



**JANUARY 2017**

**PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE**

Dorothy Lusk

Happy New Year to you and yours! I hope that you were able to share time with family and friends because that is what the holidays are all about! My family reveled in the joy that only little children can rekindle when a family is adding a new generation. It was especially gratifying for me to spend the holiday with four generations from my parents and my siblings, along with our children and finally now our grandchildren!

Although there were no regular meetings in December, many members attended our holiday party on December 12<sup>th</sup>. I want to thank Pat Swick and Jean Naugle for planning this event. As always, we all appreciate their planning, organization and hard work. All in all, it was an evening of merriment, delicious refreshments and good company, once again reiterating our mantra: Together We Are Stronger.

As we begin the New Year, especially now that the longest "December night of the year" has passed us by, we can look forward to a little bit more daylight with each passing day reminding us that spring is on its way and with spring comes College Club's Spring Event! On Sunday, January 22<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 pm at my home, 1700 Mohawk Lane, SP, the planning for this year's Spring Event will kick into high gear. **ALL MEMBERS ARE ENCOURAGED TO JOIN US TO PLAN AND KICK-OFF THIS EVENT!!**

We are especially excited to announce, thanks to a member, Teri DiFrancesco, that we have secured Eva Lesko Natiella, author of *The Memory Box* to speak at our luncheon on Sunday, April 23, 2017. This event is our biggest fundraiser and we need the involvement of many members to ensure its success. Once again, thanks to the sponsorship of Mari McDevitt, our venue at Plainfield Country Club in Edison will provide an elegant setting and, with the assistance of ALL of our members, we hope to raise more money than ever for our scholarship fund. However, we cannot accomplish this without your help! At the January 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting, we will continue to discuss how every member will assist with this year's Spring Event. Because of a new policy at The Chelsea, we must finish up our meeting by 9:00 pm; therefore, I am asking you to carefully read this newsletter for MOST club information. We will only be addressing the needs of the Spring Event at the January General Meeting. Hopefully, we can have this restriction sorted out by the February meeting, but for the time being, we must comply with the wishes of the management at The Chelsea.

Speaking of meetings, I would be remiss if I did not mention how fortunate we were to have one of our very own members, Mary DePaola, speak to us about her life experience growing up on Native American Tribal Lands in November. How wonderful to learn about the Native American life experiences from a woman who shares our mission of helping to educate young women while continuing to grow our own personal knowledge through the programs presented monthly. We anticipate an interesting program at our January 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting when Mark Di Ionno, Star-Ledger columnist, returns to discuss "The Revolutionary War in the Watchungs". I'm looking forward to catching up with everyone on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

## **PROGRAM**

Ellen Harrison/Marie Leppert

Back by popular demand!! Mark Di Ionno, columnist for the *Star Ledger* and its on-line partner [nj.com](http://nj.com), will join us once again on Monday January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2017. Mark is a lifetime newspaperman and a 2013 Pulitzer finalist in news commentary. He is also a four-time winner of the New Jersey Press Association's first place award for column writing. He has authored several books and is currently an adjunct professor of Journalism at Rutgers University.

For this presentation, Mark will discuss the Revolutionary War in the Watchungs. This informative and entertaining program will begin promptly at **7:30 pm**. Please join us and bring a friend for this wonderful mix of journalism and history.

**Please note that the program will begin at 7:30 pm and will take place at the Chelsea in the building on the RIGHT SIDE of the driveway in the living room just inside the door.**

## **MEMBERSHIP**

Meril Davies/Joan Skubish

We are happy to welcome two new members to our College Club family - Irene Nunes and Rhonda Riesenbergh. Irene is a friend and former colleague of Melissa Tice and saw joining College Club as an opportunity to give back to the community as well as network and socialize with club members. Born and raised in New Rochelle, New York, Irene lived in Scarsdale before moving to Westfield where she has resided for the past 13 years. Married to her husband for 27 years, they have two children, a 21 year old son and a 17 year old daughter who attends Westfield High School and is applying to colleges this year. She graduated from New York University and has her doctorate. Irene's address is 409 Woodland Avenue in Westfield and her e-mail address is [irenenunes409@gmail.com](mailto:irenenunes409@gmail.com). Her home phone number is (908) 233-0921.

