

Fourth & Howard Streets
Post Office Box 49
Riverton, New Jersey 08077



The Porch Club of Riverton

The Garden District

Oct.-Nov. 2024

Inside the Porch Door

Dates and meetings are subject to change. Please visit our website for updates.

October

Tues., Oct. 1, 12:30pm

Opening Luncheon/
General Meeting

Wed., Oct. 2, 9:30am

Tai Chi Class

Mon., Oct. 7, 10:00am

Stitchery

Wed., Oct. 9, 9:30am

Tai Chi Class

Wed., Oct. 9, 7:00pm

Book Club Evening Meeting

Thurs., Oct. 10, 9:00am

Trip to Hindu Temple
in Robbinsville

Mon., Oct. 14, 10:00am

Stitchery

Wed., Oct. 16, 9:30am

Tai Chi Class

Wed., Oct. 16, 11:30am

Civic Engagement Meeting

Thurs., Oct. 17, 7:30pm

Environmental Commission
Meeting

Mon., Oct. 21, 10:00am

Stitchery

Mon., Tues., Wed.,

Oct. 21, 22, 23, 11:00am-1:00pm

Closet Clean Out Drop Off

Mon., Oct. 21, 11:30am

Daytime Book Club (offsite)

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Hello ladies of the Porch Club,

Welcome back to Porch Club after a beautiful but very hot summer.

I am so proud of all our Department Chairs and volunteer members and Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs that have worked over the summer to bring you all a very exciting year ahead.

Thank you for all of your hard work this summer creating exciting fundraisers and programs for us to share.

Tai Chi, Dance with Joe Demarco, workshops, and speakers at general meetings, Shopping Spree, evening entertainment with Billy Terrell a renowned entertainer and comedian, Meet the Authors evening, green sale preorders, workshops and sale, not to mention Civic Engagements work over the summer to provide backpacks for children in need, monthly contributions to many communities, closet cleanout, and rummage sale. And of course, our Garden Tour fundraiser coming up. These are all very important fundraisers for the Porch Club.

These are only a few examples of the time and work that has to be coordinated with all Departments and Committees and the executive board then all added to our Porch Club yearly calendar before the September meeting. Thank you all!

Please check your PC calendars and read the e-blasts to keep up-dated on all of our wonderful events.

*My Best Wishes,
Beth Kowalchick*

Get a Jump on Your Holiday Shopping

The Porch Club of Riverton's Annual (mostly) Holiday Shopping Spree will take place on Monday, November 11, from 6:00-9:00pm.

Vendors will be selling various one-of-a-kind items from jewelry to jams. Food and goodies will also be available.

Hope you will come out and support the club.

The Porch Club of Riverton

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Sailing on the North Wind Schooner

The Porch Club and friends enjoyed a lovely sail on the Delaware River on June 9, 2024. The adventure was aboard the North Wind Schooner, a tri-masted tall ship operated by Gloucester City Sail, a volunteer-led non-profit organization with a mission to give area youth the opportunity to do science, learn history, and work on the schooner. To pay for the youth programs, the North Wind offers 2-hour sails on the Delaware River providing closeups of the Walt Whitman or Ben Franklin Bridges, the battleship New Jersey, and a unique view of the Camden and Philadelphia waterfronts. Thirty "sailors" enjoyed light refreshments and a warm breeze while the captain and first mate entertained their guests with seafaring stories and an overview of the ecology of the river.



Left: All aboard the schooner North Wind.

Right: Under sail on a beautiful day on the Delaware River.



