

Club Motto

"We live not to ourselves alone, our work is life." - Bailey



Newsletter of the *Women's Club of Glen Ridge*

April/May 2008
Volume 50, Issue 6

Henry Chapman Night at the Women's Club

Friday, April 4th

7:30 PM

Please join us on April 4th as we explore the interesting life of Glen Ridge philanthropist, Henry Stanton Chapman. Born of humble beginnings in 1837, Mr. Chapman began his business career as a clerk in his uncle's drug-store. The eventual owner of several successful companies, he would rise to become a well respected businessman, and one of Glen Ridge's most generous benefactors.

Sally Meyer, Town Historian and Curator of the Glen Ridge Historical Society Museum Room, will address the topic "Who was Henry Chapman?" Described as a friendly man who gave of his money, his executive ability, his scientific knowledge, and his time, Mr. Chapman was a nature lover, bike rider, and avid golfer. Mr. Chapman was also highly supportive of Glen Ridge civic affairs.

Susan Griffith, Women's Club Historian, will provide additional comments on Mr. Chapman's devotion to his wife, Emily, and his subsequent gifts to the Women's Club in her name. That act has inspired the men of Glen Ridge to continue to support their wives and the Club for the past 80+ years. Examples of support by our Associate Members will be highlighted.

Following the presentation there will be plenty of time to view the historic displays, socialize with friends, and enjoy delicious refreshments.

Art Department

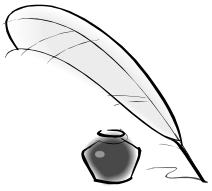
Glen Ridge High School Senior Art Exhibit



The Art Department is proud to host the second annual Senior Art Exhibition Tuesday, April 15th, from 7:00 – 9:00 PM during which the Glen Ridge High School AP Art Class will display their best work. Beverages and appetizers will be served by the Girls' Club and music will be provided by professional violinist Christopher Kenniff. The exhibit is free and open to the public.



Exhibiting Seniors: Courtney Bizub, Laura Casadonte, Margaret Coleman, Sandra Cooper, Roxana Demel, Laura Faccone, Sam Handler, Joshua Harris, Eric Kerke, Doug McAndrew, Jamie



President's Post

It's difficult to believe that we're coming to the end of another Club year already. Once the House Tour looms large on our collective radar, it's time to start thinking about summer. This has been an exciting year, full of positive changes, thanks to the members and the staff who make it all possible.

We started off the year with the "cleaning of the Club", as we worked to move a large portion of our 'collectibles' out of the basement in preparation for occupancy by the Public Library, while they awaited renovation of their own home in the Municipal Building. Much was disposed of in any number of ways. It will indeed be interesting to see how we reclaim our lower level once the Library leaves in May. At my house, any empty space would soon be filled up with new 'treasures' (perhaps better taken straight to the street), but we'll see if we can show some restraint at the Club. Our partnership with the Library in this endeavor has been a pleasure from every angle. They have been excellent guests, I trust we have been good hosts, and a number of residents have had cause to visit our house for the first time this year. It has been a winning situation for all concerned.

Our programming has been stellar once again. We enjoyed drama, music, poetry, history and literature. This year, each monthly meeting was preceded by a catered luncheon, giving members a chance to share delicious cuisine before the program began. Many of us got to know one another better as a result, and everyone appreciated time for a real 'ladies' lunch. I hope the tradition will continue.

Our special events brought people to the Club in droves. Especially popular were our offerings for children: the

Harvestfest, complete with petting zoo and haunted stage, the Holiday party with the BIG slide and Santa, and of course, the Doll Tea, where young ladies can get ready for those lunches in later years. We're looking forward to another successful House Tour. All hands are needed for our largest fundraiser of the year. Please say yes when you are called.

On a more casual level, we enjoyed the new patio by hosting Steak Nights for members. The side yard was a delightful place to fire up the grill, and a really fun way to reconnect with friends. The annual Progressive Dinner provided a different dining experience as we spread out into members homes to share in good food and good company. Our book groups continue to attract many members for interesting conversations about new and not so new works. The refurbished lending library provides plenty of inspiration. And I hope that many of you will be able to join members as we travel into New York for an afternoon at the Metropolitan Opera in May, sponsored by the Music Department.

