

The Seventh Decade
1985 – 1995

The New Clubroom

The Club's 60th Anniversary

Constitution Revision

Book and Author Luncheon's
30th Anniversary

Presidents



MRS. WILLIAM T. DENTZER, JR.
1986-1988



MRS. WILLIAM A. PLOUMIS
1988-1990



MRS. WILLIAM E. YAMAGUCHI
1990-1992



MISS BERTA J. KINZLY
1992-1994

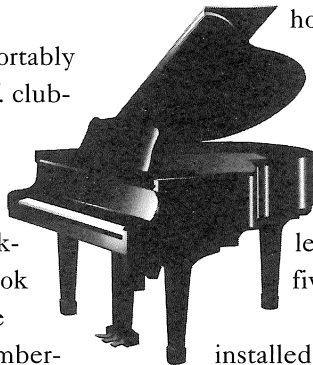


MRS. JAMES R. MCGEE
1994-1996

THE NEW CLUBROOM

The eighties, which began under the U. S. presidency of Ronald Reagan, saw the continued growth of U.S. military and economic power which led to the winning of the cold war with Communism that began after World War II. First the Berlin Wall between West and East Germany was torn down, followed by the disintegration of the Soviet Union itself.

January 1985 saw the Club comfortably ensconced and at home in the V.F.W. clubrooms on the Post Road. The room easily accommodated Executive Board meetings, Junior and Evening Department meetings, workshops, Department Days and the Book Discussion, Language and Duplicate Bridge Groups. Luncheons and membership teas were held there. Only Club Day meetings continued to be held at the Larchmont Avenue Church. There was sufficient storage space for Club scrapbooks, Yearbooks, old *Larch Trees*, presidents' notebooks, secretaries' minutes and treasurers' old ledgers. Dishes, glassware and cutlery, along with supplies for the innumerable coffee and tea breaks, were stored in two metal



cabinets moved from Orienta. Storage space had been found for the folding chairs and card tables.

The room was well furnished with sofa, chairs, coffee and end tables and had plenty of space to hang the photos of 31 Past Presidents, "straight, not crooked." There was wall space available to hang more. The Steinway piano claimed a place of honor near a fireplace.

A ramp had been constructed to aid the ability of older members to attend meetings, and the lack of soot and odors added to the pleasure of this new club room arrangement. The original two-year lease was subsequently renewed in 1986 for five more years.

In 1986 new cabinets were ordered and installed in the clubroom providing additional needed storage space. The dishwasher moved from Orienta was sold and removed. The floral oil painting by Carle J. Blenner, which had been damaged in the 1969 Chatsworth Gardens fire and restored, was returned and hung in the clubroom. The original banner for the Club was framed and displayed on the wall.

THE CLUB'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY



PAST PRESIDENT
BETTY HARDESTY

In February 1985 the Club celebrated its 60th anniversary with a gala party following the regular Club Day meeting, planned and executed by Past President Betty

Hardesty and her committee. A copy of the history book, *The First Sixty Years*, compiled by Club members Jeanne Burt, Mel Hardy, Ruth Rhoades and Ann Zulch was displayed and subsequently sent to each Club member.

In May 1985 the Larchmont Chamber of Commerce presented the Club a plaque honoring the Club for sixty years of service to the Community.

CONSTITUTION REVISION

In 1987 another project was introduced. As President Celia Dentzer wrote in her annual report: "In this, the Bicentennial Year of our nation's Constitution, we as a Club are engaged in a reexamination of our own Constitution and Bylaws. Building upon what our Founders produced 62 years ago, we hope for a document that will insure a unified, cohesive organization of women who continue to work together on common objectives, and we anticipate many more years of service to each other and to our community at large."¹

During the summer of 1987, the President met with her Constitution chairman, Gloria Chalif, and Past President, Jeanne Burt, many times to discuss changes and revisions for the Constitution and Bylaws. In the fall, a larger committee was formed to look at and discuss the suggested changes. The members of that committee were: Gloria Chalif, Chairman, Jeanne Burt, Alita Boots Crafts, Eileen Davis-Durkin, Alice DeMatte, Celia Dentzer, Betty Garrabrant, Terry Gentile, Betty Hardesty, Mel Hardy, Syrilda Helgren, Nancy Jones, Janet Martin, Annette Noe, and Phyllis Young.

