

DELMAR PROGRESS CLUB



FEBRUARY 2023

PROGRESS IN PRINT



President's Message

As I'm writing this, it's a "snow day"! Which means I'm playing *Yeti in the Spaghetti*, helping Sophia make a home-made lemon cupcakes, and watching them make snow-

men, snowballs, and just hoping five o'clock comes quickly! But I'm glad we finally have snow, which I know puts me in a minority, but to me, what is the use of having winter without snow?

I've also been working on the Annual Report I have to submit to the New York State GFWC. I was told it's a pain in the neck to compile, and boy, that's an understatement! I think I'd rather do a tax return! The only good thing about doing this is that it gives me an overall sense of what we have done as a club in 2022, and as individuals in the community. And I am very impressed. As a club we've donated almost \$7,000! And much more impressive to me, is that you have compiled over **8,600** volunteer hours! That is an amazing number! And we probably did way more than that because not all of you reported your hours. I was blown away at how much time DPC members donate to help our community, and in such a wide variety of ways.

NOW COMES THE BUT....but I am having problems getting some of you to volunteer to help organize DPC events and activities. For example, at this time we are not having a March luncheon, because I have no volunteers. I would love to have volunteers to make the coffee for the meetings, but it's been a haphazard hit or miss with people just helping me when they see me doing it. I need a permanent Hospitality Committee. And not to mention that I have no First Vice President.....

So maybe you don't value events like the March luncheon and other activities enough to continue them. We have no Chair for Arts and Crafts or Antiques and History, so we are trying to incorporate them into the General Meetings. Because of these issues, we thought about sending out a survey to see what members **really** want, but instead we decided to do a Planning Pizza Party, on March 16th, in the Board Room of the Library. I am hoping all Board members will come but I really need input from other members too! PLEASE RSVP TO ME IF YOU PLAN TO COME so I can order enough pizzas. And if you need gluten free, tell me that so that I can order appropriately. Text me at 518 542-2690, or call me at 518 439-1672, or email me at ptindallobrien@gmail.com. This is your club—tell me what you want out of it!

February General Meeting

Monday, February 6, 10 am

Bethlehem Public Library Community Room

- "Making Meals for One or Two" (Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County)
- Making washcloth teddy bears for the Pajama Project (For information on donations to the Pajama Project -- pajamas, books, etc. -- please see the Community Service Committee item on page 5)

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

If you have a chance, call or email them your good wishes. (And share your birthday with us!)

Virginia Mead 2/2

Pam Burns and Loretta Darcy 2/7

Pat Sutliff 2/16

Karen Bylsma 2/17



MEMBERSHIP

**Debbie Gall, Second Vice President,
Chair** (galldebbiedpc@gmail.com)



New Members: :

Linda Berry
9 Paxwood Rd. Delmar, NY 12054
(518) 439-5614 lindaberry2@gmail.com

Betty Scott
14 Provoost Place Delmar, NY 12054
(518) 588-7190 pd.ed.scott@gmail.com

Membership Info:

We had several guests visit our January meeting as potential members. We have new color brochures available to give to interested women.

Resignations: Anna Campus

Deaths: Joan Richardson

Please reach out to Debbie Gall regarding dues, change of contact information, birthday information, etc. We want to keep our Membership List as up to date as possible...Thank You!

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT

Margaret Dilgen, Corresponding Secretary

Thank you notes received ...

- from the VA for our donation of clothing, personal comfort items, and a gift card for the Vets
- from Canine Companions for our \$377 donation to support their program
- from Ronnie Blendell for the cookies
- from the Bethlehem Food Pantry for toiletry items
- from South End Children's Cafe for our donation
- from The Hilltown Christmas Program for hats and mittens

Thank you notes sent ...

- to the Delmar Presbyterian Church for the use of their facility to host our Holiday Tea
- to Elli von Wellsheim of the MoonCatcher Project, Removing Barriers for Girls, with a \$50 donation
- to the Albany County Historical Assn., with a \$50 donation, for "The History of the Ten Broeck Mansion" presentation by Kathryn Kosto
- to the Cornell Cooperative Extension Albany County, with a \$50 donation, for the presentation on native plants by Master Gardener Martha Teumin



SCHOLARSHIP FUND

Maryalice Svare, Chair

We are continuing our fund raising for the Delmar Progress Club Scholarship program for BC seniors. Our award is always so meaningful to the recipients. It represents the generosity and support of our Delmar Progress Club to Bethlehem students. Thank you to members who have been able to contribute to the fund.