Calendar

Continued from Page 1

Mon., Tues., Wed., Oct. 21,22,23, 5:00pm-7:00pm

Closet Clean Out Drop Off

Thurs., Oct. 24, 10:00am

Closet Clean Out Pick Up

Fri., Oct. 25, 10:30am

Pumpkin Painting

Mon., Oct. 28, 10:00am

Stitchery

Mon., Oct. 28, 7:00pm

Growing Up in Riverton

Tues., Oct. 29, 10:00am

Executive Board Meeting

November

Mon., Nov. 4, 10:00am

Stitchery

Mon., Nov. 4, 11:30am

Hospitality Set-up

Tues., Nov. 5, 12:30pm

General Meeting

Wed., Nov. 6, 9:30am

Tai Chi Class

Thurs., Nov. 7, 10:00am

Dance with Joe DeMarco

Mon., Nov. 11, 10:00am

Stitchery

Mon., Nov. 11, 7:00pm

Holiday Shopping Spree

Wed., Nov. 13, 9:30am

Tai Chi Class

Wed., Nov. 13, 7:00pm

Evening Book Club Meeting

Thurs., Nov 14, 9:00am

Trip to Michener Art Museum

Thurs., Nov. 14, 10:00am

Dance with Joe DeMarco

Thurs., Nov. 14, 7:30pm

Environmental Commission Meeting

Fri., Nov. 15, 7:00pm

Billy Terrell Music Program

Mon., Nov. 18, 10:00am

Stitchery

Mon., Nov. 18, 11:30am

Daytime Book Club

Wed., Nov. 20, 9:30am

Tai Chi Class

Wed., Nov. 20, 11:30am

Civic Engagement Meeting

Thurs., Nov. 21, 10:00am

Dance with Joe DeMarco

Mon., Nov. 25, 10:00am

Stitchery

Tues., Nov. 26, 10:00am

Executive Board Meeting

Tues., Nov. 26, 1:00pm

Decorating Clubhouse for the Holidays

Wed., Nov. 27, 9:30am

Tai Chi Class

Membership

JoAnn DiNoia, Chair,
jaydinoia2@gmail.com

Our Membership department is starting the year off welcoming four new Members. Please meet MaryAnn Powers, Carole McGonigal, Donna Nowak, and Elaine Faunce. All seemed very excited to get involved with the projects, and charitable work of our club. They all bring many talents and accolades to our club. We are looking forward to welcoming them all. We also had several guests who joined us for the first time hoping to become potential members as well. Also if anyone has a friend that they would like to invite please reach out to me so I can include them on our guest list for an upcoming meeting.

Civic Engagement and Outreach

Betty Dunn, ejcarrolldunn@gmail.com

Tica Simpson, tica_s@hotmail.com

Karen Sulock, kmjsulock@gmail.com

After a hot but relaxing summer, it's time to say hello to old friends and greet new ones. Civic Engagement has been busy this summer. On June 9, we opened the clubhouse to support the Criterium Bike Race. We provided water, snacks, restrooms, and air-conditioned comfort to riders and spectators alike. Thanks to the volunteers and to Wendy Sitzler who made signs for us.

Forty-eight backpacks went to our Special State Project 2024-2026 - New Jersey Children's Alliance - over the summer. Every two years when the State President changes, a new special charity is chosen for her term. The project was done by the Chairmen of the Civic Engagement Department of the Porch Club as part of their continuing outreach to our communities in need.

We will be collecting hats and mittens for children (toddlers to teens) at October's general meeting. If you don't have time to shop, don't worry, we'll also collect them at November's meeting.

Check your closets for clothing, shoes and any other small articles you no longer use. The Great Closet Cleanout is scheduled for October 21, 22, and 23. We will need volunteers to help on all three days, so sign up if you can. Call your family, friends, and neighbors for donations. The funds earned from this event will be used for several charity events scheduled for this year and next.

At November's general meeting, collecting donations for the Bread of Life Food Pantry's Thanksgiving drive will be our priority. The Bread of Life Food Pantry is requesting money be donated instead of groceries for their Thanksgiving food drive this year. It will be used to give clients gift cards they can use to purchase the groceries they need. Donations will be collected at the November general meeting. Checks should be made out to The Porch Club.

Thank you to everyone for your generous donations to our charities.



Sitting, Karen Sulock, Betty Dunn, and Tica Simpson in the mirror with the 48 backpacks for the state project.



Domenica Foster, Betty Dunn, Tica Simpson and Kay Kling opening our club to the racers and spectators at the Historic Riverton Criterium this summer.



Betty Dunn, Tica Simpson, and Diane Calesnick with some of the treats served for the Criterium.



The Porch Club Great Closet Clean-out! October 21, 22, 23

A Fundraising Drive
that turns your
Discards into Dollars!

Here's How it Works

- We're collecting your used clothing, linens, housewares (*see below*)
- The more bags of stuff we collect, the more money we make.
- Items should be in plastic bags or cardboard boxes.

Drop off dates/times:

11am-1pm and 5pm-7pm on October 21

11am-1pm and 5pm-7pm on October 22

11am-1pm and 5pm-7pm on October 23

We ARE accepting...

