

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



The Porch Club of Riverton

December 2008

Inside the Porch Door

Editor: Vicky Gordon
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Calendar

December 2, 1:00 pm
General Meeting
Porch Club

December 16, 2-4 pm
Christmas Tea
Porch Club

January 2, 10:00 am
Take down decorations
Porch Club

January 6, 12:30 pm
Meeting/International
Covered Dish
Porch Club

January 15, 1:00 pm
"Jackie Kennedy"
Porch Club

January 24, 4 & 6 pm
Spaghetti Dinner-\$12
Porch Club

January 26, 7:00 pm
Evening Meeting/
"Bead for Life"
Porch Club

January 26, 11:30 am
Literature Dept
Teresa Larson's House

February 3, 1:00 pm
General Meeting
Porch Club

Presidents Message: Pat Brunker

The Porch Club is such a unique organization and its unique and special members serve it proudly. Think of our accomplishments in the last 119 years! It continues to be so impressive today when our members gather to share, network and learn. I challenge each of you to nurture each other and to strengthen our commitment to those in need.

On this morning before our annual Open House for prospective members, I have been thinking about why, with so many other groups vying for their time and attention, a woman should join The Porch Club. It strikes me that now, more than ever before, our communities need us. What's more, we need one another, and we need a new generation of clubwomen to sustain and go forward with the work we're doing here in our community and around the world. We should all be able to answer and articulate what belonging has meant to us in terms of community service, influence, friendships and personal development. I struggle almost every day with how to make this club the meaningful, fulfilling and loving place that it can and should be, given the quality of our wonderful members. As you are all unique, so you will all answer the question of why you belong a little differently, but there are some things that I believe are universal.

Belonging to the Porch Club gives us all many opportunities to express and explore our unique interests and desires. The number of ongoing activities is dizzying and there is truly something for everyone. I challenge you all to do at least one thing a year (and I hope many more) to help the club. It doesn't have to be something big. You can bring a dessert to a tea, buy a poinsettia, make a centerpiece, decorate for the holidays, greet newcomers and welcome them, bring some towels for Providence House - there are endless possibilities. If you want to become a leader, the opportunities are there. If you want to meet new friends, just come to any meeting. As a member of the larger organization, we have the clout of more than 100,000 women from every State in the nation on our side. The club is our support for personal endeavors and passionate projects and others in the community respect and count on us. All the good work we do for others has been one of the warmest and most uplifting experiences in my life. You are some of the strongest, most motivated women I have ever met. I salute you all.

Pat



The Four Agreements

BE IMPECCABLE WITH YOUR WORD

Speak with integrity. Say only what you mean. Avoid using the word to speak against yourself or to gossip about others. Use the power of your word in the direction of truth and love.

DON'T TAKE ANYTHING PERSONALLY

Nothing others do is because of you. What others say and do is a projection of their own reality, their own dream. When you are immune to the opinions and actions of others, you won't be the victim of needless suffering.

DON'T MAKE ASSUMPTIONS

Find the courage to ask questions and to express what you really want. Communicate with others as clearly as you can to avoid misunderstandings, sadness, and drama. With just this one agreement, you can completely transform your life.

ALWAYS DO YOUR BEST

Your best is going to change from moment to moment, it will be different when you are healthy, as opposed to sick. Under any circumstance, simply do your best, and you will avoid self-judgment, self-abuse, and regret.

Programs

Aggie Kennedy aggiekennedy@hotmail.com

In February, we will have a speaker on the topic of autism. Autism Awareness is our state project this year. I'm sure this program will help enlighten us on this subject.

"Jacqueline Kennedy's Historic Preservation Legacy - 40 Years Later"

Presented by Kathleen Gallop, Historic Preservation Consultant

Due to the speaker's broken ribs back in October, she was not able to make it to the Evening Meeting. I have re-scheduled her for Thursday, January 15th, at 1:00. A description of the program follows:

The year 2006 marked the 40th anniversary of the enactment of the Historic Preservation Act of 1966. Great strides in historic preservation have occurred since then, but little has been written or told about the instrumental role played by Jacqueline Kennedy in creating the climate for the passage of that important legislation. This program presents an interesting look behind the scenes of how "Jackie" stopped the bulldozers and set the course for historic preservation. Take a step back in time and see how far we've come. Thanks to Aggie Kennedy for arranging to have Kathleen come speak at the Porch Club.



