

SIGNPOST

Newsletter of the Women's Club of Glen Ridge

December 2010/January 2011

Volume 52 Number 2

SWINGTIME

Classics from the Golden Age of American Songwriting

**Tuesday, December 7th
Luncheon at Noon
Program begins at 1:00PM**



Call some friends, plan to take an hour or two for yourself before the real holiday rush begins, and join us at the Club on December 7th for our monthly program meeting. We'll start with a seasonal luncheon buffet at noon, catered by Club member Rebecca Johns. It's a great chance to catch up and relax before life gets consumed with unending to-do lists.

At one o'clock we'll be treated to the music of the 30's and 40's courtesy of pianist Larry Weiss and clarinetist Joe Licari. Many of you have already had the pleasure of hearing Larry and Joe, who perform as the duo *Swingtime*, and have entertained us at the Club in the past. Both accomplished musicians in their own right, Larry and Joe team up to entertain us with Classics from the Golden Age of American Songwriting. Enjoy the music of Cole Porter, George Gershwin, Rogers & Hart and others, punctuated by background information about the era, the songs, the composers and the musicians who first made the tunes so memorable.



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Luncheon at Noon
Program begins at 1:00PM**

The Community Service Department of the Women's Club of Glen Ridge is sponsoring the first monthly meeting of the new year. We are honored to have Linda Macht, from the board of Beads for Education, who will speak to us about the work of this amazing group founded in 1993.

BEADS mission is to enhance the status of women in the community in Africa (Kenya) and to promote environmental awareness with a goal of preserving natural resources. BEADS programs provide school scholarships for African girls, promote business development for African women and support conservation through education.

Please join us for this inspiring program.



Please join us at one or both of these events! Our day begins at 12:00 noon with a delicious lunch, prepared by Club member Rebecca Johns, followed by the day's program at 1:00PM. The luncheon cost is \$15 for members and \$20 for your guests. Non-members attending the program only will be charged \$5 at the door. No charge for members attending the program only.

Purchase your tickets online at womensclubglenridge.com or call Suzanne at (973) 748-5459 or send checks to: *Women's Club of Glen Ridge*, 219 Ridgewood Avenue, Glen Ridge, NJ 07028



President's Post

Driving through town it's been impossible not to notice what a spectacular foliage season this has been. With the balmy temperatures it truly feels like fall was late this year and now everywhere you look is a hotbed of fervent pre-winter activity. The squirrels are dashing about collecting nuts and gorging themselves on pumpkins, the sound of leaf blowers reverberate everywhere and contractors' vehicles are parked all over town. The Women's Club has been no exception.

The Club has been a flurry of activity these past couple of months. The House Committee has been hard at work. We've completed one renovation project and have nearly completed a second. The Ladies Room on the second floor has now received a much needed facelift and the Ladies Room on the first floor will be spruced up and ready to use before Winter Wonderland and the Candy Cane Ball. The blood drive sponsored by the Community Service Department contributed over 30 pints of blood to the Red Cross in an afternoon, and the Girls' Club maniCURE night raised over \$4000 for the Susan G. Komen Foundation. The October Food drive, just completed, generated over 125 bags of groceries for the Human Needs Food Pantry in Montclair. The Children's Department and Ways and Means Committee sponsored the annual Harvest Festival. There was plenty of sunshine, pony rides, pumpkin painting, food and fun for all! The International Department sponsored a screening of "A Small Act" and the first in the Music and More series featured music for viola and piano composed by three New Jersey residents.

That's in addition to all the regularly scheduled activities including Yoga, three Book Clubs and the monthly meetings. November and December are shaping up to be busy months as well; the next concert in the Music and More series, the Candy Cane Ball, the Children's Department Winter Wonderland, a gift wrapping seminar and our first ever cookie exchange. There's something for everybody on the calendar, so please, if you haven't stopped by lately, take a look at the calendar and find a reason to drop in. We'd love to see you.

Deb

Deborah Lebow, President

We are pleased to welcome the following new members:

Jennifer Cifelli

Tiffany Pratt

Katherine Underwood

Kathleen Harris

Dolores Smyth

Karen Norcross

Cathy Swett

SAVE THE DATE: The **Pushcart Players of Verona** will bring their theatrical performance, **Let Freedom Ring**, to our ballroom stage.