It has been a successful year, from every perspective. I hope that you will join us for the Annual Luncheon on May 13, as we celebrate our successes and welcome the new board members. This year is going to be a hard act to follow, but somehow I know that the best is yet to come.

Prudence Younger
Prudence Younger
President

Celebrate the arrival of Spring with us at the Club!



We will gather to recognize all our hard work and the fun we've had this past year while planning and attending Club events.

It has been a true team effort.



Our Annual Luncheon & Meeting will begin at 11:30 AM on Tuesday, May 13th.

Look for more details in the April Club mailing.

MOTHERHOOD AND OTHER DESPERATE ACTS



Tuesday, April 1st
**DRAMA DEPARTMENT
OPEN HOUSE**
Laugh, Eat, Be Merry
Luncheon 11:30 AM
Performance 1:00 PM

Written and performed by Deborah Maclean, this new one-woman show takes a humorous look at children, marriage, middle age, telemarketers, malls and the other daunting aspects of life in suburbia. Slipping in and out of hilariously offbeat characters, this veteran improvisational comedy performer takes audiences on a wild ride from hipster to hip replacements.

Ms. Maclean began her career in improv and sketch comedy in Los Angeles. In NYC she performed, directed and taught comedy with *Shock of the Funny* and appeared at such major venues as Stand-Up New York, The Improv, Lincoln Center, and St. Mark's Theater. Interestingly, Ms. Maclean has also taught Russian at Columbia University, but I digress. Even closer to home, Deborah founded Montclair's improv comedy group *Lunatic Fringe*, the resident improv group at 12 Miles West which is now in its 11th successful season.

Please join us on April Fool's Day and see for yourself why Deborah Maclean has been making people laugh for years. You will have a wonderful time and enjoy a delicious luncheon. No fooling!

This 50-minute show is free for members and \$10 for non-members. The luncheon, for which reservations are required, is \$23 for members and \$25 for non-members. For reservations call the Club at (973) 748-5459.

Annual House Tour 2008 **and Reception**



The culminating event of the year is just around the corner—the much anticipated House Tour! This year's tour promises to once again delight with a showcase of exceptionally beautiful homes followed by a reception. We count on the help of our membership in order to ensure the success of our most important fundraiser.

In the next few weeks, you can expect to receive an email or phone call from a member of the Ways and Means Committee asking you to volunteer. We need docents at every home (for one-hour shifts) and volunteers for the reception, especially those willing to donate fine culinary delights. Please help us achieve 100% volunteer participation from our membership! Both members and non-members are welcome to volunteer their time. All interested volunteers may email womensclubgr@juno.com.

The costs are \$30 for members and \$35 for non-members prior to April 30th. After that date they will be \$35 for members and \$40 for non-members. If you'd like to pay by check, send your check made payable to the Women's Club of Glen Ridge to: 219 Ridgewood Avenue, Glen Ridge, NJ 07028. If you prefer to pay by credit card, please call the Club at (973) 748-5459 between 8:30 AM and 12:30 PM on weekdays.

A House Tour ticket always makes a wonderful gift for that special neighbor or relative, or for an early Mother's Day celebration! A portion of the proceeds from the day will be donated to Habitat for Humanity in Montclair.

Annual House Tour: May 4, 2008

Member Name: _____

Date: _____


Number of Member tickets: _____

Number Non-member tickets: _____

Total Amount Enclosed: _____



April 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 1:00 PM Monthly Meeting & Drama Department Open House	2	3	4 7:30 PM Henry Chapman Night	5
6	7 7:30 PM Girls' Club Fashion Show	8	9	10 9:30 AM Time for Tots 	11	12
13	14 7:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting 7:30 PM Girls' Club Meeting	15 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting 7:00 PM GRHS AP Art Exhibit	16	17	18	19 Passover begins at sundown
20 Passover	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28 7:30 PM Officers & Advisors Meeting - Girls' Club	29 10:00 AM Literary Ladies II	30			