- CLOTHING and SHOES all sizes and styles, including men's and children's and all types: sandals, boots, shoes, sneaks.
- ACCESSORIES purses, handbags, totes, school backpacks, wallets, belts hats, gloves, scarves.
- HOUSEHOLD ITEMS blankets, quilts, comforters, bedspreads, sheets, towels, linens, shower and window curtains, drapes, tablecloths and pillows.
- TOYS: stuffed animals, dolls, games, and hard toys smaller than 24"X24"X24"
- HOUSEWARES kitchen, office, garage, decorative, holiday items 24" or smaller.

We ARE NOT accepting...

- FURNITURE
- ELECTRONICS OR APPLIANCES
- WET, MILDEWED OR SMOKE DAMAGED ITEMS
- BOOKS
- RECORDS

***Get Ready,
Get Set,
Go purge your Closets!***

Spread the word to friends, family
and neighbors! Questions?
Contact Betty: 856-266-8394.

www.theporchclub.org
4th & Howard Sts., Riverton NJ

Stitchery Committee

Lorraine Domask, LMDomask@comcast.net

Judy Zapisek, craftylady502@aol.com

We have some exciting ideas for the coming year! We have chosen a charity called "Newborns in Need" to support this year. We will be making baby blankets for this organization to include in their gift bags to new mothers who may not have the necessary items to start raising a new baby. Any kind of baby items will be gratefully accepted, knitted, crocheted, etc.

If you are unable to attend meetings and would like to contribute a baby blanket, someone from the Stitchery Committee will be glad to pick it up or you can bring it to any meeting at the Porch Club. If anyone is interested in donating to Newborns in Need, they also accept new or gently used baby clothes sizes 0-6 months. Please feel free to contact Lorraine or Judy and we

will gladly pick up any donations.

With this in mind, our second exciting announcement is that beginning in October we will have a workshop on the first Monday of each month. Our first workshop will be Monday, October 7. The topic will be quilting. Throughout the month, we will be learning how to make quilt blocks that can be assembled into baby blankets. Once again, these new techniques may be used to make baby blankets if you so desire.

Each month we will cover a different type of stitching, e.g. knitting, crocheting, embroidery, needlepoint, etc. as well as any other types you would like to learn. There are many talented women in our group who are available to teach and guide you.

If you are not interested in the topic

of the month, please feel free to come to the Monday meetings and work on any project you desire.

We would also like to know if anyone is interested in making items for the Holiday Shopping Spree held in early November. As it is already late in the year, we would be starting projects in January 2025 for next year's Spree. If you are interested in working on this project, we would like to hear your ideas on what you would like to make or we could make as a group.

This promises to be an exciting year with a great opportunity for our Stitchery members to learn new things and support many in need as well as enjoying our time together.

Happy Stitching.

Arts Performing - Music/Drama

Mary Louise Bianco-Smith, mlgbs3@gmail.com

Charlene Thellmann, charleneactor@comcast.net

Maryann Taft, thetaftfamily@msn.com



Billy Terrell at the piano will appear at the club on Friday, November 15.

The Porch Club Arts Performing department is thrilled to present the one man show by music producer, comedian, author, and US Veteran Billy Terrell "Been There, Still There".

This special evening takes place on Friday, November 15 at 7:00pm. Having produced over 2,000 songs throughout his illustrious career, Billy reminisces about working with icons like Frankie Avalon, Joe Piscopo, Bobby Rydell, Maria Maldaur, Tony Orlando, Paul Schaffer, Helen Reddy, and also being coined "the father of Disco". He'll also tickle the ivories with a few of his songs.

Billy's book "The Other Side of Rock and War" tells about his time served in Viet Nam and how he and his troop saved an orphanage. Proceeds for this event will benefit Billy's Milk and Diaper Fund for the Mang Lang Orphanage in Viet Nam.

Tickets are \$20 in advance and can be purchased at the October and November teas or on the Porch Club website. Tickets will be \$25 at the door. Light refreshments will be served.

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 15TH

BILLY TERRELL BEEN THERE, STILL THERE!



Legendary Songwriter/Producer Billy Terrell performs a mix of music, comedy, stories and anecdotes from his amazing 5 plus decades in the music business. The special evening will include vintage photos and classic video clips from his storied career.

Don't miss this one-night-only event!