Rhonda and her husband Ira moved to Fanwood 23 years ago from Iselin where she grew up. They have two children who are both graduates of SPFH, Alyssa who is 25 and Michael who is 24. When her first child was applying to college, she saw a need for assistance to parents going through the process. Through the PTA, she helped create a 3-part series for parents which is still being used! For Rhonda, joining College Club was another way to get involved helping those who are college bound. She currently works as an Account Executive in commercial insurance and is also a piano teacher, with a unique twist/shortcut to reading music. In her free time, Rhonda enjoys the beach, playing games and just enjoys people! Rhonda's address is 236 Belvidere Avenue in Fanwood and her e-mail address is [rhondar888@yahoo.com](mailto:rhondar888@yahoo.com). Her home phone number is (908) 889-7713 and her cell phone number is (908) 313-6377.

Please add the information for Irene and Rhonda to your Directory. Welcome Irene and Rhonda! Please remember to invite a friend, neighbor or relative to our next general meeting on January 23<sup>rd</sup> for what promises to be another interesting presentation by columnist Mark Di Ionno. Membership in College Club provides for social interaction throughout the year and the opportunity to form new friendships. From general meetings, social events, fundraising and hands-on volunteering, there are many opportunities for us to come together as a group and adding new members will make us a better and a stronger organization. If you know of someone you think would be interested in joining College Club, contact either Meril or Joan.

## SCHOLARSHIP

Tish Isack/Marie Walford

We have started to organize the 2017-2018 scholarship review process. Applications are available through the HS guidance office as well as the CC web site. Applications must be postmarked on or before February 16, 2017. An article has also been submitted to the local press. The Committee will begin reviewing applications in March and will complete the selection process in April.

We have heard from the following scholarship winners:

**Eve Zhurbinskiy**, a senior at George Washington, tells us of her being reelected to her position on the Advisory Neighborhood Commission. She will be starting a paid internship with the Democratic Attorneys General Association where she will be running their Twitter account. She is attending 5-day civil rights history tour in Selma and Montgomery for MLK weekend. Eve thanks us again for all our support.

**Becky Mehorter**, a freshman at Ithaca, writes to tell us how excited she is that she received the position of Chief Copy Editor for the school newspaper, The Ithacan. Becky has enjoyed her first semester and thanks us for our support.

**Elisa Staniec**, a sophomore at Penn State, says that she was excited to be home for the holidays. She joined a committee that organizes THON to help raise money for pediatric cancer research, she will be a team leader for the MLK Day of Service and she is applying to study abroad this summer in Italy. Elisa thanks us as well.

**Elizabeth Gelling**, a junior at the Fashion Institute, wrote to say she had a great fall semester. Her favorite class was Stretch Fundamentals where she worked with LYCRA® to create various bodysuits. Elizabeth wishes us a Happy New Year and thanks us for our generosity.



## SPRING SCHOLARSHIP FUNDRAISING EVENT

Pat Swick

As of Sunday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, we have **98 DAYS** until our Spring Luncheon Event is upon us!

- **The Date is set: SUNDAY APRIL 23 AT THE PLAINFIELD COUNTRY CLUB**
- **The Luncheon Menu is set:** Similar to last year, with Chicken Francaise as the entrée
- **The Entertainment is set: Eva Lesko Natiello**, the award-winning author of NY Times and USA TODAY Bestseller, *THE MEMORY BOX* will be speaking to the group.

Learn more about Eva and her book at

<https://www.amazon.com/Eva-Lesko-Natiello/e/B00L82ZA4A>



**The Event's Fundraising portion will include:**

- A **NEW raffle** - for a 52 inch BIG SCREEN TV (\$5 a ticket)
- A 50/50 raffle (\$20 - book of 10)
- Gift Basket area
- Silent Auction

**Come join us for a PLANNING SESSION:**

- **When: Sunday, January 22 at 1:00 pm**
- **Where: The home of Dorothy Lusk** (1700 Mohawk Lane, Scotch Plains)  
Can't make it on Sunday? - Let us know how you can help with the preparations.