Ways and Means

Temporary co-chairs: Georgie Ackers 829-1256, Muriel Alls-Moffatt 829-1410

There will be a Spaghetti Dinner on Saturday, January 24th to raise money to defray the cost of our 100th Anniversary Gala in the spring. Seatings will be at 4:00 and 6:00 PM. We will serve spaghetti and meatballs, salad, bread, and spumoni, along with coffee, tea and soft drinks. BYOB.

Cost is \$12 per person, children up to 5 are free, children 6 to 12 are \$6.

Bring your family, friends and neighbors to this easy night out. Please let Georgie Ackers or Muriel Alls-Moffatt know if you are willing to help in the kitchen or serve for all or part of the time. Many hands make light work. Timed tickets will be available at the meetings or by calling or emailing Georgie or Muriel. Thank you!



Garden Department



Susie Hudson susiebudson@comcast.net
Kathy Simon

It's November: the Halloween Jack-o'-lantern now adorns the compost pile, the leaves are relocating to the ground, turkeys are anxious and the holidays loom large. Many thanks to the group of stalwarts who, aided by Kevin Rooney and his trusty leaf blower, put the P.C. garden to bed for the winter. Kathy Simon has agreed to be my co-chair and has already suggested some great events for the new year. Garden Department and Arts Creative volunteers decorated the club for the holidays and everything looks beautiful! We didn't get enough folks signed up for the Dec. 4th trip to Longwood Gardens to rent a bus. However, people have volunteered to carpool so anyone wishing to go and/or drive, please let me know.



Jeannie Francis presenting the Philadelphia Horticultural Society Suburban Greening Award to the Porch Club



Mitten Tree Jeannie Francis



Please remember to bring new hats, mittens, gloves and scarves to decorate our mitten tree. They can still be brought to the Holiday Tea on December 16th. They will be given to local children in need after the holidays.

Arts Creative

Virginia Cisario, chair 829-7329,
Donna VanHoy, co-chair 786-1622

The Arts Creative Department will meet at the Porch Club on Wednesday, December 10 at 1:00 PM to make Gingerbread Houses. Please call Donna or Ginny to sign up. On Wednesday, January 21, 2009 we will meet at 1:00 PM to decoupage a Jewelry Box.

Arts Performing/Music

Naomi Horn 829-7235

The Porch Club Chorus will be the entertainment at our annual Christmas Tea, which will be held at the Porch Club on Tuesday, December 16th.

Porch Club Chorus Rehearsal Schedule

Monday, December 1 1:00 pm
Tuesday, December 9 1:00 pm
Monday, December 15 1:00 pm

Membership Committee JoAnn DiNoia

Our annual Christmas tea will be on Tuesday, December 16th from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. All members and guests are invited.

I would also like to thank the membership committee, executive board and all those who helped in making our open house a successful event.



Address Corrections / Changes in the Yearbook

Thelma Klumpp's address should read: 909 Burroughs Mill Circle
Elaine Hartman's address can be found in the "J" section.

House Committee Donna Kirkland, Chair



The House Committee has been busy with keeping the Porch Club building in order. The main floor has been re-coated and buffed. This is something that needs to be done yearly to keep the hardwood floor in good condition. Please remember to dry mop the floor before and after every function, as this will help remove anything that may scratch the floor (dirt, etc.). If we ALL care for the floor it will be beautiful for a long time! The board room closet has been cleaned and organized! Scrapbooks from years past were piled haphazardly, but are now carefully stored in a plastic container under the stage. In January or February of 2009, the basement will be re-pointed and finished--this will keep the foundation strong for many years to come! Much thanks to those members who help keep our building nice! Soon it will be time to start thinking about re-doing the bathrooms!!!!

House Committee Schedule: (anyone is welcome to come help keep our House in good repair!!)

