

DELMAR PROGRESS CLUB



JUNE 2024



PROGRESS IN PRINT

Member since 1916



President's Message

Dear Progress Club members,

This is my first newsletter to you. Thank you for letting me be your president for the next two years. I am honored to serve, and I hope to lead our Club so that it continues its traditions of service to others, civic engagement, and offering members opportunities for learning and staying active, not to mention just being with each other and having fun. My general goals for the year are to increase membership, increase member involvement and continue bringing back some of the things we did before the shutdown. But much more important is what you, the membership, want. This is **your** Club, and (within legal limits) it can become what you want. The literature and wellness interest groups that are currently functioning are not the only ones we can have. If we want to start a new interest group, we can do that.

I want to tell you about three recent events that were not only positive but downright exciting. The first was the New York State convention of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. We are part of a State-wide, national and international organization known as the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC). This year, Carolyn Bennett, Joan Gavrilik, Lynne Lenhardt, Kathy Newkirk, Georgette Tefoe, Pamela Tindall-O'Brien, Anne Young and I went to the State GFWC Convention. I got to meet women from other GFWC clubs throughout the State and learned **a lot**. (Did you know we have a sister club in Clifton Park???)

There is a regional GFWC convention in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania on September 27 – 29. If you are interested in going, please let me know.

The second event was a Literature Group trip to The Mount, Edith Wharton's home in Lenox, Massachusetts. Twelve of us went and had a private tour of the house

and grounds, followed by a delicious and fun lunch at Joe's Diner in Lee. This is the first Club trip since the COVID lockdown, and I hope we have more trips like this in the coming year.

The third event was our annual scholarship luncheon. This year we awarded scholarships to three very impressive seniors ---- Sabrina Vichaiwattanna, Sarah Elizabeth Hayes and Maggie Alderisio. It was heartening to meet the winners and their families, and to hear them speak.

Last, I am sorry to report that we lost three members in May: Margaret Hay, Joy Ford and Candace Stellato. Margaret and Joy were past presidents of our Club, and all these women led full, active, and engaged lives. They are inspirations to us all.

Have a wonderful summer and stay tuned for the next newsletter in September. Encourage your friends to join our Club, and if you have any ideas or suggestions for our Club, please let me know.

Christine

JUNE, JULY & AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

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

June

Barbara Bradford-5th
Rose Marie Carey-11th
June Buloch-15th
Nancy Looby-15th
Valerie Donovan-23rd
Betty Scott-24th
Catherine Parenteau-26th

August

Doris Kirk-4th
Mary Bigelow-8th
Debbie Mazzone-9th
Sue Haswell-18th
Carolyn Bennett-20th
Debbie Gall-29th

July

Sue McCabe-6th
Kathryn Schimanski-7th
Linda MacRitchie Graf-17th
Joan Kapral-18th
Sigrid Naar-25th
Page Tomlinson-27th
Robyn Giddings-29th



MEMBERSHIP

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



Membership Updates:

New Members: none - Applications for membership are online and at the Library

Change of Address: Linda Graf - 36 Walden Fields Dr. Delmar, NY 12054

Resignations: Louisa Soleau and Doris Beckman

Deaths: Margaret Hay, Joy Ford, and Candice Stellato

**Dues Check Due...Dues Check Due...Dues Check Due...
Dues Check Due**

May-August are the months when we push to collect the dues for the new Club year.

Please make this process easier by taking care of this ASAP. It helps tremendously to get our Membership List up to date, so that emails and mailings stay consistent over the summer months. You want to be up to date with your dues to receive your 2024-2025 Yearbook.

Please make out a check to: Delmar Progress Club in the new amount of **\$50.00**. Please mail all checks to **Delmar Progress Club, PO Box 423, Delmar NY 12054**. Thank you, as this makes my job so much easier!

Please reach out to Debbie Gall regarding dues, change of contact information, birthday information, etc. **Thank You!**

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY'S REPORT

Margaret Dilgen, Corresponding Secretary

We sent sympathy cards to members of Past President Margaret Hay's family.

We also sent a get well card to our Past President Joyce Demoly, who is recovering from a broken leg at Daughters of Sarah Rehabilitation Center. Joyce would love cards — or a visit — from our members. She has a difficult path to recovery.

If you know of any of our members who need a get well card over the summer months, please contact our Corresponding Secretary Margaret Dilgen.



SCHOLARSHIP

Maryalice Svare, Chair, and Lynne Lenhardt, Co chair

Three impressive students received awards at our Scholarship Luncheon on May 22.

There were two \$1,000 scholarships from Delmar Progress Club and one \$1,000 May and Bill Blackmore Scholarship for excellence in English.