The applications will soon be going to the high school to be announced to the seniors. Since we are still below our fundraising goal we are asking members to consider a donation of any amount to this long standing tradition of Delmar Progress Club.

Donations can be sent to Deanne Sodergren at 22 Sheffield Drive Delmar, New York. You can also bring the donations to the February 6 general meeting and give to Deanne or Chris Doran. Checks are made to DPC with scholarship donation in the memo.

Thank you for your support.



Creative Arts Itch

Until we get our Creative Arts Group up and running again, I wanted to suggest some things to scare away the winter blues...Debbie Gall

*Our Library has shared a website called, **Creative Bug**. If you have a library card you can access thousands of high-quality, on trend arts and crafts instructional videos and ideas. Go to www.creativebug.com/lib/bethlehemlibrary

*Honest Weight Co-op is promoting a program called, "Be The Change". If you want to find new ways to be creative or use your creativity as a volunteer opportunity visit the website for the non-profit, **Up-Stitch**. www.up-stitch.com I've donated used craft items and even a sewing machine to the shop located at the Albany Art Room 350 New Scotland Rd. Albany, NY. It is like a Thrift Store for donated fabric, yarn and other needlework materials.

WELLNESS AND THE NATURAL WORLD

Chair (vacant)

Wellness Walks Wellness Walks have been suspended until further notice. In the Spring, we do plan to make our annual visits to see the daffodils at Oakwood Cemetery in Troy, the tulips at Washington Park in Albany, and the rose garden at Central Park in Schenectady.



Our bottle and can redemption program through the Hannaford CLYNK program is ongoing. You can pick up CLYNK bags at the monthly meetings or contact Joan Gavrilik at jsg85@aol.com or 518-439-4520.

PERFORMING ARTS

Marie Liddle and Debbie Mazzone, Co-chairs

The **Circle Theater Players of the Sand Lake Center for the Arts** will be presenting the classic Neil Simon play "**Barefoot in the Park**" on February 10, 11 and 17 at 8 pm and February 12 and 19 at 2:30 pm (\$20), as well as a special dinner theater performance on Saturday, February 18 (\$50) For tickets or more information please go to slca-ctp.org

A group of Progress Club women and their guests will be attending the performance on **Saturday, February 11 at 8 pm**, preceded by dinner at 6:00 pm (cost on your own) at the Lake View Restaurant in Averill Park, located a few minutes from the theater. Those interested would carpool from the CDTA lot on Elm Avenue at 5:15pm. A block of tickets will be reserved ahead of time and then each attendee will pay at the door (\$20). **If you'd like to attend the performance and/or the dinner, please contact Marie Liddle by email at maliddle1@gmail.com by February 7, at the latest.**

Homemade Theater will be presenting "**The Lifespan of a Fact**" at the Dee Sarno Theater in the Saratoga Arts Center February 10, 11, 17 and 18 at 7:30 pm and February 12, 18 and 19 at 2 pm. For reservations visit www.homemadetheater.org or call 518-587-4427

Valentine Romance - Music From Carmen, with Kalena Bovell as guest conductor, will be presented by the **Albany Symphony at Proctors** on Saturday, February 11 at 7:30 pm. For tickets, which start at \$20, please call 518-694-3300 or go to AlbanySymphony.com

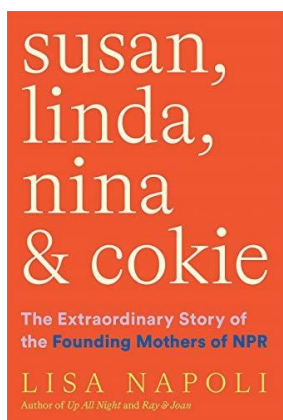
LITERATURE

Christine Doran, Chair

Thursday, February 16, 10:30 am,
via Zoom

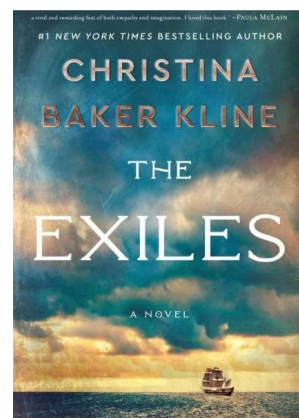
Susan, Linda, Nina & Cokie: The Extraordinary Story of the Founding Mothers of NPR by Lisa Napoli