"A Triumph" - Paul Shaffer

"One of the most in demand musical cats in the industry" - Joe Piscopo

"There are probably few people in America today who can bring more experience to a one man show than Billy Terrell"
- Ron Sullivan-Bridgeport News

SHOW: 7:00PM

THE PORCH CLUB OF RIVERTON + 213 HOWARD STREET RIVERTON, NJ
WWW.THEPORCHCLUB.ORG
TICKETS IN ADVANCE \$20 - \$25 AT THE DOOR

Arts and Culture

Donna VanHoy, artdvh@gmail.com

Carol Hoinsky, cihhun@aol.com

The Arts and Culture Department held a fun event called Flower Hammering. It involved hammering pansies and leaves on a piece of paper, then, just like magic, the image transferred onto the paper. The ladies were enthusiastic, quick learners, and were quite happy with their results.

Next time we will be passing out earplugs! With all that hammering, it did get a bit loud. We will be offering this event again in the spring when the pansies are back.

On Thursday, October 10, we will be carpooling to the spectacular Swaminarayan Akshardham Hindu Temple in Robbinsville, NJ, which is 37 miles north of Riverton. This event

requires a good amount of walking. Please look it up to get an idea of what to expect. Words can't possibly describe this landmark of Hindu architecture and culture. This is the largest Hindu temple in the world outside of India. It will be like a trip to India. We will have more information and a signup sheet at the October 1 General Meeting.



Bernadette Pantano, Carol Hoinsky, Karen Sulock, and Carol McGonigal hammering away!



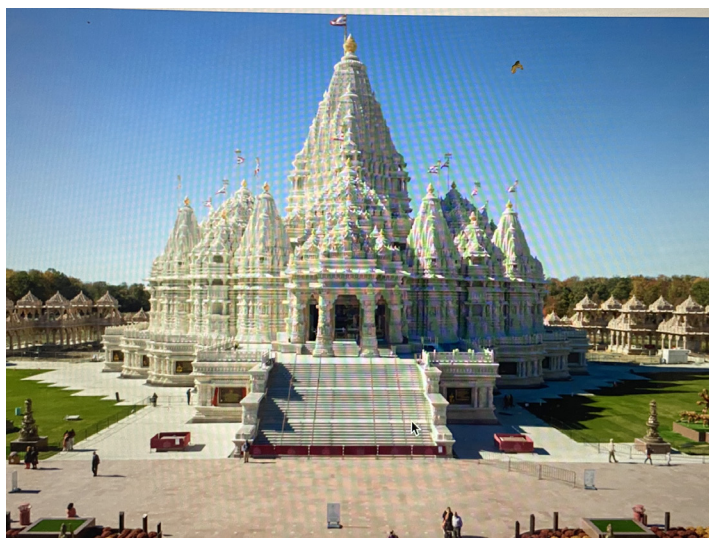
Karen Sulock, Donna VanHoy, Carol McGonigal with the finished pieces of art.



Sandy Suarez in deep concentration



One of the beautiful finished pieces of art.



We have planned a trip to the Swaminarayan Akshardham Hindu Temple in Robbinsville, NJ on October 10.

Women Moving Forward

Linda Rinaldi, clym4l@gmail.com

On May 23, the Women Moving Forward Committee sponsored a visit to, and tour of, Cairnwood, a grand Beaux Arts country house in Bryn Athyn, PA. The guided tour covered the private side of the family and its integral role in founding the Bryn Athyn community. The tour began with an orientation video in the Garden House and included three floors of the Main House, the Chapel in the tower, the Cairnwood Family Gallery, Servant's Quarters, and the Carriage House collections of horse-drawn carriages and sleighs and a 1927 Packard. We followed the visit with lunch at an Italian restaurant. It was a lovely day.

Left to Right front row: Eileen Della Penna, Lynne Hammett, Jeanie Giles, and Judy Evans

Left to Right back row: Pat Bruncker, Barbara Lucasi, Bobbie Beck, and Linda Rinaldi.



Rentals

Kay Kling

kaykling52@gmail.com

Diane Calesnick,

DCal2220@yahoo.com

Rentals Department had a great year! From July 2023-June 2024 we booked 69 rentals netting over \$28,000 for the Porch Club! We are busy scheduling rentals for 2025; May and June have the most bookings so far.

Enjoy these pictures from an Alice in Wonderland themed first birthday party! First birthdays have become a popular occasion for rentals.

We have had the same group of rental volunteers for four years and are hoping new faces will join us in this worthy endeavor. It's fun to greet the excited renters ready to set up for a family celebration. Please help us by becoming a Rental volunteer!

