

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



*The Porch Club of Riverton*

**April 2009**

# Inside the Porch Door

Editor: Vicky Gordon  
vickygordon@verizon.net

## Calendar

**April 7, 12:30 pm**  
Meeting/ Charter Luncheon  
Porch Club

**April 13, 7:30 pm**  
Scribbler's  
Porch Club

**April 14, 8:30 am**  
Garden Dept—Clean up of  
Porch Club Grounds

**April 15, 1:00 pm**  
Arts Creative-Scrapbooks  
Porch Club

**April 16, 10 am—1 pm**  
Spring Conference /  
Achievement Day

**April 17, 10:00 am**  
Public Affairs Meeting  
Home of F. Baun

**April 21, 1:00 pm**  
Home Life/Social Services  
Department Meeting  
Porch Club

**April 27, 11:30 am**  
Literature Dept. Meeting  
Porch Club

**April 27, 7:00 pm**  
Evening Meeting/  
Sandwiches for Shelter  
Porch Club

**April 29, 10:45 am**  
Trip to Byers Factory  
Meet at Porch Club

**May 2, 7:00 pm**  
Kenducky Derby  
Porch Club

## From Pat's Perspective:

As I write this during Women's History Month, I've been looking back to where we started. In researching Mary VanMeter Grice, our first President, with a huge amount of help from Betty Hahle, Dorothy Talavera and Kathy Simon (thank you!), I'm amazed at what she did. I hope many of you were able to stop by during the County Tourism Tour that included the Porch Club and learn a bit more about Mrs. Grice. Over 119 years as a Club! We have a history that should make each of us more than proud. We face a future that needs our power and tenacity as women as much or more now than when those women who worked for their "rights as women" began to organize our women's clubs.

Founded in 1890, the same year as the Porch Club, the General Federation of Women's Clubs was dedicated to community improvement by enhancing the lives of others through volunteer service. It was chartered by the 56th U.S. Congress in 1901 and is one of the world's largest and oldest nonpartisan, nondenominational women's volunteer service organizations. Under the motto, "Unity in Diversity," local member clubs such as our own have built an outstanding record of philanthropy, social and political advocacy, and community leadership.

The GFWC Advisory Board in 1890 reported the following as being among the first questions asked and answered:

- Is it ever advisable to meet at seven or eight o'clock in the evening?
- Do clubs of several hundred members flourish, or are they unmanageable and apt to go to pieces?
- Do clubs ever become so expensive that women of moderate incomes are obliged to retire from them?
- Is it not wise, if possible, to combine in a club, professional women, women of leisure, and tradeswomen?
- Does not each learn something from the other that they would lack if divided from each other?

We ask the same questions today. Clubwomen have improved their communities and the nation through their advocacy of many important issues, including women's suffrage, child labor and juvenile court laws, the Pure Food and Drug Act, the establishment of national parks, the preservation of Native American culture, peacetime uses of technology, support of libraries and literacy, wartime civil service, the establishment of the United Nations, and the Equal Rights Amendment.

*Continued on Page 2*

## Pat's Perspective—continued from page 1

In her history of the women's club movement, Jane Cunningham Croly wrote in 1898, "There was nothing aggressive in this work, no effort at propaganda; only the opening of doors and windows of souls, and consequent light and sunshine flowing in upon other minds and souls". What a difference we make! Our passion, enthusiasm, attitude, motivation, pride and power, coupled with vision and opportunity, are the gifts we bring to our communities. Our projects are diversified and our members bring a multitude of creative talents. We care about our neighbors, our nation, our world and each other. Celebrate our Women's History!

*Pat*

**Programs** Aggie Kennedy [aggiekennedy@hotmail.com](mailto:aggiekennedy@hotmail.com)

At our May 19th meeting, the Riverton School Chorus will perform for the delight of our Members.

### Kenducky Derby Day

**Saturday Evening, May 2, 2009 7:00 pm at the Porch Club**

Price: \$10 includes two "Show" Tickets and a Mint Julep

While plans are still to be finalized, this should be a fun event! In true Porch Club tradition we encourage the ladies to wear a "Derby" hat and each attendee will receive a Mint Julep (or other beverage). Come down, cheer on your favorite "horse", win prizes and enjoy the races.

