

Club Motto

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

Newsletter of the Women's Club of Glen Ridge



March 2008
Volume 50, Issue 5

**Literature Department Monthly Meeting
and Open House**

Tuesday, March 4th 1:00 PM

Please join us as Nicole Cooley reads from her latest manuscript of poems. Nicole Cooley grew up in New Orleans, Louisiana. Her manuscript of poems is about Hurricane Katrina. Her first book of poetry, *Resurrection*, won the 1995 Walt Whitman Award and was published by LSU Press in 1996. Her second book of poetry, *The Afflicted Girls*, about the Salem witch trials of 1692, came out with LSU Press in April 2004 and was chosen as one of the best poetry books of the year by *Library Journal*. She also published a novel *Judy Garland, Ginger Love*, with Regan Books/Harper Collins (1998).

She has received a Discovery/*The Nation* Award, a national Endowment for the Arts Grant and the Emily Dickinson Award from the Poetry Society of America. Her poems have appeared in *The Nation*, *Poetry*, *Missouri Review*, *Pleides*, and *Mississippi Review*, among other magazines. She is an associate professor of English and



Creative Writing at Queens College – City University of New York where she directs the new MFA program in creative writing and literary translation.

Please join us for the luncheon where the theme is New Orleans cuisine!!

Lunch will be served at 11:30 AM. The luncheon is \$18 for members and \$26 for non-members. Call the Club to reserve your spot for the lunch, or send your check to the Club. Checks should be made out to The Women's Club of Glen Ridge, 219 Ridgewood Avenue, Glen Ridge, NJ 07028. (973) 748-5459.

The Monthly meeting will begin at 1:00 PM with Ms. Cooley's lecture to follow. The lecture is free to Women's Club members, students and faculty, and is \$5.00 for non-members.



Favorite Doll Tea

Sunday, March 30th at 4:00 PM

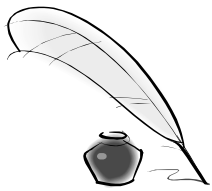
Treat your favorite girl and her favorite doll to a special afternoon.



A traditional High Tea will be served and a complimentary doll hair salon will be open for pampering. Boutiques will also be available for your shopping pleasure. The cost is \$20 for both members and girls (3 to 14 years) and \$30 for non-member guests. For more information and a response card please check the March Club mailing or contact Mary Valerian at (973) 748-3534.

Please join us for a truly delightful afternoon!





President's Post

Winter's coming to an end, I hope, but there are still blustery days ahead when it's better to curl up with a good book than go out and brave the elements. March will be Literature Month at the Club. Our monthly program meeting, sponsored by the Literature Department, will feature poet Nicole Cooley. Later in the month, we'll be treated to An Evening With Nancy Herkness, as we join long time member and former Literature Department chair Nancy Theodorou in celebrating the publication of her latest novel. Coupled with some fine selections by our book groups and the ever growing lending library under Amy Luka's able stewardship, we have plenty of reasons to read!

Last month, as students prepared for their midterm exams, I helped my seventh grader review for his history test. I came to a point in his outline which dealt with the Women's Movement in the early part of the last century. One of the headings was Women's Clubs. I waited with baited breath for his explanation of what these clubs were and why they developed. He explained quite seriously that these clubs were formed to teach their members to read. He went on to tell me how his teacher had done some research and discovered that there was a Women's Club right here in Glen Ridge, and had asked the class if any of their mothers belonged. Four of the twenty students, including my son, raised their hands.

I'm always reluctant to contradict or question a teacher, but in my heart, I am quite certain that the Women who founded this club were not only literate, they were proba-

bly fairly well educated. After all, one did have to sign a membership application at the very least. Although promoting literacy may have been featured among the projects undertaken by the membership, the members themselves used the programs and activities at the Club to expand their minds and enrich their existing knowledge banks. Rather than learning to read, they read to learn and constantly enjoyed new educational experiences.

Intellectual curiosity remains the hallmark of our membership today. The programs are fascinating, giving rise to ideas and discussions that are simply not going to occur on the playground or in the supermarket. Anyone who heard Neil Baldwin's presentation on *Henry Ford and the Jews* left with enough food for thought to last a month. Discussions of Ian McEwan's *A Child in Time* continued long after the book group had dispersed. Grace Gimbal was an inspiration to all of us. This month's authors will allow us to view life through different eyes. Our programs challenge our intellect and fuel our minds. I have a feeling that this is exactly what our founding members found so appealing about their initial fellowship more than one hundred years ago.