Wednesday, Dec. 3, 1-3 pm; Wednesday, Dec.17, 9-11 am

Sally Love accepting the \$1000 check for the Literacy Volunteers of Burlington County from the Book and Author Luncheon



Literature Dept

Sandra Scheer

The Book and Author Luncheon held on October 24th was a success. Thank you to all who could participate. A check for \$1000 was presented to Sally Ann Love, Director of the Literacy Volunteers of Burlington county at our last Porch Club meeting and an additional \$100 bond will be presented to a Cinnaminson High School student for Good Citizenship in honor of Carmel Fischer who started the Book and Author luncheon.

There are no meetings in December, the next meeting will be held at Teresa Larson's house at 11:30 am. Everyone is welcome.

Charitable Giving

Debbie Patras

Thank you to our Charitable Giving Committee members who shared their wonderful ideas on how to use the hard earned funds from our successful Rummage Sale. Our collaborative effort resulted in a unanimous vote that the Porch Club of Riverton donate the funds to three charities. Each will receive a nice donation in the amount of \$450.

Samaritan's Hospice Catholic Emergency Services
Riverton School PTA - Childrens Assistance

Our sincerest gratitude to Mary Hannah, the volunteers who worked a very successful Rummage Sale and to the Charitable Gift Giving Committee for their time in attending our "first" meeting.

Gratefully yours, Debbie



Yoga

Thursday mornings
at the Porch Club,
8:30 am with
instructor/member
Jill Croft.

SAVE THE DATE!

Tuesday, January 6, 2009, at 12:30pm is the date for the annual International Luncheon. Get your recipes out and bring a dish with an international flair! Our featured charity will be "Bead For Life". The mission statement for Bead For Life states that the program "creates sustainable opportunities for Ugandan women to lift themselves and their families out of extreme poverty by connecting people worldwide in a circle of exchange that enriches everyone." These women from Uganda handcraft beads from recycled paper and turn them into necklaces, bracelets and earrings. 100% of the profits are invested in community development projects in Uganda. The beaded jewelry will be displayed during the luncheon and will be available for purchase. If you can't make the daytime meeting try to attend the evening meeting on Thursday, January 22, 2009 at 7pm where Bead For Life will also be on display. Please consider supporting this worthwhile endeavor. Information on the program can be obtained through the website: <http://www.beadforlife.org>.

Thanks to all who participated in the UNICEF trick or treat campaign! If you still have a box to return, it is never too late! Just bring it to the next meeting. May peace find a place in this world! Happy Holidays!



Emily Sitzler, the Girls Career Institute attendee the Porch Club sponsored, at the October meeting



Georgie Ackers in the "Raffle Hat" at this year's Book and Author Luncheon

"Chef for a Day"

We will shop, prepare & serve dinner at the Ronald McDonald House in Camden on January 16th. Would you like to help and/or donate your free holiday turkey breast? Call Trish.

**We continue to collect Campbell labels, pull tabs,
hotel samples, etc at every meeting.
Thank You!**

Make a difference:

- Say no to plastic bags
- Un-plug unused electronics
- Snip 6-pack rings

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We're on the web!
www.theporchclub.org

December 2008



Autism Awareness

www.autism-society.org
www.autismspeaks.org

Evening Group Meetings – *change* 4th Monday of the month

No December Meeting. Happy Holiday!

Due to popular demand and lots of complaints about schedule conflicts with so many other things going on that night, lack of energy late in the week, Thursday being the best night for TV and other such etc., etc., I am changing the Evening Group meetings back to the 4th Monday of the month. Sorry for the confusion. Please adjust your calendars accordingly. Thanks for your patience.

Monday, January 26, 2009 at 7:00 pm "Bead for Life"

Bead for Life eradicates extreme poverty by creating bridges of understanding between impoverished Africans and concerned world citizens. Ugandan women turn colorful recycled paper into beautiful beads, and people who care open their hearts, homes and communities to buy and sell the beads.

The beads thus become income, food, medicine, school fees -- and hope. It is a small miracle that enriches us all. All profits from Bead for Life are invested in community development projects that generate income and help people work their way out of poverty. Come see the beads and learn more.

Tentative schedule for the rest of the year:

February 23 - Bingo for Charity

April 27 - Sandwiches for Camden

March 23 - Forking Delicious

May 25 - Road Rally II