## Calendar—*continued*

**May 5, 1:00 pm**

General Meeting and Tea  
Porch Club

**May 11, 7:30 pm**

Scribbler's  
Porch Club

**May 13, 1:00 pm**

Arts Creative-Succulents  
Porch Club

**May 14, 7:00 pm**

New Member's Reception  
Porch Club

**May 18, 11:30 am**

Literature Dept. Meeting  
Home of R. Leone

**May 18, 7:00 pm**

Evening Meeting/  
"Green" Your House  
Porch Club

**May 19, 1:00 pm**

Annual Meeting  
Porch Club

**May 28**

Trip to Hortulus Farm  
w/ Garden Dept

**June 6, 6 to 10 pm**

100th Anniversary Gala  
Porch Club



## Gala Party!!!

This year, the Porch Club building is 100 years old. Early last fall, we decided it would be appropriate to celebrate. There will be a party on June 6th from 6:00 to 10:00 PM at the Clubhouse. You will all soon be getting your invitations in the mail. The committee has been working hard to make this a special evening for all Porch Club members. We'll put a tent on the lawn, close off Fourth Street, have a buffet supper from hors d'oeuvres to dessert, cake, music, entertainment, flowers, dancing and drinks. We'll also do a history of the clubhouse display, and a "time capsule", so we hope you will bring things to put into it. Then we'll put it all away for future members to discover and enjoy. We'll invite the Mayor and our Honorary members to be our honored guests. I hope everyone will put on a party dress and bring a guest. The cost will be \$15 per person - only the cost of our catered food. It should be a lovely evening and I hope to see you all there. - The Gala Committee



## Garden Department

Susie Hudson  
Kathy Simon

susiebudson@comcast.net

The Garden Department's Pompeston Creek Watershed presentation played to a full house and alerted everyone to both the presence of this beautiful natural resource in our area and the group's efforts to keep it clean. Many thanks to Kathy Simon for putting it together.

Clean up of the grounds will be on April 14 at 8:30 a.m. Bring rakes, trowels, gloves and whatever you think will support the task at hand.

On May 28<sup>th</sup> we will be going to Hortulus Farm Garden and Nursery, an 18<sup>th</sup> century farm of 100 acres and many gardens. Called "a garden of world-class charm" and "one of Pennsylvania's hidden treasures," Hortulus Farm is only 45 minutes away in Bucks County. A sign-up sheet will be circulated.

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## Literature Department

Sandra Scheer, Chairman 461-3080

Upcoming Meetings:

Monday, April 27 at 11:30 am. Marilyn Thrush and Sandi Scheer hosting at the Porch Club

Monday, May 18 at 11:30 am. Rita Leone hosting at her house.

### Women's History Tour at the Porch Club — Saturday, March 21, 2009



## Arts Creative

Ginny Cisario 829-7329,  
Donna Vanhoy 786-1622

April 15 — 1:00 pm at the Porch Club — Scrapbook Class/Memory Page. Bring Wedding, Birthday Pictures, etc. This could be matted, glassed and framed if you like.

May 13 — Succulent Plants — Bring a small to medium Strawberry Pot and succulents to fill the pockets. We will also make little soufflés and serve them with tea.

TRIP — Byers Doll Factory—April 29—No Cost. Meet at the Porch Club at 10:45. We will lunch at Jim Coleman's Restaurant at Normandy Farms in Blue Bell. Cost of lunch is from \$10 for a sandwich, \$14 and up for an entrée.

## Membership

JoAnn DiNoia

[jaydinoia@verizon.net](mailto:jaydinoia@verizon.net)

Thanks to all those who have proposed new members, we had six installations alone in the month of March - keep up the Good Work!

Once again we will be hosting our New Members' Reception on Thursday, May 14th at 7:00 P.M. at the Porch Club. Thank You, JoAnn DiNoia

My correct e-mail address is [jaydinoia@verizon.net](mailto:jaydinoia@verizon.net). Thank you

### Welcome New members!

Eileen Gilbert  
Riverton

Loretta Hynes  
Palmyra

Kathryn Kling  
Riverton

Nancy Tursi  
Palmyra

Charlene Thellmann  
Merchantville

Cindi Vee  
Riverton

Nancy Ward  
Riverton

Betsy Wargo  
Cinnaminson

## The Porch Club Succeeds Again At the 2009 Flower Show

A bouquet of thanks goes to the Flower Show Committee for a fabulous showing in the 2009 Philadelphia Flower Show. Our entry in the Urn Division won an Honorable Mention from Sunday's judges and Third Prize from Wednesday's judges. We also received the Maintenance Award from the Pennsylvania Horticulture Society.