**Reminders:**

- Remember to pick-up a couple of **scratch-off lottery tickets** which will be added to our two lottery trees in the gift basket area.
- Start planning what basket of items you and your friends might be donating.
- Is there something you might be able to donate to the Silent Auction? Perhaps a service instead of a concrete item? (Planting tulip bulbs in the fall, donating a ride to Newark Airport, donating a home cooked meal for 6 or so people at your home, etc.)

**Please note:** Once again we are asking you to turn in your “pots of gold” (baskets, lottery tickets, restaurant gift certificates and Silent Auction donations) by **FRIDAY, MARCH 17<sup>TH</sup>**, St. Patrick’s Day, to Pat Swick or Connie Salisbury.

We look forward to your anticipated enthusiasm and participation! More information to follow after our January 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. A **Save the Date** graphic is below and a file is attached for you to send to your friends. Hard copies will be available at the January 23 General Meeting.

Questions? Contact me by e-mail at [Pat.swick@us.fujitsu.com](mailto:Pat.swick@us.fujitsu.com)

## SAVE the DATE

Sunday, April 23, 2017

The College Club of Fanwood-Scotch Plains  
Scholarship Fundraising Luncheon  
at the Plainfield Country Club

Guest Speaker:  
Eva Lesko Natiello, author of



### CC+ME=OUTREACH

P. Goldberg/C. Hirschhorn/C. Salisbury

In our November collection for the Ozanum Shelter (delivered by St. Helen's), we donated 2 laundry baskets, 10 boxes of tissues, 21 rolls of paper towels, 15 tubes of toothpaste, 33 tooth brushes, 6 bottles of mouthwash, 2 shampoos, 2 bottles of laundry detergent, 5 body wash/soap items, 2 body lotions and some misc. makeup, nail polish, lotions, etc.

Our food collection in December of about 50 items was donated to the Fanwood Presbyterian Church. They were very appreciative when it was dropped off and they sent a letter of thanks to the Club.

We also collected \$267.00, our largest collection to date, for the Tiny Tim Fund in December. If anyone missed the collection and would like to make a donation the address is:

The Tiny Tim Fund, Inc., PO. Box 181, Fanwood, NJ 07023.

**LITERATURE GROUP**

Ellen Harrison

On Tuesday, February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2017, the book group will discuss *Orphan Train* by Christina Baker Kline. Marie Leppert will host the book group at 7:30 pm. The reviewer will be Ellen Harrison. "Orphan Train" is a novel that brings to light the Orphan Train Movement which was a supervised welfare program that took place in eastern cities between 1854 and 1929. Approximately 200,000 orphaned, abandoned and homeless children were transported from crowded eastern towns to the Midwest. In "Orphan Train" Vivian Daly is a young Irish immigrant sent on her journey from New York City to Minnesota where she withstands a variety of experiences.

**LADIES WHO LUNCH**

Ginger Rachko

Ladies Who Lunch will meet on Wednesday, January 25<sup>th</sup> at The Stage House Inn Tavern at 12:30 pm. Please respond by Monday, Jan. 23<sup>rd</sup> so that we can get a good table. Hope to see you then.

**TREASURER'S NOTES**

Barbara Timko

**Collecting money and payments:**

Spring is the time when a lot of money flows into our club! If you are collecting money for College Club (dues/event tickets/raffle tickets, etc.), please be sure to keep careful track of:

**WHO** gave you the money (Names please!)

**HOW** it is presented (check or cash)

**WHAT** it will be used for! (Event/purpose)

Please use the 'official' Deposit form (available from your treasurer or download on our website) and include as much information as possible so that it can be recorded properly. NOTE that the form is TWO-SIDED and can accommodate a maximum of 13 entries for checks. If you have more than 13 checks, please use multiple deposit forms. Any questions? Please ask. I am happy to help!