The revised document was presented to Club members and voted on on Club Day, February 19, 1988. It was accepted.

Under the new document, the Club was composed of three Sections: Day, Evening and Junior. The latter two were no longer "departments" as they were originally established. All members, paying the same dues and initiation fees, were active members of the Club, although they could consider themselves members of any one of the Sections. All members of the Club, with the exception of honorary, life and nonresidents, would pay the same annual dues and initiation fees. This was a change for the Evening and Junior Sections, but meant that they were granted full

privileges of the Club including that of voting. Annual dues for those two Sections were to be increased in two stages. In 1989 all Sections would pay the same. The restructuring also permitted members to attend meetings of any Section at any time, with the exception of the Board meeting.

Other changes that were made were: the elimination of guest fees for Club Day and Department Day meetings (although guests must still be registered at the door), the discontinuing of lunch fees for Department Days, the changing of the wording "Building Fund" to "Reserve Fund" and the provision that such funds would be used "for rental fees and rental room improvements, etc." These changes were intended to reflect the need of the Club to be more open to the community and to the economic necessities we now needed to face.

The newly revised Constitution and Bylaws appeared in the 1988-89 Yearbook. Other changes in the Constitution and Bylaws occurred in 1992. The amendments approved by the membership on April 10, 1992, provided for the permitting of uncontested elections for Officers and Directors to be held by *viva voce* (voice vote) instead of by ballot and for the sealing of the ballot box, should it be used, for 30 days after elections in both Day and Evening Sections. Another amendment clarified that five members of the Nominating Committee were to be appointed from the Executive Board. In addition, all references to the Junior Section which had disbanded in 1992 were to be deleted.

MEMBERSHIP

In 1985-86 Club membership totaled 460. There were 329 Active, 20 Life, 5 Honorary, 28 Nonresident, 36 Evening and 32 Junior members. Dues

were \$25 for Actives, \$10 for Juniors and \$7 plus \$3 for Tea Table for Evening members. In 1989-90, membership was 401, 296 of whom were Actives. There were 23 Life, 3 Honorary, 30 Nonresident, 27 Evening and 23 Juniors. Dues were now \$30 with all Sections paying the same amount.

Membership continued its slow drop. By 1993-94 there were 259 Actives, 26 Life, 3 Honorary, 12 Nonresident and 27 Evening. The Junior Section disbanded in 1992. With many younger women either working or planning to work outside the home, it was difficult to attract new members and to find women available to hold office.

By 1994-95, membership totaled 326, down 134 members from the beginning of the decade. This portrayed a pattern all women's organizations were experiencing as more and more women joined the work force or dropped out to pursue other interests. Of the ten remaining Juniors, only four elected to retain their membership in The Woman's Club.

In 1993 the Finance Committee asked for an increase in the dues from \$30 to \$40 for all members. This was considered to improve the financial condition of the Club. The Bylaws were amended accordingly to indicate this change.

THE EVENING SECTION

The Evening Section celebrated its 50th Anniversary on September 18, 1989, with a covered dish supper at the V.F.W. club-room. A 50th Anniversary cake was baked by "Hank" of the One Window Bake Shop and a surprise program of color slides showing scenes of past events was presented. Albums of photos bringing events up to date were passed around.

PHILANTHROPY

The Club continued its philanthropic interests in Cora Wilson – Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center, Ruth Taylor Geriatric Institute, Grasslands Diversional Therapy (Westchester County Medical Center). In 1985-86 members wrapped 1,800 gifts and 800 bags of candy for patients at Harlem Valley. That year, receipts from the Philanthropic Bridge totaled \$5,800 and were distributed, in addition to the above agencies, to 18 other different community and county organizations.