Monthly Meeting and Drama Dept. Open House	1:00 PM	Tuesday, April 1
Henry Chapman Night	7:30 PM	Friday, April 4
Girls' Club Fashion Show	7:30 PM	Monday, April 7
"Time for Tots"	9:30-11:00 AM	Thursday, April 10
Finance Committee Meeting	7:00 PM	Monday, April 14
Girls' Club Meeting	7:30 PM	Monday, April 14
Board of Trustees Meeting	9:00 AM	Tuesday, April 15
GRHS AP Art Exhibit	7:00 - 9:00 PM	Tuesday, April 15
Officers & Advisors Meeting - Girls' Club	7:30 PM	Monday, April 28
Literary Ladies II: <i>Henry Ford and the Jews</i> by Neil Baldwin	10:00 AM	Tuesday, April 29



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May 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Thu	Fri	Sat	
			1	2	3	
4 1:00 – 5:30 PM Annual House Tour & Reception 	5 7:30 PM Girls' Club Meeting	6	7	8 9:30 AM Time for Tots 	8	10 1:00 PM An Afternoon at the Opera
11	12 7:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting	13 11:30 AM Annual Luncheon and Meeting	14	15	16	17
18	19 TBA Girls' Club Annual Awards Dinner	20 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting 10:00 AM Literary Ladies	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Annual House Tour & Reception

Girls' Club Meeting

"Time for Tots"

An Afternoon at the Opera - *La Clemenza de Tito*

Finance Committee Meeting

Annual Luncheon and Meeting

Annual Awards Dinner - Girls' Club

Board of Trustees Meeting

Literary Ladies: title TBA

1:00-5:30 PM

7:30 PM

9:30-11:00 AM

1:00 PM

7:00 PM

11:30 AM

TBA

9:00 AM

10:00 AM

Sunday, May 4

Monday, May 5

Thursday, May 8

Sunday, May 10

Monday, May 12

Tuesday, May 13

Monday, May 19

Tuesday, May 20

Tuesday, May 20

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Treasurer's Update

As our fiscal year draws to a close in April, we can look back on a very successful year financially. We are projecting at this point that we will have raised over \$140,000 compared to our goal of \$131,000. For what may be the first time in Women's Club history, all our departments – Art, Music, Literature, Bible, Children's Drama, Home & Garden – made a profit on their events. Three in particular stand out: the HomeGrown event (Art), the Harvest Festival (Children's) and the Tea for Three performance (Drama). In aggregate, all our departments contributed \$4,443...and the year's not over yet! This is extraordinary because we don't ask the departments to raise any money during the course of the year; we leave that to our Ways & Means Committee. Much of these funds can now be used in the next fiscal year to enhance the programs being offered. Additionally, our donations of \$5,030 were much higher than our budget of \$2,000 due in most part to the generosity of members who donated restricted funds for specific purposes such as the improvements and upgrades to specific rooms or furnishings of the clubhouse. And finally, once again we enjoyed a healthy rental business due in large part to the hard work of our employees Suzanne Tuck and Linda Farrell.



On the expense side, we were able to keep some large costs under control. We actually saw a reduction in our insurance cost and our gas & electric bills, expenses we all know are hard to reduce even in our own homes. We also took advantage of our healthy checking account balance this year to make some significant improvements to the interior of the clubhouse. Rooms were painted, carpets replaced, furniture re-stuffed and reupholstered, floors refinished, the roof repaired, curtains cleaned, the Children's Room reconstructed, and numerous electrical and plumbing updates completed.

A special thanks to all our members that helped us by hosting events, by attending our fundraising functions, and by donating your time and energy to maintain our beautiful clubhouse.

Girls' Club Corner

The Girls' Club has been preparing for its annual Spring Fashion Show, which will be held April 7th at 7:30 PM at the Women's Club. The theme for this year's show is "Girl Power: Outfits that Work" and Girls' Club members will be showcasing a variety of daytime looks that are appropriate for career-women, as well as fun and sophisticated evening dresses. The Montclair boutique, Ruby, on Church Street has been very generous in lending many outfits for the girls to wear.

