@aol.com, Barbara Pilborough, pilchris5206@comcast.net

### Scam Alert Talk

On Friday, February 17 at 11:30am, we are sponsoring a lunchtime presentation given by Melissa Companick, CEO of the Better Business Bureau of New Jersey. We'll learn about scam techniques and major scams in our area among other important issues. Please bring your lunch and join us for this important talk.

Our Purple Hat project for Prevent Child Abuse (PCA) continues. So keep crocheting/knitting purple hats for our state project. We will be sending them to PCA in April which is Child Abuse Month.

## Programs

Phyllis Rodgers,  
partea@comcast.net

The general meeting, February 7 at 12:30pm, will include a program titled *They Came By Sea*. Professional storyteller, Dorothy Stanaitis, will present a celebration of stories brought to America by our forefathers. They came bearing trunks, bags, satchels, and even something more precious....the folklore, legends, and tales of their native lands. Share this fascinating collection of the stories that make up our cultural heritage.

This past November, our club hosted, New Jersey-based jazz singer, Maggie Worsdale. Maggie gave a fabulously entertaining performance of *The Great American Songbook*. We thank Maggie. It was a pleasure to host her before her move to Charleston, SC. Check Maggie out at <http://www.maggieworsdale.com/>



Jazz singer, Maggie Worsdale at <http://www.maggieworsdale.com>

### Pinwheel Project

The pinwheel project (also part of the NJSFWC state project) is developing nicely. Details will follow.

Our department's March 24 meeting is canceled. Instead, Public Issues members are sponsoring the Porch Club's Tea, March 7 at 12:30pm.

Finally, our Amico Island cleanup is tentatively scheduled for May 10. I hope you can join us for these 2017 events. All are welcome!



Cathy Morris of the PC and Maria Morales of the Philadelphia Art Museum putting the finishing touches on a wreath at Cedar Grove in Fairmount Park

## Decorating Committee

Carole Lange, carole.lange@gmail.com

The Porch Club's newly established Decorating Committee was honored to be invited again by Fairmount Park's Cedar Grove Mansion and Strawberry Mansion to dress up several rooms, a foyer and a staircase. A fun theme for Cedar Grove was a Philly Christmas. Try finding a glitter cheesesteak!

Hard work, but worth it! Thanks to worker bees at the two mansions: Pat McDermott, Bill McDermott, Carole Lange, Bobbie Beck, MaryLou Schofield, Carole Martucci, Cathy Morris, DonnaVanHoy, and June Emens and Barry Emens. Pat Bruncker was sorely missed due to having her foot attacked and broken by a ladder.

# Christmas Cookie Swap Cheer

Plenty of yummy homemade cookies, a not-so-ugly Christmas sweater contest, and an early visit from Santa made for a great recipe for the Porch Club's fabulous December Cookie Swap!

In a joint effort by Arts Creative and the Evening Committee, nearly twenty bakers presented such delights as Cranberry

Orange Shortbread, Sugar Cookies Cut Outs, Gingerbread Men, Pineapple Coconut Drops, and many more, beautifully bagged assortments.

Santa, who seems to be on good terms with former Riverton mayor, Bill Brown, dropped by to spread some holiday cheer.



Winners of the Christmas Sweater contest L to R, Karen Healy, Scariest; Lois Robinson, Sweetest; Lois Allen, Cutest; Dottie Lanholt, Most Traditional



Holiday fun at the December Cookie Swap with Celia Hazel, Santa, and Eleanor Palladino



Trish DeVito lovin' Santa at the December Cookie Swap

## Spring Rummage Sale

Mary Hannah,  
Riverton 914@aol.com

Spring is the time for cleaning and clearing out... and what better place for your no-longer-needed treasures than our spring rummage sale.

The spring rummage sale setup starts Wednesday, March 15 from 6:00-9:00pm and continues Thursday, March 16 from 1:00-7:00pm. The doors open for the sale on Friday evening, March 17 from 6:00-9:00pm and again on Saturday, March 18 from 8:00am-12:00 noon.

These sales bring many benefits to our club. We support many charities every year with the proceeds from both our fall and spring rummage sales both monetarily and in the form of donations. Nothing is wasted from our sales! And, another wonderful benefit is the camaraderie that happens among the volunteers who work the sale. If you are a new member or a seasoned member, the rummage sale can use you.

So sign up! Your time and effort will result in supporting many good causes, and there will be some laughs thrown in. If you have any questions and if you want to help out in March, please leave a message for me at 856-786-9314. Thank you for your continued and consistent support.



# Arts Creative, Stitchery, and Crafts

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

## Soup's On!

A Porch Club favorite this chilly time of year! A soup luncheon is planned for Monday, February 20 at 12 noon. Arts Creative will supply the salad and rolls and ask you to bring your favorite soup. Bring it in a crock or in a pot that can be

heated on the stove. MaryLou said the soup she makes all the time is one Meg Grimes made a few years ago for Soup's On. Meg shared her recipe with us, and you can do the same. So bring your favorite soup and your recipe. We will share and warm up together!

## 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 Committee is planning two road trips to visit quilt shows, one at Quilt Fest in Somerset, NJ and at the Blue Barn in Marlton, NJ. We are also planning on a trip to Ocean City to Scrim Discovery for a class to learn new needlepoint stitches. Dates and times are forthcoming.

Stitchery and any Porch Club members who can knit or crochet are invited to contact stitchery committee member, Karen Healey about making "Knitted

Knockers" for cancer patients. The Riverton Library is underwriting this effort by supplying yarn, needles, and patterns. A generous discount at the store Hooked in Haddonfield is available for the purchase of yarn for this project.

Stitchery continues to make baby hats as part of the Porch Club's two-year NJSFWC state project. So far, five dozen hats have been created. Directions for these hats are available at any Stitchery

In other news, the Garden District's Achievement Day is coming up in April. The categories span a vast array of hand-crafts, photography, fine arts, and baking. We encourage you to submit something you have made or will bake. More information is coming. We have submission forms and descriptions and requirements of all categories. Contact Donna or MaryLou for more information. All members of the Porch Club are invited to submit an entry.

meeting. Meetings are scheduled for most Mondays at 9:30am at the club.

All Porch Club members are encouraged to enter an item for Achievement Day which will take place in April. More information about entry rules and deadlines will be available soon.

Hand crafts, paintings, and baked items are just a few of the items you may enter. Contact any of the Stitchery co-chairs for entry forms.

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