Prudence Younger

Prudence Younger
President

From the Social Committee

Broadway Show Opening Night

On Saturday March 15th, join your fellow Club members for a Progressive Dinner with a Broadway musical theme. We'll meet on the Red Carpet for cocktails at a member's house at 6:00 PM, then head out to one of the many house parties from 7:30-9:30 PM, followed by dessert and after-dinner drinks at the Clubhouse from 10:00 -11:00 PM.

Don't miss it! Tickets are \$40 per person.

Please RSVP by March 7th to the Club at 973-748-5459
or Lynne Oliver at (973) 748-5206.



Girls' Club Corner

On February 4th, the Girls' Club hosted "Facing the Future", a mentoring event created for members of all ages to learn about finding a passion, balancing time, and sharpening interviewing skills. The mentors were all recent college graduates, and are currently working for UBS in the Wealth Management Graduate Training Program. There were about 15 mentors who spoke with approximately 8-10 girls each, with specific topics designed for each grade level. Freshmen discussed how to get involved with extracurricular activities and making the most of the summer, while senior topics addressed college life and the importance of internships. Lots of ideas were shared, and all had a great time.

This past month, a group of girls lead by Abbie Johnston and Caitlin Johnston visited Care One and brought Valentine's Day roses and treats to the residents. The girls gained so much from their gestures of good will and the residents really enjoyed their company.

Spring is just around the corner, and that means it's almost time for the Girls' Club Fashion Show. So mark your calendars now for April 7, 2008 at 7:30 PM at the Women's Club. Stay tuned for more details on this annual rite of spring!

Member Profile of Ruth Runge

By Nancy Herkness Theodorou

This member profile is the third 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.

The game of bridge brought Ruth Runge into the Women's Club in 1961. "My bridge partners belonged and I liked the group of women who were members. My husband Bob and I attended everything the Club put on. We were participants in it all."

Ruth remembers doing a dance demonstration at one of the weekend social events. "Club member Elizabeth Robertson was an Arthur Murray dance instructor. We persuaded our husbands to take ballroom lessons with us in Elizabeth's beautiful basement. Of course it took some persuading because the men didn't want to go. Then we got all dressed up and put on an exhibition dance for the Women's Club."

Born and raised in Montclair, Ruth attended Skidmore College where she studied drama. She met her husband Bob on a blind date at the famous Cotton Club in New York City. They've been married for sixty-two years, and have two sons and four grandchildren.

When her sons were in high school, Bob says Ruth got "bored with staying at home" so she earned a degree in library science from Caldwell College. She quickly found a position as school librarian first at the Montclair Kimberly Academy and later at the Pingry School in Short Hills. "I love books and I love to read," Ruth says, a passion which continues to bring her to the Club for the Literary Ladies meetings. It also led to a memorable childhood encounter with Amelia Earhart who signed a copy of her book for the younger Ruth.

Sallie Mahler was one of the bridge partners who drew Ruth into the Club and the two women continued to work as a team: Ruth served as Chair of the Finance Committee for multiple terms while Sallie was the Club's Treasurer. "Sallie, Lou (Sallie's husband), Bob and I have always been friends and still meet about once every six weeks," Ruth reports.

As a district sales manager for the Seamless Rubber Company, a manufacturer of surgical gloves, Bob traveled all over the country on business. Ruth and Bob have traveled extensively together as well, saying, "There's hardly a country in Europe we haven't been to." Their favorite trip, however, was to the western United States and Canada, a journey they made when their oldest son joined the Navy and was stationed on the Great Lakes. "We went through all the western national parks including the Banff-Lake Louise area. We finally ended up in Las Vegas."

The Women's Club continues to draw Ruth. "In fact, I think the programs are better now. They're things I'm interested in." All in all, Ruth believes the Club "added tremendous value to my life. We all had a lot of good times there."