Proceeds from the Fashion Show will be used to support two very worthy organizations. We intend to provide day camp scholarships for children who are tutored through the SCEEP program hosted at the Congregational Church. Several members volunteer as tutors in the program and we are happy to help this great cause. We also plan to collect clothing for and make a donation to *Dress for Success*, an organization which provides job interview-appropriate clothing, career support and other help for women seeking jobs. We are asking for donations of new or gently used, cleaned, business appropriate clothing (such as suits, blazers, pants and blouses). Clothes may be brought to the Women's Club the night of the Show or to the Club during weekday hours (8:30 to 12:30) the week prior to the show. We are hoping that Spring closet cleaning will also help others this year! (Larger sizes are especially needed by Dress for Success.)

The Hungry Heitmann Food Drive has begun! Mr. Heitmann, Assistant Principal at Glen Ridge High School, has graciously donated his image to this worthy cause, and a poster displaying his picture stands in the cafeteria reminding students to bring in food items. We will collect canned soup, tuna fish, and macaroni and cheese and all items will be donated to the Human Needs Food Pantry in Montclair.

Juanita Nevola: Manual Typewriters and Mandolins

By Nancy Herkness Theodorou

This member profile is the fourth in a series highlighting our Club members of long-standing. A group of diverse and interesting women, they are the foundation on which the Club continues to build.

"I was at home with three small children when Gertrude Chemnitius suggested I join the Women's Club," Juanita Nevola says. She arranged for her mother to babysit and joined the Club in 1964. "It was a reason to put on a dress," she continues with a smile. "We wore hats and white gloves too."

Juanita didn't stop at attending meetings. She also chaired the Bible department and served on the Hospitality Committee. In the mid-seventies, she took on the job of Club secretary, working there for six years. In those days, the Club office had no computer and no copier. "I had to use carbon paper on the manual typewriter."

"I loved showing the Club to prospective brides," Juanita reminisces. "The building is so beautiful." In fact, the Nevolas held marriage celebrations for two of their children in the historic building.

Club member Barbara Gabriel lured her away from the part-time secretary's job with the offer of full-time work at the Glen Ridge Municipal Building. Juanita became a certified tax collector and spent fourteen years taking in tax and water bill payments at Town Hall. Since she worked during the day, Juanita discovered the joys of the Evening Department which she chaired for two terms. "I met people there I wouldn't have met otherwise. We had fun!"

Juanita grew up on Park End Place in East Orange and graduated from East Orange High School where she concentrated on business courses. She worked as a dental assistant and then moved on to real estate with C. J. Allers in East Orange and Christian Realty in Bloomfield "back when the trolleys still ran." In 1954 she married Gabriel, her husband of 54 years; they fell in love when he asked her out for a ride in his new blue Plymouth. The couple has five children and ten grandchildren.

Gabriel taught instrumental music in the Newark schools and played the organ for Sacred Heart Church in Bloomfield. In addition he gave private lessons in violin, piano, guitar and voice which is what led them to their present home at 70 Clark Street in Glen Ridge. "We needed a house with an extra room on the first floor for Gabriel to teach in," Juanita explains. "My aunt and uncle who lived in Bloomfield found this house and were convinced that it was the perfect place for us. We had to stretch to buy it for \$15,900 in 1958."

Since retiring from her position at Town Hall, Juanita has become active with the Glen Ridge Seniors as well as serving as the music librarian for the Bloomfield Mandolin Orchestra which Gabriel has conducted for the past 35 years. "I thought I was going to learn to play the piano once I had more time but after four lessons, I realized I was never going to be a musician," Juanita says. Still, music programs at the Club are among the biggest draws for her.

Although she misses the greeters at the door, "something that made even brand new members feel welcome", Juanita feels the Club's current programs are more up-to-date and in tune with today's world. She also admires the Club's contributions to the larger community, citing the food and clothing drives as significant additions. "Organizations such as the Women's Club need to help other groups," she says, adding that the Club was more of a social gathering place when she joined. However, she values the friendships she formed there and stays in touch with Gertrude Chemnitius and Barbara Keane, even though both have moved away from Glen Ridge.

"I truly enjoy being with people. That's my niche," Juanita says. "In that way, the Club added tremendous value to my life in town."

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Lisa Dundon (Robert)	12 Windsor Place	Glen Ridge
Mary Mahoney (Daniel)	16 Appleton Place	Glen Ridge
June Marck	36 Hawthorne Place	Montclair
Ann Nichol (Charles)	24 Snowden Place	Glen Ridge

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