

DELMAR PROGRESS CLUB



MARCH 2024

PROGRESS IN PRINT



Member since 1916



President's Message

This week has been very busy for me, because it is School Vacation Week, and we've had two to four grandchildren every day. Being a grandma is

fun, but there's a reason we have our children when we're younger! I was proud of myself, though, because yesterday we went snow-tubing and I did it along with the kids and Ray. Ray and I were the only ones on the mountain answering to calls of "Grandma, Grandpa, go with me!" And definitely the only ones with gray hair!

Remember that we had a presentation from Katie Suhr about ENGinc.org, which matches Americans with Ukrainians who want to improve their English-speaking skills? I signed up and have had two sessions with my new Ukrainian friend, Anastasia. Her English is actually very good, although she wants to polish it. We try to talk about our backgrounds, books, movies, and our families, but even so, the war intrudes. We talked about vacations, for example. Her in-laws have a dacha, or camp, in the mountains, which they used to go to, but cannot because the Russians are bombing that area continually. We both hope that someday they will find it intact. Our conversations are fascinating and she is very upbeat.

I'm really looking forward to our March 4th meeting, the Souper Luncheon, where we get to display our creative projects and eat lunch together. Please remember to bring your favorite art project, poem, knitting, or whatever to share. For those of you who are making soup, please contact me at ptindallobrien@gmail.com or call me at (518) 542-2690 so that we can help you carry your

hot soup into the library that morning.

Also wanted to note that the board made a decision that instead of having specially scheduled Board meetings, it will meet before every General Meeting, at nine am. So please understand if you can't get into the Community Room until 9:45. Can't wait to see you on March 4th!

Pam

March Meetings

Monday, March 4

Bethlehem Public Library Community Room

Please note: At its last meeting, the DPC Board decided to meet at 9 a.m. before each General Meeting in an effort to better serve the Club.

Accordingly, we ask those attending the General Meeting to wait in the Library lobby until 9:45 before entering the Community Room. We ask for your patience and understanding while we work out this change.

9:00 — DPC Board Meeting

9:45 — Doors open

10:00 — DPC General Meeting

"Souper Creative Meeting"

Like last year, rather than a separate "Souper luncheon" with an Arts and Crafts competition, we will all share our creations (whether a poem, a painting, a quilt, etc.) at our March General Meeting. Bringing something is not mandatory, but we'd love to see how you express your creativity. Soup and desserts will follow.

MEMBERSHIP

Debbie Gall, Second Vice President, Chair

(galldebbiedpc@gmail.com)

New Members: Please add these members to your Yearbook



Helen Voultepsis

100 Marquis Dr. Apt 110 Slingerlands, NY 12159

#607-206-9904 hmvoultepsis@gmail.com

Paula Moskowitz

18 Rusfield Dr. Glenmont, NY 12077

#518-439-6347 orders5113@earthlink.net

Membership Information: To streamline our **Attendance** sign in at our meetings, it will be done by a checkmark next to your name on an online attendance list. This is in an attempt to avoid a line at the door. You can pick up your nametag after you get checked in. Reminder *If you took your nametag home, please remember to bring it with you to the next meeting.

Resignations: Marilyn Spencer

Deaths: none

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!

BETHLEHEM SENIOR LUNCHEON

Rose Marie Carey, Coordinator



March 25 Senior Luncheon: Thank you to those members who have signed up for food and to serve. I will call as a reminder the week before. Please arrive/deliver to the Bethlehem Lutheran Church at 10:30. All food cooked.

PROPOSED DUES INCREASE

Christine Doran, Treasurer

On February 5, 2024, the Board of Directors voted to propose a \$5.00 increase in the annual dues, effective for the program year beginning June 1, 2024. This would change the dues from \$45 per year to \$50 per year. This proposal will be presented to the membership for a vote at the next General Membership meeting on March 4, 2024 at 10:00 a.m. at the Bethlehem Public Library.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Lynne Lenhardt, Chair

Election to be held at the May General Meeting

Slate of Officers (2-year term)

President – Christine Doran

First Vice President – VACANT

Second Vice President – Debbie Gall

Recording Secretary – Denise Gisotti

Corresponding Secretary – Margaret Dilgen

Treasurer – Honor Kennedy

Assistant Treasurer – Lynn Millspaugh

Club Advisor (ex officio) – Pamela Tindall-O'Brien

At-Large Members of the Board of Directors (3-year term)

Linda MacRitchie Graf and Barbara Kavanagh

Nominating Committee (5-year term) – Joan Kapral

Delegates to the 2024 GFWC State Convention

Pamela Tindall-O'Brien and Lynne Lenhardt

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

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



Happy Birthday to...