Women's Club of Glen Ridge 2008–2009

The Club by-laws require that both the Budget and the Slate of Officers be published for the information of the membership in the March issue of the Signpost. The budget detailed below was approved by the Board of Trustees at its meeting held on January 22, 2008, and the Nominating Committee presented the following Slate for 2008-09 at the February meeting of the Board of Trustees. The Board has approved the Slate as presented, and will introduce it and any additions to the membership at the monthly business meeting to be held on March 4, 2008. The membership will vote on both the Slate and the budget at the April monthly meeting.

Nominating Slate (2008-09)	Budget
	<u>May '08 - Apr 09</u>
President: Prudence Younger	Ordinary Income/Expense
Vice President: Beverly de Filippis	Income
Asst Treasurer: Laura Eveleth	Donations 2,000.00
Corresponding Secretary: Angela Bellizi	Interest - Checking Acct. 24.00
Girls' Club: Jula Cordeira	Investment Income 24,000.00
Signpost: Anne Brown	Membership Dues 23,682.00
Ways and Means: Deb Lebow Co-Chair OPEN	Rental Income, net 60,000.00
Art: OPEN	Signpost Income 2,375.00
Children's: Nayat Doherty Beth Ege	Social Fundraisers, net 2,000.00
Home & Garden: Andrea Webb	Ways & Means, net 17,000.00
International Affairs: Jenny Ciappa-Ng	Total Income 131,081.00
Literature: Karen Feenaghty	Expense
Music: Jill Simmons	Committee Expenses 450.00
CCC: OPEN (2) delegates	Community Service Donations 6,000.00
	Department Expenses 900.00
	Grounds 3,720.00
	House 11,615.00
	Insurance 32,232.00
	Office Expenses 3,300.00
	Professional Fees 3,272.00
	Salaries 40,404.00
	Signpost expenses 1,715.00
	Telephone 1,800.00
	Utilities 25,273.00
	Yearbook Expenses 400.00
	Total Expense 131,081.00
	Net Ordinary Income 0.00
	Net Income 0.00



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. The exhibit is free and open to the public.



Save the Dates in April!

The Drama Department Monthly Meeting and Open House

Tuesday, April 1st

11:30 AM Luncheon, 1:00 PM Program

“Motherhood and Other Desperate Acts”

Deb Glancy will perform her very funny show about the trials and tribulations of motherhood. The show is free to members and \$10 for non-members. Watch for additional details in the March Club mailing.

Henry Chapman Night

Friday, April 4th

7:30 PM

Susan Griffith, Club Historian, and Sally Meyer, Town Historian, will display newly uncovered historical photos and plans of the Women's Club. Join us for an intriguing discussion on the role the men of the town played, following Henry Chapman's lead, in providing our building, its décor, and its furnishings. Susan and Sally will reveal many interesting tidbits about men's activities at the Women's Club!

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March 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1
2	3 7:30 PM Girls' Club Meeting	4 1:00 PM Monthly Meeting & Literature Department Open House <i>Signpost</i> deadline for Apr	5	6	7	8
9	10 7:00 PM Finance Committee Meeting	11	12	13 9:30 AM Time for Tots 	14	15 6:30 PM Progressive Dinner 
16	17	18 9:00 AM Board of Trustees Meeting	19	20	21 Club Closed for Good Friday	22
23 Easter	24 7:30 PM Officers & Advisors Meeting - Girls' Club	25 10:00 AM Literary Ladies	26 8:00 PM An Evening with Nancy Herkness	27	28	29
30 4:00 PM Favorite Doll Tea 	31					

Girls' Club Meeting	7:30 PM	Monday, March 3
Monthly Meeting and Literature Dept. Open House	1:00 PM	Tuesday, March 4
Deadline for April issue of <i>Signpost</i>		Tuesday, March 4
Finance Committee Meeting	7:00 PM	Monday, March 10
"Time for Tots"	9:30-11:00 AM	Thursday, March 13
Progressive Dinner	6:30 PM	Saturday, March 15
Board of Trustees Meeting	9:00 AM	Tuesday, March 18
Club Closed - Good Friday		Friday, March 21
Officers & Advisors Meeting - Girls' Club	7:30 PM	Monday, March 24
Literary Ladies: <i>People of the Book</i> , Geraldine Brooks	10:00 AM	Tuesday, March 25
An Evening with Nancy Herkness, Book signing	8:00 PM	Wednesday, March 26
Favorite Doll Tea	4:00 - 5:00 PM	Sunday, March 30

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