Sunday, January 23rd at 3:00PM

Tickets will go on sale mid-December.

Card and Stationary Sale

It's never too late!

Holiday Cards – Party Invitations –
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Call Amy Luka or contact the Women's Club at
(973) 748-5459 for information



Save the Date

Favorite Doll Tea

Sunday, March 20th, 2011



The Children's and Community Service Departments are pleased to announce



Winter Wonderland and Toys for Tots Drive

Saturday, December 4th from 11:00 AM – 2:00PM. Bring your wish list for Santa who will also be ready for photos taken by an on-site photographer. Your little ones can jump in the bouncy house and the bigger ones can whoosh down the sledding hill. Decorating a delicious gingerbread boy or girl cookie will satisfy their sweet tooth, and they can make (and wrap!) adorable holiday crafts to take home. There will be a *Toys for Tots* collection box if you wish to bring a new, unwrapped toy to donate. SCRIP cards will also be available for purchase to donate to the Tomorrows Children's Fund at the Hackensack University Medical Center. Join us for what is always a very festive afternoon! Members: \$12 per individual, \$30 max per family. Non-members: \$15 per individual, \$35 max per family. Children two and under attend free. Lunch items will be available at an additional cost. As always, you can make your advance ticket purchase on our website.

Time for Tots continues to bring moms, dads and caregivers together in a fun playgroup setting, especially as the weather becomes less hospitable. The group gathers **every other Thursday from 9:30 to 11:00 AM** in the Club's basement. Toys are on-hand for different ages, and tea and coffee are provided. It's a great morning out of the house, and a nice way to meet your fellow neighbors and Club members. Members attend for free and non-members are asked to make a \$5 donation to our coffee fund. We'd love to see you there!

The Babysitting Pool is returning! An email notice will be sent out shortly containing more details and contact information if you'd like to receive the list of babysitters, or include your child's name and information. Please be on the lookout for it. Happy Holidays!

Music and More 2010-1011 Concert Series

Children's Concert

Sunday, December 5th

5PM in the Georgian Room



Artistic Director and Glen Ridge resident Brett Deubner, brings back to Music and More his wonderful friends from the Grammy award-winning New Jersey Symphony in a delightful children's concert.

Together we will explore the unique sounds of the string instrument family through interactive demonstrations followed by performances from the classics.

SPECIAL: \$10 General Admission – Bring the whole family for this musical start to the Holidays!

Please mark your calendars for a special musical afternoon.

At the Monthly Luncheon at noon on Tuesday, **February 1, 2011**, the Music Committee is excited to present **Kathleen Kelly**, who will be performing her solo show "*Broadway through the Decades*". Please be sure to join us for this special event.



Club Events & Catering for all of your special occasions!

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Home & Garden Department News



The Cookie Exchange (and something sweet for Toni's Kitchen)

December 15th, 7:30-9:30

Mary Chandler Room and Library

Calling all Martha Stewart wannabes. Would you love to create a holiday spread with an endless variety of yummy holiday cookies? And yet, does the idea of actually baking and decorating all these goodies give you the blues?

The Home & Garden Committee has the answer: The Cookie Exchange! Here's what you can do to "get the look for less" (less dishes that is!):

Bring as many dozens of your best holiday cookie recipe as you like. We will provide trays to display all the goodies. Next, swap your cookies with other member's treats. Refill your tin with the same amount of cookies that you brought. Don't forget to bring a few extra for your friends at the Exchange too! Cookies along with hot chocolate and mulled cider will be served to spread some holiday cheer.

In the spirit of the season, members are also asked to donate an extra dozen cookies to Toni's Kitchen so we can help spread a little sweetness to those in need. Girls' Club Members and member's guests are welcome to participate as well.

Get all your baking done in plenty of time for the holidays and have a wide variety of new favorites to nibble with friends and family. Santa will thank you!

The fine print: take home containers and recipes appreciated but not required. This event is free to members and their guests.