The Evening Section contributed \$1,899.32 to eight different organizations and the Juniors distributed \$1,450 to the Community Counseling Center and the Volunteer Ambulance Corps and gave a \$1,000 scholarship to a Mamaroneck High School student. The grand total of monies distributed by the entire Club for the year was \$9,149.32.

In 1987-88 the Club raised \$7,500 at the Bridge, which was distributed to 17 organizations including the Larchmont-Mamaroneck Student Aid Fund, the

Evening Section

Fall Philanthropy Luncheon

featuring

Fashions from Diane's of Larchmont

Saturday, October 21, 1989

Sheraton Plaza Inn

**1 Sheraton Plaza
New Rochelle, NY**

Time: 12:00 noon Cocktails (cash bar)

12:45 p.m. Luncheon

Luncheon Cost: \$19.00 per person

Reservations:

**Call: Florence Huth
968-3368**

**Jeanette Connell
834-6059**

Wrap Session

Tuesday, October 10, 9:30 A.M.
V.F.W. Clubroom

Once again we appeal to all club members to help us with the Cora Wilson Project of The Woman's Club of Larchmont. On Tuesday, October 10, we will wrap gifts for the men and women still receiving care and treatment at the Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center at Wingdale, NY. Most of these people are without family or friends and will not be remembered at Christmas except through our project. Last year we contributed 759 gifts and 1421 bags of candy to the Center to help the holiday be a little happier for the residents.

A list of suggested donations accompanies this article. New merchandise preferred but slightly used in good condition is acceptable. If you do not have any of the gifts listed to contribute, how about buying one extra gift this autumn for someone less fortunate. If each member would contribute one gift, what a wonderful contribution we would make. Bring your gifts with you when you come to help us wrap or drop them off beforehand at the homes of Evie Moccia or Celia Dentzer.

Join us for the first of two wrap sessions for our Cora Wilson Project. Bring your scissors, your energy and enthusiasm and help with this very worthwhile project.

Celia Dentzer

Donations

Donations needed for those who are hospitalized at Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center.

Blouses	Scarves
Deodorants	Photo Albums
Talcum Powder	Handkerchiefs
Shampoo	Lap Robes
Perfume/Cologne	Woolen Hats/Caps
Tissues	Shawls
Lipstick	Stockings
Nail Polish	House Coats
Flannel Shirts	Slippers
Gloves	Greeting Cards
Puzzles	Birthday Cards
Soaps	Cookies
Wallets	Candies (soft & hard)
Playing Cards	Toothbrush
Change Purses	Toothpaste
Cosmetic Bags	Pajamas
Jewelry	Mittens
Tote Bags	Tee-Shirts
Handbags	Brush/Comb Sets
Socks	Belts/Suspenders
Knee Socks	Coffee (instant)
Writing Paper	Pens/Pencils

Volunteer Ambulance Corps, the Town of Mamaroneck Community Services and others. With \$2,469 from the Evening Section and \$1,400 from the Juniors, the total for the year was \$11,369.

In 1989-90 the Club diverted its direction and gave 1,250 gifts and bags of candy to the New Rochelle Guidance Center. Harlem Valley was given 1,013 gifts. The Student Aid Fund received \$1,250 and \$1,750 went to the Guidance Center from the proceeds of the Philanthropic Bridge (\$7,500). The reactivated Activators introduced a new project

by creating handcrafted items to sell, with the proceeds to be donated to a single charity. Caps for newborns were knitted, baby blankets of flannel were sewn, stuffed dolls and animals for child patients and tote bags for adult mastectomy patients were all made for Westchester County Medical Center by the sewing groups of the Day and Evening Sections.

In 1993 Harlem Valley Psychiatric Institute was closed and patients were transferred to local community facilities including the New Rochelle Huguenot Center and New Rochelle Home for

**Spring Garden Party
Annual Philanthropic Bridge
and Luncheon**

Wednesday, March 30, 1994

Oriente Beach Club

11:00 a.m.

Did you receive your invitation to the Spring Garden Party?