Sabrina Vichaiwattana, daughter of Tekathon Vichaiwattana and Marisa Orgeia won a DPC scholarship. Sabrina will be attending Binghamton University in the Fall. She plans to study business administration and accounting.

Sarah Hayes, daughter of Misty and John Hayes won one of the DPC awards. Sarah is going to Binghamton University in the Fall and is considering studying business.

Maggie Alderisio won the May and Bill Blackmore Scholarship for excellence in English. Maggie is the daughter of Bill and Lynette Alderisio. Maggie will begin her college career at Penn State University in the fall to study English, writing and journalism.

Many thanks to the Scholarship Committee (Maryalice Svare, Lynne Lenhardt, Mary Bigelow, Karen Bylsma, Debbie Gall, Mary Ellen Caporta and Rose Marie Carey), as well the Luncheon Committee (Barbara Kavanagh, Phyllis Drew, Carolyn Bennett and Robyn Giddings).

This year, scholarship donations were made in memory of Rosemary Brown and Peggy Zimmerman and in honor of Carolyn Bennett. Also, \$241 was raised at the luncheon for Canine Companions for Independence.

Congratulations to our scholarship winners!



Sabrina, Sarah and Maggie — with their parents

Delmar Progress Club — April 4, 2024 General Meeting Minutes (Approved May 6, 2024)

Pamela Tindall-O'Brien called the meeting to order at 10:02, welcomed everyone, and led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Denise Gisotti reported that she would be sending 104 hospital gowns to Operation Smile, following several months of hard work by members.

Pam introduced our speakers: Jody Monroe and John McPhillips from Bethlehem Central School District. They presented information on the current budget proposal for the District, and well as an update on the ongoing Capital projects, the Lab School, and the Yonder cellphone implementation. The Bethlehem community will vote on the School Budget on Tuesday, May 21.

There is a Community Wellness Fair in May.

The Scholarship Luncheon will be held at Red's Restaurant on May 22. Members are encouraged to make their reservations right away.

A group of members is travelling to Lenox, MA to tour the home of Edith Wharton on May 16.

There was an article in The SPOTLIGHT about the Operation Smile project.

New member Eileen Clarke was introduced.

DPC will again march in the Memorial Day Parade on May 27.

The minutes from the March meeting were distributed. Lynn Rhodes moved to accept the minutes, Marilyn Peterson seconded. Minutes were accepted.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32.

Respectfully submitted, Barbara Kavanagh, Recording Secretary

FEDERATION, Carolyn Bennett, Coordinator



The 130th Annual Convention of GFWC-New York was held at the Albany Marriott on May 2-5, 2024. DPC members in attendance included Carolyn Bennett, Christine Doran, Joan Gavrilik, Lynne Lenhardt, Georgette Tefoe, Pam Tindall-O'Brien, Kathy Newkirk, and Anne Young.

At the District Night Banquet on Friday, Carolyn Bennett, GFWC-NY Honor Roll and Order of the Rose Chair, announced that DPC members Lynne Lenhardt and Georgette Tefoe were being added to the Honor Roll, and she awarded an Order of the Rose certificate to DPC member Joan Gavrilik.

At the Memorial Service on Sunday, a special tribute was read in honor of Rosemary Brown, former DPC and GFWC -NY President.

DPC was awarded five recognition certificates:

- 3rd Place – ESO - for our Literature Group's monthly book meetings that focused on social and racial issues
- 3rd Place – Environment - for maintaining the gardens at the Bethlehem Public Library and for member donations honoring deceased members
- 3rd Place – Arts and Culture - for our club meeting where members shared their creative talents followed by a soup luncheon
- 2nd Place – Leadership – for volunteering 1067 hours in rebuilding club membership
- 1st Place – Membership – for recruiting nine new members and changing meeting format by inviting friends to club meetings with specific presentations

Certificates were also awarded to DPC members in recognition of their membership over a given number of years.

By becoming a member of Delmar Progress Club, you also become a member of GFWC (General Federation of Women's Clubs) and GFWC-NY. You are welcome and encouraged to participate in their events and contests!

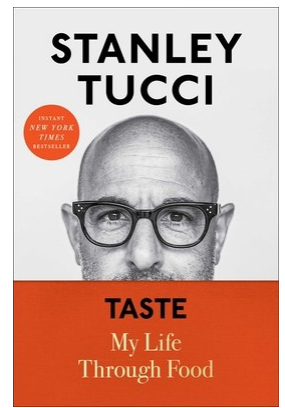
LITERATURE GROUP ANNUAL PICNIC

Christine Doran, Chair

The Literature Group had a great year with interesting discussions of some great books. We will end the year with our annual picnic on **June 20 at noon at Elm Avenue Park**. We will be in the small pavilion across from the playground. We will discuss **Taste: My Life Through Food by Stanley Tucci**.