Eileen Perkins, March 3rd

Sue Kilgallon, March 16th

Marilyn Peterson, March 18th

Elizabeth Thacher, March 19th

Dawn Pratt, March, 22nd

Eileen Meyers, March 25th



COMMUNICATIONS & TECHNOLOGY

Barbara Hogan and Joan Gavrilik, Co-chairs

Barbara Hogan has notified the Board of Directors that she will be stepping down as co-chair from this committee as of June 30, 2024. We continue to move in the direction of faster and less expensive communication strategies and a willingness to learn and use technology is an important attribute for her successor. There will be a small group forming this month to explore easier website software and ways we can distribute the C&T Committee tasks so that the transition as of July 1 will be smooth and trouble-free. If you would like to learn more about the committee and the work, please contact Barbara or committee co-chair Joan Gavrilik.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT

Margaret Dilgen, Corresponding Secretary



We sent a thank you letter to *Moms Demand Action for Gun Sense in America* for their presentation at our February meeting.



Scholarship Luncheon

Wednesday, May 22, Noon

Red's Restaurant
12005 Route 9W, West Coxsackie NY
Carpooling will be available

Menu:

Fresh Crudities Platter
Horseradish Sharp Cheddar Spread with Crackers
Mixed Green Salad with Balsamic Vinaigrette
Choice of entree*
-- Roasted Vegetable Lasagna
-- Chicken ala Red's (Breast of chicken in egg-parmesan batter, sauteed & finished with a delicate lemon/sherry sauce, served over rice pilaf)
Dessert: Warm Brownie Sundae with vanilla ice cream & chocolate drizzle
Coffee, Tea

Please send \$30 check
payable to "Delmar Progress Club" to
Phyllis Drew, 35 Greenock Rd, Delmar NY 12054
*Indicate choice of lasagna or chicken on check
<< Reservations due by Monday, May 6 >>

WELLNESS AND THE NATURAL WORLD

Linda Graf, Chair

THE WELLNESS WALKERS

Wellness Walkers are planning to meet at the parking lot of the **Rail Trail at the Voorheesville end**, on Monday, March 11th at 1:00 pm. for a stroll towards Slingerlands. Will we see an early Leprechaun hiding the gold or at least a rainbow?



For our second walk of March, we will meet at our beloved **Bethlehem Public Library parking lot on Monday, March 25th** at 1:00 pm. and travel towards the Four Corners. A few small businesses are open on Mondays but not all: I LOVE BOOKS, Four Corners Luncheonette and Swifty's will be, in case you want to make a stop inside.



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.

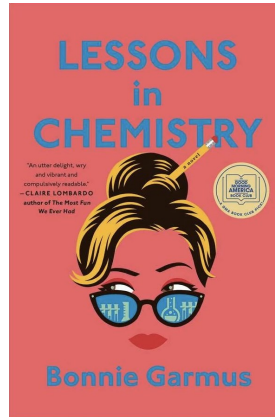
LITERATURE

Christine Doran, Chair

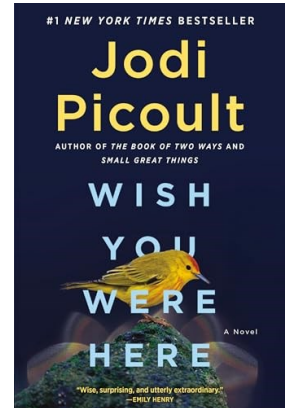
CHANGE IN PLANS : *The House of Mirth* by Edith Wharton, originally scheduled for the March discussion, has been postponed to May to coincide with our trip to The Mount — Ms. Wharton's home in Lenox MA. See below for details.

March meeting: *Lessons in Chemistry* by Bonnie Garmus on **Thursday, March 21 at 10:30 am**, Bethlehem Public Library Board Room

Meet Elizabeth Zott: a gifted research chemist, absurdly self-assured and immune to social convention" (*The Washington Post*) in 1960s California whose career takes a detour when she becomes the unlikely star of a beloved TV cooking show. (*Amazon*)



April meeting: *Wish You Were Here* by Jodi Picoult on **Thursday, April 18 at 10:30 am**, Bethlehem Public Library Board Room



The Literature Group (and Anyone Else Who Wants to Come) is Going to The Mount!

The Literature Group will be taking a trip to The Mount in Lenox, Massachusetts on Thursday, May 16. The Mount is the home of author Edith Wharton. We will take a guided tour of the house and garden, and then have a picnic lunch in the gardens.

The cost for the tour will be \$25 per person. If we have 10 or more people, we will get a private tour with our own docent. If we have less than 10 people, we will take a regular tour.

Lunch will be "bring your own." Please note, there is no concession at The Mount. During lunch we will have a discussion of our May book, *The House of Mirth* by ... (you guessed it) Edith Wharton. (Please see the announcement about the March and April Literature Group selections above.)

Because we can't be sure of the size of the group, we will not be renting a bus for this trip, but instead, will be car-pooling. The exact time of our tour is yet to be determined, but it will be in the morning.

This trip will be open to Progress Club members and their friends and family. Feel free to come, even if you don't attend the Literature Group meetings, and feel free to invite friends and family.

If you are interested, please let Christine Doran know (phone 518-598-8051, email christinedoran9@gmail.com) Look for further details on this trip in next month's PIP and in News & Notes.