Girls' Club Corner

This fall has been both extremely busy and rewarding for the Girls' Club. We were extremely excited to welcome both returning and new members at our first general membership meeting in September. This year's incoming freshman class has been the largest this Club has seen.

The girls couldn't wait to start our biggest fall event, maniCURE night. This year it was even closer to the girls hearts because the money would be dedicated to the Susan G. Komen Foundation in honor of our beloved teacher Ms. Caroline Bassillo. Ms. Bassillo lost her battle to breast cancer earlier this year. This year the Club's goal was to raise \$2,000. Thanks to the hard work of the Club's members and the support of the community we more than doubled our goal and wrote a check for \$4,100!

With the winter season approaching, the Club is getting ready for our annual Candy Cane Ball, which will be held on Saturday, December 11th. This year the theme will be the Nutcracker. Also this holiday season the Girls' Club is doing Operation Christmas Child. For this charity, Club members fill shoeboxes with anything from toys to tooth brushes, wrap them up and send them to less fortunate children all over the world.

Our annual Fashion Show is still months away but the Club is already eager to start planning for the event. Keep an eye out for more information on our show which be held on Tuesday, March 29, 2011. *Submitted by Emily Wright*

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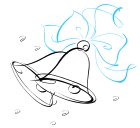
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Weekends at the Club



I bet every one of us at some point has driven by the Clubhouse on a Saturday afternoon and saw the stretch limos, gentlemen in tuxedo's and flowing gowns on the ladies. The Clubhouse is host to over 40 wedding or bar/bat mitzvah celebrations each year. We rent our Clubhouse out on weekends for these events in order to help defray the cost of maintaining our building and to keep our membership dues affordable. Last year we took in \$89,000 in rental income to help offset our total costs of \$206,000. Over the years we have been able to take advantage of the power of the Internet to help promote and advertise our rental business to people across the New Jersey and New York region. Today at least half of all our website visits are from prospective brides or mothers of bar/bat mitzvah celebrants. We have many pages on our website dedicated to this audience and all can be found under the button *Rental Information* on our Home page. Take a look and you will see hundreds of pictures of past events showing how the Clubhouse was decorated for these joyous occasions. There is even the ability to take a Virtual Tour of the entire building. Thanks to our Office Manager, Suzanne and her friendly and welcoming demeanor and our Head Custodian Linda's willingness to work so many weekends, plus the constant attention of the House and Grounds Committees, our rental business is booming. But at the end of the day we don't view these events as just financial transactions, but rather we consider it a privilege and honor to be part of creating such important and memorable events in people lives.

And remember, all members in good standing receive a 10% discount off of our rental rates for your special occasions.

By Marge Kallies

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December 2010

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1 9:30AM Yoga 8:00PM Classics Book Club	2 9:30AM Time for Tots	3	4 11:00AM Children's Holiday Party
5 5:00PM Children's Concert	6	7 12:00PM Monthly Meeting Holiday Music	8 9:30AM Yoga	9	10	11 8:00PM Candy Cane Ball
12	13 7:30PM Girls' Club General Meeting	14 9:00AM Finance Meeting 10:00AM Literary Ladies II	15 9:30AM Yoga 7:30PM Holiday Cookie Exchange	16 9:30AM Time for Tots	17	18
19	20	21	22 9:30AM Yoga	23	24 Club Closed	25
26	27 Club Closed	28 Club Closed	29 Club Closed	30 Club Closed	31 Club Closed	

Date	Time	Event
1	8:00PM	Classics Book Club – <u>Heart of Darkness</u> by Joseph Conrad
4	11:00AM	Children's Holiday Party
5	5:00PM	Music & More Children's Concert
7	12:00PM	Monthly Meeting – Swingtime
11	8:00PM	Candy Cane Ball – Girls' Club
13	7:30PM	Girls' Club General Meeting
14	9:00AM	Finance Committee Meeting
14	10:00AM	Literary Ladies II – <u>The Finkler Question</u> by Howard Jacobson
15	7:30PM	Home & Garden Dept Holiday Cookie Exchange
		Club Closed Dec. 24-Jan. 3 - Holidays

Special Classes

Wednesdays 9:30-10:45AM

Yoga

Thursdays 9:30-11:00AM

Time for Tots



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