The picnic is pot luck. Please bring a dish to share. (Does anyone have the courage to bring a dish from the book?) I will provide plates, cups, napkins and plastic ware, as well as soda and seltzer.

We will also vote on the books we will read next year. The theme is literature around the world, with books from different countries. And finally, we will have a book swap. Bring a book or two you loved (or maybe just liked) to swap for other books.

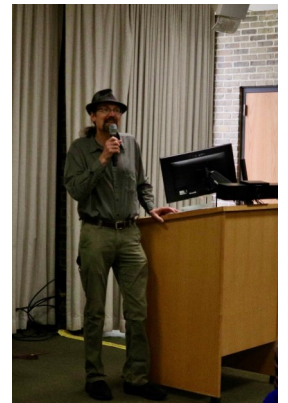


WELLNESS AND THE NATURAL WORLD

Linda Graf, Chair

Recycling & Composting: At our May General Meeting, Town of Bethlehem Recycling Coordinator Dan Lilkas-Rain talked to us about the 3 Rs — Reduce, Reuse & Recycle. He also told us about the new “Drop Spot” Program whereby residents can drop off food scraps for composting. For more details on that program, you can find the program flyer [here](#).

Remembrance Garden: This year, Remembrance Garden donations were made in memory of Susan Klein, Pat Fritz, and Rosemary Brown.



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. All proceeds are dedicated to our Emergency Relief Fund.

Bethlehem Garden Club Garden Tour: Wednesday, June 12, 4-8 p.m.

For more info, visit BethlehemGardenClubNY.org



COMMUNICATIONS

Progress in Print: Progress in Print will be on vacation for the next two months and will return to your inbox/mailbox in September. Many thanks to all who have contributed content throughout the year.

DPC Yearbook: The 2024-2025 DPC Yearbook will be available on or before September 1 in hard copy only. Details to follow.

NOTE: If anyone is interested in working on DPC communications — PIP, Yearbook, website, email, Facebook page, or any other form — please contact President Christine Doran. Your efforts would be greatly appreciated and warmly welcomed.

COMMUNITY SERVICE [COMMITTEE REPORT 2023-2024](#)

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



The focus of the service projects for the 2023-2024 year: **“MINDful for Mental Health”**

In October, we prepared a yummy meal for about 30 of Bethlehem’s Senior Citizens at their monthly luncheon. Our members stepped up to make the meal from scratch and handcrafted an individual party bag for each person to bring home and enjoy later. The guests were very well fed and went home feeling pleased. This luncheon also fulfilled our National Day of Service that we participated in with the GFWC.

At our March meeting we heard a presentation by the Hicks Family Foundation about military suicide. They lost their son who was in the Navy to suicide when he had a placement which was not a good fit for him. Within the branches of the service, there is a lack of counseling support and a pervasive attitude that prevents active and veteran military from seeking mental health counseling. The HicksStrong foundation raises money to provide funding for counseling for people in the military and matches them up with telehealth counselors, no matter where they are stationed. They do Hug Mug community events to help raise these funds....our club generously donated \$352 in a passed mug to help support this cause.

We collected an amazing amount of jewelry for our May initiative! We were able to package up 41 bags of jewelry that were delivered to the South End Children’s Cafe for the children to choose and give to their Mothers for Mother’s Day. Just think of the smiles that we were able to provide for both the children and their Mothers that day!

We have continued to collect flip tabs for the Ronald McDonald House, delivering almost 3.0 pounds! That is a lot of tabs!

We also contributed money to:

- Bethlehem Senior Projects (food pantry) - \$220
- Bethlehem Heating Fund - \$220
- Bethlehem Opportunities Unlimited (BOU) - \$210

On-going Year Round:

- Canine Companions For Independence
- Heifer International
- Operation Smile
- Holiday Mitten and Hat Drive-Collection
- Ronald McDonald House - pull tabs
- American Red Cross Blood Drive
- Clynk - bottle/can return (proceeds dedicated to the Emergency Relief Fund)

JUNE CALENDAR

June 12, Wednesday, 4-8 pm, Bethlehem Garden Club Garden Tour

June 20, Thursday, noon, Literature Group Picnic, Elm Avenue Park





Scholarship Luncheon, May 22, 2024

**Many thanks to our Scholarship Committee, the Luncheon Committee,
and everyone who attended and supported this program!**