Library Program with Nina Totenberg:

Did you read *Susan, Linda, Nina & Cokie: The Extraordinary Story of the Founding Mother of NPR* (which we discussed last year)? If so, you might be interested in watching Nina Totenberg discuss her new book *Dinners With Ruth, A Memoir on the Powers of Friendships*. This online event on Wednesday, May 6 at 4 p.m., will be available through the Bethlehem Public Library website.

Delmar Progress Club — January 8, 2024 General Meeting Minutes

Pamela Tindall-O'Brien called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. and welcomed everyone. She led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Minutes from the November meeting were distributed. Lynn Rhodes moved to accept the minutes, Sue DiMura seconded, and the minutes were accepted.

Barbara Kavanagh talked briefly about the Holiday Tea; there was a short discussion about moving the event earlier in the afternoon.

Katie Suhr presented information about a volunteer project with which she is involved. She is an Ambassador for ENGIN, which pairs English speakers with Ukrainians aged 9-35 for online conversation practice and cross-cultural connection. She distributed information about the program, and encouraged members to get involved.

The Albany Women's Club is holding a fundraiser on February 10, 2024 at 7 p.m. They are presenting a performance of the play "Love Letters". Funds raised will go to teens at the Albany County Crime Victim Center.

Information was distributed about a potential dues increase. Chris Doran prepared an overview of the Club's increasing expenses, and how the current dues, which have not been raised since 2015, are no longer adequate for our expenses. This issue will be presented to the DPC Board at its next meeting.

Members were asked to send cards to Josie Woods, who has had some health issues recently.

Bethlehem Town Supervisor David Van Leuven spoke to the group ahead of his "State of the Town" address. We got updates on the Heath Farm Project, new and improved accessibility at Town facilities, our compost facility (which is a model for NYS!), and incentives for Historic Preservation and Protection.

Denise Gisotti encouraged members to come and sew hospital gowns for children receiving surgery through Operation Smile. The sewing session will be held at the Bethlehem Library on Monday, January 22, 2024 from 9 a.m. until noon.

The Scholarship Cttee raised \$910 dollars at the Holiday Tea, and an additional \$80 at the meeting today.

Lynne Lenhardt told the group about an award through GFWC designed to recognize the volunteer activities of middle and high school students. The GFWC New York Youth Community Service Award emphasizes projects that address the needs of a particular local organization or a community need. Each year, GFWC New York will select a club or individual who will receive recognition for an outstanding project, and a donation will be made to the organization benefitting from the project. The deadline for the contest is March 1.

The nominating cttee needs members to fill several crucial positions for the next two years. Still needed: President, First VP, Treasurer, and Assistant Treasurer. Please contact Lynne Lenhardt if you are willing to serve.

Please report your volunteer hours for 2023 to Pam ASAP. She is preparing the report for NYS and national GFWC.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50.

Respectfully submitted,

Barbara Kavanagh

Recording Secretary



OPERATION SMILE

Denise Gisotti, Coordinator

At our March 4 meeting, I would like to take a **picture** of the members of the **Delmar Progress Club** holding some of the **hospital gowns** we made for **Operation Smile**. The intent is to send it to the Times Union and Spotlight!

We have been given donated fabric for **Four** gowns, and I have prepared **6 pre-cut kits** with instructions. They will be on the back table in the community room if you have an urge to sew!

Sixty – Eight completed gowns have been turned in. I would like all the gowns turned in by the May 6 meeting. We will then ship them to **Operation Smile**.

If you have any questions, please contact me:

Denise Gisotti, golfing1020@yahoo.com, 518-461-5871



COMMUNITY SERVICE

Debbie Gall, Kathy Raffe and Linda Reddy, Co-chairs

Jewelry Collection!!!!

The Community Service Committee will be collecting jewelry that our members no longer wear to give to the South End Children's Cafe for the children who attend there to use as Mother's Day gifts. You may donate as many items as you would like, we are hoping to collect at least 40 pieces. Once collected, we will place each piece into a gift bag which the children will be able to peek into and choose something that they would like to give to their mother for Mother's Day. It is a win-win situation - you clean out your jewelry box and they have a special gift to give! We will be collecting at both the April and May meetings but we wanted to give you plenty of time to find something to donate if you choose to do so!



Bethlehem Food Pantry
Special request for a family in
need — Baby diapers size 5



MARCH CALENDAR

March 4, Monday, 9 am, DPC Board Meeting

March 4, Monday, 10 am, DPC General Meeting

March 11, Monday, 1 pm, Wellness Walk, Rail Trail from Voorheesville

March 21, Thursday, 10:30 am, Literature Group, Bethlehem Public Library

Lessons in Chemistry by Bonnie Garmus

March 25, Monday, Bethlehem Senior Luncheon, Bethlehem Lutheran Church

March 25, Monday, 1 pm, Wellness Walk, starting from the Bethlehem Public Library