Check out the Author Talk about this book at [LSC | Watch | Bethlehem Public Library Webinars and Online Events \(libraryc.org\)](#)



Thursday, March 16, 10:30 am,
via Zoom

The Exiles by Christina Baker Kline



November 14, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Present: Pamela Tindall-O'Brien, Debbie Gall, Barbara Kavanagh, Margaret Dilgen, Christine Doran, Lynne Lenhardt, Carolyn Bennett, Joan Gavrilik, Kathleen Newkirk, Barbara Hogan, Maryalice Svare

Absent: Phyllis Drew, Rosemary Brown

Pam Tindall-O'Brien called the meeting to order at 10:03, and welcomed everyone.

Pam commented that the set-up for the General meeting was very successful, that it seemed to stimulate interaction between members, and recommended using the same arrangement for future meetings.

Review of minutes of September 19 meeting: Joan Gavrilik moved to accept the minutes, Lynne Lenhardt seconded. Minutes were approved.

The bylaws revisions have been finalized. They will be published in PIP, and on the Club website. A hard copy of the revised bylaws can be obtained from Lynne.

The Board discussed membership deadlines, which will change next year, pursuant to a change in the Bylaws approved by the membership. Last year, the yearbook list was frozen on the October 1 deadline, and the December PIP listed members dropped for non-payment of dues. This year, the deadline is October 1, and the December PIP will contain a list of those who are no longer members, with no mention of unpaid dues. For 2023, the dues deadline is August 1 to get a yearbook, and September 1 is the hard deadline to retain membership. Discussion included the difficulties of chasing down the 12-15 members who consistently pay late. Barbara Hogan suggested that this could be a task for the Telephone Ctte.

Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's Report was distributed and is attached. There was a discussion about the budgeting process, and whether study group leaders and others are aware of monies they have been allocated. Board members were informed that the Finance Ctte could meet to re-allocate funds to address unexpected needs. The new DPC brochure and business cards for the club were specifically mentioned as needing funding. It was also suggested that the Finance Ctte ask for input on money needs for the Club. It was discussed that some members absorb expenses rather than ask to be reimbursed. It was decided that this led to unrealistic reports, and could result in a cut to a budget line for that activity going forward.

Membership Report: Membership currently stands at 127 members. Debbie Gall has prepared special invitations for the seven new members who will be honored at the Holiday Tea. Chris Doran and Debbie will confer on the unpaid members for the December PIP. Barbara Hogan and Joan Gavrilik will be added to the list of people who receive membership updates electronically.

Communications: Barbara Hogan presented a preliminary mock-up of a new membership brochure. She welcomes input on content and style. The brochure currently available at the Library is unchanged for many years, and was felt to be rather uninteresting. A suggestion was made to include bullets from the Strategic Plan concerning Service, Education, and Community. The brochure could include facts about the Delmar Progress Club that the Bethlehem community is unaware of, such as leadership on the establishment of the Library, the Community Garden, and the beginnings of the system to use house numbers for Delmar. The membership contact information should be standardized, and should be in agreement with the Club website. Pam charged the Communications Ctte with finalizing the brochure, and getting an estimate for printing the brochure and business cards. The estimate could then be presented to the Finance Ctte.

Holiday Tea: Barbara Kavanagh and Carolyn Bennett shared the current state of preparations for the Tea, scheduled for Tuesday, December 13 at 2 p.m. More than forty members have volunteered to help. The Telephone Ctte will contact members to determine how many will be attending. Donations will be accepted on that day for the Food Pantry, and for local Veterans. The Club's silver serving ware has been picked up and inventoried, and after the Tea, the Club will arrange for a valuation to be completed.

Community Service: At the last General Meeting, ladies made ornaments that will be used to decorate a tree at the TenBroeck Mansion on November 29. The Club has been asked to help sort food donations resulting from the Boy Scout food drive. Other projects for the coming year include the Pajama Project and MoonCatchers. More details about these projects will appear in PIP.

Travel: Kathy Newkirk was not able to schedule a trip to Longwood Gardens in PA for the Fall, but she will continue to pursue the trip for Spring 2023. It was suggested that New York Botanical Garden or Brooklyn Botanical Garden would be an interesting day trip.

Albany ProMusica Outing: Barbara Hogan has 16 checks in hand, and will order the first batch of tickets today. There is still an option to send in payment for a second group of tickets.