The Rental Department oversees renting our clubhouse to club members and the general public for private parties. Our department answers rental requests from our website, tours prospective renters through the clubhouse,



A festive table for Hazel's birthday party.

manages paperwork required for rentals, and welcomes the renter at the club the day of her event. We also inspect after rentals to ensure the club has been restored to order after the renter's oc-

cupancy. Rental income provides operating and maintenance funds for our building. Thanks for considering membership on our committee.

Garden/Environment Department

Ginny Puckett, puckettfam375@gmail.com

The Garden/Environmental department visited the historic Greek Revival Andalusia Estate on May 17, 2024. Porch Club members strolled the arboretum grounds, gardens, and paths along the Delaware River admiring the lovely vis-

tas. We then toured the historic Biddle Mansion which dates from 1790's. It has been restored and decorated to give visitors an example of what life was like at the estate during the Biddle family residency. The property is now held "in trust" and

placed on the National Register of Historic Landmarks in 1966 and opened to the public in 1980. It provides an unparalleled look into the nation's past, while offering a glimpse into the lives of the influential family that lived there.



The picturesque gardens at Andalusia Estate.



A grand entrance to the Andalusia Estate greets visitors.



The view of the Andalusia Estate from the Delaware River.

September Opening Luncheon at the Porch Club

This year's opening luncheon was held on Tuesday, September 10 at 12:30 at the Porch Club. We began the new year with a casual picnic style luncheon and get together. catching up with old friends and meeting new members.

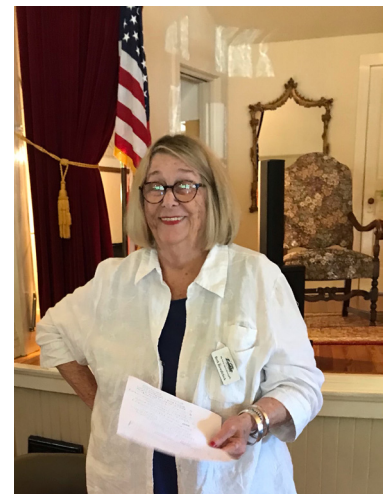
Hot dogs, baked beans, and ice tea were provided. Many members also brought sweet or savory picnic-style dishes to share and enjoy.



A beautiful table with delicious food to share.



Red checkered table cloths got us in the picnic mood.

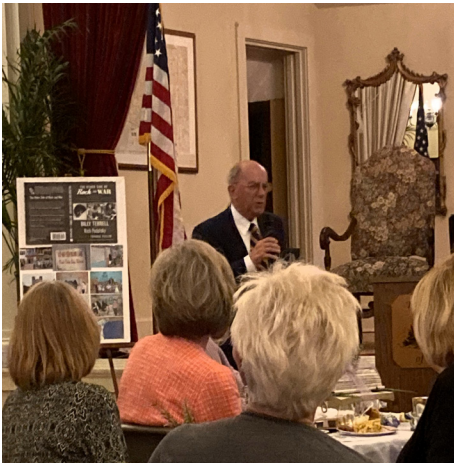


Beth greeting everyone and getting down to business.

The Book and the Author Event

The Book and Author annual event was held at The Porch Club on April 19, 2024 at 7:00pm. Authors Becky Diamond, "The Gilded Age Cookbook"; Joan Scharff, "The Muse in Ord-

nary Living"; and Billy Terrell, "The Other Side of Rock and War" shared stories with us about the books they've written, their process, and getting published.



Porch Club History Corner

Iris Gaughan, Historical Society of Riverton/ Porch Club Liaison, iggaughan@gmail.com

The Porch Club and the Historical Society of Riverton will be presenting a joint program "Growing up in Riverton : A Wright Family Portrait" on Monday, October 28 at 7:00pm at the Porch Club. Three cousins, Doris MacKenzie, Lenore Layton, and Barbara Meyer will lead a panel discussion about their fam-

ily's strong Riverton connection. Family photos will be shared through a Power Point presentation. There will be family artifacts from the HSR collection on display. All are welcome to this free evening of Riverton nostalgia.

International Outreach

Maggie Auer, maggiemsw@gmail.com, Iris Gaughan, iggaughan@gmail.com

During October the International Outreach Committee will be collecting money for UNICEF. UNICEF Trick or Treat boxes will be located at local businesses and given out to interested

Porch Club members at the October meeting. The monies collected will go to the children of the Ukraine.