Pegi Wilkins, Susie Hudson, Pat Brunker, Rita Vittese, and Pat McDermott installed the giant urn during five long hours on Friday before the show opening, and spent many hours in preparation for the big day. Special credit and gratitude to Pat and Bill McDermott and Barlow Autogroup of Delran for contributing all the transportation of the plants and materials needed on the floor of the show.

Thanks also to those members who attended pre-show meetings, traveled to pick out plants, and



contributed ideas and moral support in what appears to be becoming a Porch Club tradition. Hats off as well to those who volunteered to maintain our plants in the wee hours.

The Committee also extends congratulations to Jeannie Francis for her beautiful Balcony Entry - and to Muriel Alls-Moffat for her lovely Wardian Case horticulture entry!

**International Affairs** Pat McDermott pmcdermott14@comcast.net

**Message from Bead for Life**

Dear Pat,

Warm Greetings from BeadforLife!

Thank you for opening your heart for BeadforLife. We received your BeadParty Return along with \$897 in funds raised on 3/11/09. With this letter we send you a BIG Thank You for all your efforts. Your return is complete, and the funds you raised make such a big difference in the lives of our beaders! We now have more than 390 women involved in making the bead jewelry. Since the average family size is about 10 people, this means 3900 people (and more) are directly benefiting from the opportunity to earn a living. Your willingness to educate yourselves and others regarding the situation in Uganda is most appreciated.

We have made good progress in the last months - thanks to you and other hosts around the country. If you read THE BEAD Newsletter, you will know we are making great strides in expanding the services to our beaders and their communities. Please re-visit the website for more news and features at [www.beadforlife.org](http://www.beadforlife.org).

We hope you know how much we appreciate you and how your efforts over the past months have helped.

Thank you and "Appoiyo" — The Bead Party Team

**YOGA**

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



**HomeLife/Social Services** Trish Mori 829-5431 tandgmori@verizon.net

Department meeting - Tuesday, April 21st at 1:00 at the Porch Club to discuss Sandwiches for Camden & Autism Walk.

At 2:00 there will be a showing of "Poet of Poverty" - based on the letters of Fr. Michael Doyle, read by Martin Sheen. The 55 minute film focuses on the Children of Camden - America's poorest & most dangerous city. You will be touched & delighted by the accomplishments of the community & the Parish Priest's faith & hope for the children of this neglected city only 10 miles from Riverton. ALL are welcome to either or both.



The U.S. disposes of plastic bottles at the rate of 2 million per hour at an untold cost of oil consumption and pollution to our earth.

**Reduce—Reuse—Recycle**

**EARTH DAY April 22nd**

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

*The Porch Club of Riverton*

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We're on the web!  
[www.theporchclub.org](http://www.theporchclub.org)

**April 2009**



*Autism Awareness*  
[www.autism-society.org](http://www.autism-society.org)  
[www.autismspeaks.org](http://www.autismspeaks.org)

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

**Monday, April 27, 2009 at 7:00 pm Sandwiches for the Camden Shelter**

Come help us put together lunches for the shelter in Camden. Trish Mori will lead us in this effort. The need is great. Our fundraising will support purchasing the supplies, but we need help with getting everything together to deliver to Camden. See her article under Home Life/Social Services.

**Monday, May 18, 2009 at 7:00 pm "Green" Your House and Garden**

Bogna Pro, a new member, and her husband Joe, both environmentally conscious designers, will present a talk on how to live "green". If you're interested in saving time, energy, water and dollars, then please don't miss this great program that lets you in on simple effective ways to conserve energy and water in your home and yard as we head towards a hot summer. Eleven easy things you can do right now!

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**Public Affairs Joanne Fields 786-0441**

Next meeting is Friday, April 17 at 10 am at the house of Frances Baun.

Don't forget to bring in  
your ACME receipts!!