



Long Valley Woman's Club

NEWSLETTER

P.O. Box 534 Long Valley, NJ 07853

December 2020

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President's Message from Dorothy Prisco

As we conclude this year and reflect upon 2020, we can all agree that there has never been another year like this one for the Long Valley Woman's Club. We met just two times this year, in January and February, and then the pandemic abruptly ended all Club and Federation activities. "Zoom" entered our lives and we were able to hold virtual meetings, but attendance was affected. The creation of our Cluster Program, warmly received, connected members via planned phone calling.

Our Club's plans for 2020 were interrupted. We had planned to focus on several areas and submit reports to the Federation, specifically for the Antique Show, Community Service, Education, and the State Project. None of that could be completed due to the pandemic, and we hope those plans can be fulfilled in 2021. Where possible, our Club continued its commitment to service. We were active with our new State Project, Operation Chillout, thanks to the generosity of our Club members and Pat Riedy's leadership. Dorothy Beckbissinger delivered our donations to organizations in need. Maryann Hult sent greeting cards to many for whom a simple card is a valued gift.

The Christmas season is always a time for our Club members to deliver holiday cheer to members of our community. The commitment to that tradition was evident this year as Club members joined together to prepare 75 holiday gift bags of cookies, ornaments, and candy canes. Thank you to Marie Bohn, Mary Fiorello, Louise Merkooff, Kathie Uber, Dorothy Beckbissinger, and Kathy Parsell for sustaining this holiday tradition in a disruptive year.

I like to remind us that "Our Club Will Survive and Thrive" and we have done that this year, carrying on with essential activities that define our Club.

Wishing you all a healthy, peaceful holiday season and the best for us in 2021.

Dorothy

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T'was 3 weeks before Christmas,
And all through the town,
People wore masks,
That covered their frown.

The frown had begun
Way back in the Spring,
Changed everything.
When a global pandemic

They called it corona,
But unlike the beer,
It didn't bring good times,
It didn't bring cheer.

Airplanes were grounded,
Travel was banned.
Borders were closed
Across air, sea and land.

As the world entered lockdown
To flatten the curve,
The economy halted,
And folks lost their nerve.

From March to July
We rode the first wave,
People stayed home,
They tried to behave.

When summer emerged
The lockdown was lifted.
But away from caution,
Many folks drifted.

Now it's December
And cases are spiking.
Wave two has arrived,
Much to our disliking.

It's true that this year
Has had sadness a plenty,
We'll never forget
The year 2020.

And just 'round the corner -
The holiday season,
But why be merry?
Is there even one reason?

To decorate the house
And put up the tree,
Who will see it,
No one but me.

But outside my window
The snow gently falls,
And I think to myself,
Let's deck the halls!

So, I gather the ribbon,
The garland and bows,
As I play those old carols,
My happiness grows.

Christmas is not cancelled
And neither is hope.
If we lean on each other,
I know we can cope.

Welcome all Long Valley Woman's Club members to our Book Club via Zoom! We have a meeting scheduled December 15th. *Please note that the meeting will be at 10am and is on a Tuesday*

Thanks to Will at the library, a link to the meeting will be sent out a day or two before the meeting. Again, if you need any help joining Zoom, Will or I will be happy to answer any questions.

Please plan to join us even if you don't care to share a book. We'd love to see festive backgrounds on Zoom, so let the Christmas spirit guide you! Also, we would enjoy hearing you read a selected paragraph or two from your book, if you would care to do so.

Mary Fiorello
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"I heard the bells on Christmas Day. Their old, familiar carols play, And wild and sweet the words repeat Of peace on earth, good-will to men!"

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These are some of the 75 ornaments Mary Fiorello made. Louise, Kathie, Dorothy Beckbissinger and I assembled the 75 bags of cookies, candy canes and ornaments. Kathy Parsell did the shopping and delivery of the cookies. These went to Little Brook Nursing home and the New Jersey Fireman's Nursing Home. Thank you, ladies!
~Marie Bohn

NJSFWC ALMANAC

The NJSFWC Almanac is published monthly. It can be found on the state federation website: <https://njsfwc.org> under the page marked "Materials". It is always informative. ~Susan Sevcik
The link to this month's almanac is: <https://njsfwc.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/11/December-2020-ALMANAC.pdf>

COMMUNITY OUTREACH

Christmas cards are being collected at this time by Mary Ann Hult. Please call her to arrange drop off.

New and gently used bras are being collected by Dorothy Beckbissinger. Also 2021 calendars for the nursing homes. Please call her to arrange delivery/pickup.

Please don't forget to donate to your local churches, firehouses, police stations with regard to winter coats, gifts for Christmas, eyeglasses, etc.
~Thank you, Dorothy Beckbissinger

Dorothy Beckbissinger would like a member to assume the chair of the Community Outreach committee. It is becoming difficult for her to continue with this job. She would stay on as a member of the committee and help and support the new chairperson(s).

ANTIQUÉ SHOW

"Due to current conditions surrounding the virus we have decided to postpone our decision on holding the February 2021 show until January 1st, 2021. This decision is based on the availability of the school and our priority to protect the safety of the dealers, the large crowds who attend the show, and club members. This has been a difficult decision for our club members after 34 years of our show taking place without interruption." ~Mary Ann Kordys

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