Newsletter

A member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs

March 2024

Image by Anna from Pixabay

From our Co-Presidents

This is the time of year when we begin to hope that the worst of winter is almost behind us. Some pattiesseking buds have already begun to bravely poke through what is left of our snow, signaling that spring is on its way. It's a perfect time to think about gathering together. Check out the list of Friday afternoon speakers, or, for those looking to bigger changes, check out the evening of job seeking insights. Join the Performing Arts Day on March 14th, get your Arts Achievement entries ready for the April 3rd event at our sister club in Upper Montclair, and mark your calendars for our end of year spring tea fundraiser on May 11th!

Carol Schatz and Melissa Feinberg
MWC Co-Presidents

Mark Your Calendars and JOIN US

As a reminder, **please RSVP at the included links for our MWC programs**. All programs are free for MWC members, unless indicated otherwise. For non-members, we recommend a $10 donation.

Tuesday, March 5 at 7:00pm
Capitalizing on Job Opportunities at Any Age
Join us as we co-sponsor this dynamic and fun evening event with **LWIN**, a women's networking organization. If you are looking for a job online without much luck, or just want to keep your options open for the future, this session is for you. It will provide useful advice on how to uncover job opportunities at any age from top-notch speakers, plus networking opportunities. Topics covered will include how to refresh online profiles, constructive networking, and how the LinkedIn algorithm works. All designed to provide valuable inside track info to accelerate the search. **Open to All!** Sign up in advance at this link. Tickets are $20, with promo code MWC, tickets are $15.

RSVP HERE.

Friday, March 8 at 1:30
Montclair Author Suzanne Moyers on Writing, Family Research and Her Book, *Til All These Things Be Done*
Join us for a book talk afternoon with local author Suzanne Moyers. Her novel started with Suzanne's drive to learn more about a mysterious chapter of her family history. The pursuit led to her beautifully researched and page-turning novel, set mostly in Texas in the early 1960's.

RSVP HERE.

Thursday March 14th at 11am (registration at 10:45am)
Liberty District Performing Arts Day at MWC.
Come see performers from across the Liberty District in the always fun Performing Arts Day festival which celebrates the performing arts achievements of NJSFW members across our Liberty District, held at our own club house! Join in the fun! $6 fee at the door fee at the door. Bring a bag lunch. Deserts will be provided.

Friday, March 22 at 1:30
Wendy Jones on The Life of Ida B. Wells (1862-1931), a talk for Women's History Month
Wendy Jones –an avid history lover since the age of 12–author of *An Extraordinary Life: Josephine E. Jones*, and president of Ida Bell Publishing, will talk about Ida B. Wells, the well-known African American anti-lynching crusader, investigative journalist, newspaper owner, and suffragette. In 1910, Wells also established the Negro Fellowship League in Chicago to provide lodging, a library, and employment information for young African American men from the South, who were barred from those services at the YMCA.

RSVP HERE.

Wednesday April 3rd at the Upper Montclair Women's Club
CALLING ALL ARTISTS!
LIBERTY DISTRICT ARTS ACHIEVEMENT DAY!
See a note in the NJ Federation Section of this newsletter from coordinator Janet Oscar about how to submit your entries for consideration! Reach out to Janet directly with any questions on submission categories or process.

Friday, April 5 at 1:30
Costuming Mosaic: the Costumes of the Mosaic Theater
Go behind the scenes and into the costume shop of Mosaic Dance Theater Company. Accompanied by a rack of memorable costumes and costume pieces, Morgiana Celeste Vainicchio and Bob Greenwald share construction how-tos, successes and challenges, with a slide show of photos and video clips. Mosaic Dance Theater Company is dedicated to the dance and folklore of the Middle East, North Africa, and Southern Europe. Celebrating the Mediterranean's rich diversity of cultures, the award-winning company is known for its artistry and cultural integrity in creating its critically acclaimed repertory.

RSVP HERE.

SPECIAL EVENT! Mark your calendars and buy tickets now!

Saturday, May 11 at 11:00-1:00pm
A Lovely Spring Tea Luncheon Fundraiser to End the Year!
Invitation/sneak peek flier here!
Tea Time Goes By is a New Jersey chapter of the **Questers**, a group dedicated to historic preservation and restoration. They contacted us about hosting a joint fundraiser to raise money for ongoing restoration projects. Last year, they hosted a similar tea to benefit another group and it was very successful. **We will make it our end-of-the-year event and, on the Saturday before Mother's Day, enjoy lovely tables piled high with scones, tea sandwiches, and sumptuous desserts.** Tickets will be $60. Please count on coming!! Reserve your tickets now! www.eventbrite.com.