**COLLEGE CLUB OF FANWOOD SCOTCH PLAINS**

**TREASURER'S REPORT 12/31/16**

|                                 | <u>Books</u><br>12/31/16 | <u>Bank Actual</u><br>12/31/16 | Difference  |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| <b>CHECKING ACCOUNT BALANCE</b> | 2,138.72                 | \$ 3,193.72                    | \$ 1,055.00 |
| <b>SAVINGS ACCOUNT BALANCE</b>  | <u>\$ 47,180.90</u>      | <u>\$ 47,180.90</u>            | \$ -        |
| <b>Total - Both Accounts</b>    | <u>\$ 49,319.62</u>      | <u>\$ 50,374.62</u>            | \$ 1,055.00 |

**Lord Abbett Mutual Fund Account update:**

|                         |                                  |             |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------|
| Ending Value on 9/30/16 | <u>229.9530 Shares @ \$14.36</u> | \$ 3,302.13 |
| Ending Value on 6/30/16 | <u>228.385 Shares @ \$13.93</u>  | \$ 3,181.40 |
| Ending Value on 3/31/16 | <u>226.5470 shares @ \$13.68</u> | \$ 3,099.16 |

**RECEIPTS**

|  |                  |             |
|--|------------------|-------------|
| Calendar Ads                                   | \$ 300.00        | ↑<br> <br>↓ |
| Matching gifts / Volunteer Grants (Merck, P88) | \$ 550.00        |             |
| INTEREST                                       | \$ 6.62          |             |
| <b>TOTAL RECEIPTS</b>                          | <u>\$ 856.62</u> |             |

**DISBURSEMENTS**

|                                  |                     |
|----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Plainfield CC deposit for spring | \$ 1,000.00         |
| Spring 2017 Scholarships         | \$ 13,375.00        |
| Insurance Payment                | \$ 161.35           |
| PO Box rental - annual           | \$ 134.00           |
| <b>TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS</b>       | <u>\$ 14,670.35</u> |

|   |                    |
|---|--------------------|
| <b>TOTAL OUTSTANDING CHECKS</b>                                     | <b>\$ 1,055.00</b> |
| 1534 11/14/16 Susanne Spirko College Night Pizza for DECA kids      | 55.00              |
| 1547 12/28/16 Plainfield Country Club Deposit for Spring Fundraiser | 1,000.00           |

**Checks written off: outdated**

None

**YTD Performance notes:**

**INCOME**

Membership dues still under budget but improved over last year: Sustainers over budget  
 Fall Fundraisers: Clothing Drive \$ not rec'd yet, L&T < budget, Garage sale (unbudgeted, new) raised \$1277  
 Calendars: Sales < budget of \$5k (currently \$3380), Ads & Donations close to budget  
 Matching gifts, Volunteer Grants, Memoriums and Donations all over budget for the year.

**EXPENSE**

Program fees will be under budget. Some of the funds may be used to offset holiday party or other admin.  
 All expenses are at or below budget at this time.

## MEMBERS' NEWS

**Happy birthday** to the following club members who are celebrating their birth dates in January: Meril Davies, Vivian Hsu, Marguerite Sahaj, Cynthia Warren and sustainers Mary Clare Levins and Joyce Marshall.

We expressed our sympathy to the family of Malinda Okoro who passed away on January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Congratulations go to two new grandmothers in the Club: Pat Goldberg is the proud grandmother of Ryan John, born to her son Andrew and his wife Jodi and Tish Isack welcomed her grandson "MAX" Leif Errickson (after both grandfathers) born to her daughter Nora and son-in-law Josh Errickson.

We received a note from Lucille McGann, one of our sustainers, who says "Joining College Club was one of my best experiences: good friends, good activities and a good cause. I send best of wishes to the Club. We have moved to a 2-bedroom apartment in Cedar Crest. Here there are many clubs, many friendly faces, good food. Unpacking boxes is more work than packing the house (which the movers did). We would love to see any and all of you anytime. We are 50 MINUTES AWAY, Route 287, exit 52b, Route 23 south at 421 Arbor View, Pompton Pains, NJ 07444, [973-907-7819](tel:973-907-7819). We leave for Florida and return on APRIL 3<sup>rd</sup>. By that time we should have window treatments and pictures, decorations AND boxes cleaned up!"

## DATES TO REMEMBER

- Jan. 22 – Spring Fundraising Event Planning Session
- Jan. 23 – General Meeting
- Jan. 25 – Ladies Who Lunch
- Feb. 6 – Board Meeting
- Feb. 7 – Book Group