Walks and Movies: Participation has been dwindling, and perhaps with the weather worsening, people are reluctant to commit to outdoor walks. Joan felt that it was a shame to let the walks stop after two years, and perhaps with more word of mouth, the walks and the Tuesday movie nights would gain participants.

November 14, 2022 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes (continued)

New Business: Carolynn Bennett distributed Project Report Forms, which should be completed by each activity chair. They are quite valuable in keeping track of member interest, and are also used by the President in completing reports for GFWC. Carolynn also provided copies of handouts on the origins of the General Federation of Women's Clubs, and a handout on Jane Cunningham Croly.

The Board discussed the possibility that the current dues are inadequate to keep the Club financially stable, and what remedies might be possible.

Pam researched D&O insurance on the Club officers, which was prohibitively expensive. Some other non-profits in Bethlehem are able to piggyback on Town insurance, but this is not an option for the Club. Some members gave the opinion that because we do not do programs for the general public, D&O insurance is not necessary. Carolynn said that since our only income is from dues, her feeling is that the insurance is not needed.

EXTRAS: Barbara Hogan will send thank you notes on behalf of the Club to Corner Gateway and the Library for their help this year. She will notify Margaret Dilgen.

December 5 General meeting is a lecture on TenBroeck House.

Lynne Lenhardt moved to adjourn, Chris Doran seconded. Meeting adjourned at 11:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Kavanagh, Recording Secretary

COMMUNITY SERVICE

Mary Ellen Caporta, Kathy Raffe, and Linda Reddy, Co-chairs

Our theme this year is *"A Caring Community"*

Service Committee Project for February Meeting

This is the only project this year that requires any financial commitment.

Bedtime rituals help children to get a good night's sleep which is important for growth and for learning. Challenges – including low family income, housing insecurity, and family instability – prevent many children from following a bedtime routine, feeling comfortable and secure at night, and getting the sleep they need. The Pajama Project is a National Organization which collects NEW Pajamas, books, and necessary bedtime materials to promote good bedtimes and good sleep for children. They are provided to local community organizations.

At the **February meeting**, to honor Valentine's day, and our motto of "A Caring Community", we will collect the following:

NEW Pajamas: Warm cozy pajamas (no nightgowns) from infant through adult (for teens). Tags should be left on all donations. The size 8 to 3XL are often overlooked when people donate. No see-thru or transparent material, inappropriate images, or wording.

NEW Books: story books for birth to young adult that do not focus on culturally inappropriate topics or focus on defined family roles. No coloring or activity books accepted.

NEW Hygiene Materials: Children's toothbrushes, toothpaste, soaps.

At the meeting, we will make washcloth teddy bears as a project to go with the other bedtime materials. Feel free to bring a friend. All materials will be provided.



TREASURER'S REPORT: December 1 – December 31, 2022 -- Christine Doran, Treasurer

Checking

Balance on 12/1/22	\$ 15,497.42
Deposits	500.00
Expenditures	3,464.85
Balance on 12/31/22	\$ 12,532.57

Blackmore Scholarship CD

Balance on 12/1/22	\$ 20,724.94
Interest Income	43.50
Balance on 12/31/22	\$ 20,768.44

Scholarship Savings

Balance on 12/1/22	\$ 3,000.49
Interest Income	.02
Balance on 12/31/22	\$ 3,000.51

Scholarship CD

Balance on 12/1/22	\$ 5,777.00
Interest Income	10.92
Balance on 12/31/22	\$ 5,787.92

Leadership CD - Restricted to Convention Expenses

Balance on 12/1/22	\$ 3,735.51
Interest Income	7.10
Balance on 12/31/22	\$ 3,742.61

(note: all accounts are at Key Bank)

Restricted and Unrestricted Funds in Checking as of 12/31/22

Checking Account Balance	\$ 12,532.57
Emergency Relief Fund	556.44
Scholarship Fund	810.00
Remembrance Garden	100.00
Leadership Fund	600.00
Total Restricted Funds in Checking	\$ 2,066.44
Balance Unrestricted	\$ 10,466.13

CALENDAR

February 6, Monday, 10 am, **General Meeting**

February 11, Saturday, **Dinner at the Lake View Restaurant, Averill Park (6 pm) / Barefoot in the Park, Circle Theater Players of the Sand Lake Center for the Arts (8 pm)**

February 16, Thursday, 10:30 am, **Literature Group** via Zoom