SPEAK UP: Which statewide project should our club endorse?

Every two years, our statewide federations choose a state project with a partner agency that member clubs, such as ours, can work to support and a state committee has research and nominated 3 potential projects to be voted on by member clubs. Our board can submit one vote on behalf of our membership. We want to hear from YOU! ***Which of the three very worthy organizations should our chapter endorse for our club vote on the NJ State Federation of Women's Club State-wide Project?***

1. Please read about each of the three organizations in this summary provided by the NJSFWC state project committee.

2. Give our board your input by completing our survey here.

The survey results, along with discussion/input shared at our club meetings, will inform the MWC board endorsement to be voted on at our March board meeting. You are also welcome to reach out to any board member to share your input as well. Thanks in advance for your input!

Member Spotlight: Shari Fox

Hi Everyone!
This month, we're highlighting new member Shari Fox, who joined the women's club last year. Shari moved to Montclair with her husband, Alan, 29 years ago and is proud that their two children both say they wouldn't have wanted to grow up anywhere else!

Shari is a graduate of the University of Pennsylvania and Cornell Law School. She practiced corporate law in NYC for 13 years before becoming an active volunteer in the Montclair schools, where she served as a PTA Board member, a School Action Team President and Writer's Workshop coach at Watchung School. She has also served as a member of the Buzz Aldrin Middle School PTA and the Montclair PTA Council.

Shari has also worked as a member of the grants review team for Impact100Essex, a women founded and funded giving circle that supports local nonprofits addressing the needs of historically underrepresented communities in Essex County. Also, for the past 6 years Shari has served as a Trustee of the Montclair Scholarship Fund, a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that awards scholarships to college-bound Montclair High School seniors with financial need. Both worthy organizations can always benefit from additional support from the Montclair community, so feel free to ask Shari if you are interested in learning more. She can be reached at 20ss20@mail.com.

Membership Corner

Welcome to our newest MWC members **Marla Woodley, Betsy Nagle,** and **Robin Woods**. Be sure to look for Marla and introduce yourself to them with a warm MWC welcome!

Happy birthday to **Felice Ceilkopf** (March 13), **Marilyn Graham** (March 16), **Susan Heilman** (March 11), **Joy Mielnicki** (March 8), and **Patricia Perrotti** (March 8)!

Know someone who could use some MWC cheer? Drop a note to our new corresponding secretary Susan Heilman at sqheilman@verizon.net.

Know someone who would benefit from the supportive community that MWC offers? Please forward this email and invite them to an upcoming program as your guest! All are welcome (and yes that means guys too!)

Supporting our Community: Join the Montclair Community-Wide Read!

From February through May 2024, we encourage MWC members to join in the community-wide exploration of stories, heritage, and belonging by reading The Best We Can Do: An Illustrated Memoir by Thi Bui. Interested in helping host a discussion at our clubhouse? Contact Lois Whipple at lwhipple@verizon.net.
For a listing of more than 40 related events around town, check out the Montclair Public Library site here.

News from the NJ State Federation of Women's Clubs

From the Arts Achievement Day chair, Janet Oscar:

Achievement Day will be held at the Women's Club of Upper Montclair on April 3. Club members may enter a variety of categories. They will compete with members of all Liberty District Clubs. The Gold ribbon winners will go to the NJSFWC Convention in May to compete with all state clubs.

All entries must be sent to the District Chairman, listed on the bottom of the form, by March 21st. All entries must be delivered to the WCUM on April 3, between 9-11 am.

We look forward to many entries this year from our talented members.

Please contact me for the entry forms or with any questions at (862)215-0317 or by email at janetoscar@verizon.net.

MWC is a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs (GFWC) and the NJ State Federation of Women's Club (NJSFWC). For a full listing of the Federation dates for the year, so you can mark them on your calendar, click here.

All district and state activities are open to any MWC member who wishes to attend and consist of several district meetings across the year as well as participation in the MLK Day of Service, Fall and Spring State Conventions, and the various Arts Achievement Days. A great way to network and explore what other clubs in the state are doing!

For more info on what the Federation is up to across the state and how you can get involved, access the Almanac and other materials at the links below:
NJ State Federation of Women's Clubs Monthly Almanac and Newsletter
General Federation of Women's Clubs

Montclair Women's Club
90 Union Street, Montclair NJ 07042
MWC is a dedicated to helping members achieve their full potential through extra engagement and service to the community. For info on membership, programs, and club house rentals, visit www.montclairwomensclub.com

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