Have you made your reservation and sent your check?

If not, there is *still* time.

Call Nancy Alden (834-8649) or Kathy Zavell (834-4161), the ticket co-chairmen, and tell them you will be there to help support this annual philanthropic event of the Woman's Club. Or buy your ticket on Club Day on February 18. Tickets are \$25.00

Like the elegant affairs of the Victorian age, this lovely party will feature a delicious luncheon, games (of chance—the *Gilded Lily* raffle and the *Chinese Lantern* auction), entertainment (a dazzling fashion show), the opportunity to acquire some new, exquisite gems (at the *Marigold* jewelry table) and to purchase a tasty casserole or some baked goods for dinner at home (the Buttercup food table.) You don't want to miss this social event of the season, our *fête champêtre*, our garden party *par excellence*.

Please come and support the Woman's Club in this annual philanthropic effort. All proceeds, after expenses, go to the organizations in our county and community that we support. We'll look for your RSVP.

Celia Dentzer

Phyllis Young

Co-chairmen, Ways and Means

Fashion Note:

"Ladies were expected to wear bonnets...A fashionable garden party gown would be made of fine muslin or silk, in a dainty color, and if it had a delicate floral print, so much the better.

Harper's Bazaar, 1898"



**Better sportswear, dresses
& accessories for Women!**

108 Chatsworth Avenue

Larchmont, N.Y. 10538

914-834-6646

34 Purchase Street

Rye, N.Y. 10580

914-967-0402

June Lombino & Betsy Milby

Adults which aided mentally handicapped and/or frail elderly residents. The Club began an association with these facilities.

A meeting had been held in May 1991 to determine Philanthropy policy for the Club. The group decided that Club members could provide an important service assisting in the development of greater literacy in the community. Director Virginia Petree contacted the Literacy Volunteers of Westchester County and asked them to make a presentation to the Club. Eighteen interested members signed up for training, thereby committing themselves to 75 hours of volunteer teaching for the coming year. Unfortunately, however, Literacy Volunteers informed the Club that what they really needed was volunteers to teach English as a Second Language. In addition, they would be unable to provide a tutor for several months.

"Fortunately, Manhattanville College agreed to provide a tutor free of charge. The Larchmont Public Library provided space without charge for our classes. The Mamaroneck Office of Continuing Education eagerly arranged tutoring opportunities for our teachers because Literacy Volunteers refused to provide students for our groups unless they trained us." ² By 1994, the project was under the direction of Continuing Education and did not have any volunteers from the Club.

In 1992, the Philanthropic Bridge was moved from the Larchmont Avenue Church to the Orienta Beach Club. It was not the usual Annual Bridge. Instead of a sandwich lunch, dessert and coffee were served. The following year the Bridge featured a complete luncheon and in addition to the money-raising boutiques, raffle and gourmet table, a Spring Fashion Show (by June Elizabeth, Ltd., a women's clothing store in Larchmont). The format was repeated the following year, 1994, with a Spring Garden Party theme. All the Bridges continued to be popular and financially successful, providing the Club with welcome funds to distribute to community and county beneficiaries.

PROGRAM

Club Day programs were varied. Dramatic and musical programs were popular. Programs about antiques and collectibles usually brought out a good audience. History and historical figures were good drawing cards and brought a good turnout. ("The Bonapartes, Their Life, Their Love, Their Chateau," [1986], "Will the Real Washington Irving Please Stand Up?" [1987], "The American Mediterranean," [Long Island Sound, 1988]—were all interesting presentations.)

The Book and Author Luncheon celebrated its 30th anniversary in December 1987. The first luncheon held in December 1957 at the Larchmont Avenue Church under the chairmanship of Mrs. Arthur G. Michaelson attracted 175 attendees. The annual event grew in popularity until 1965 when it was first held at Orienta Beach Club. Chairman Betty Hardesty closed the reservations that year when they reached 300.

Through the years many familiar authors had addressed the Club about their writings, including Phyllis McGinley, Walter Slezak, Walter Kerr, Dorothy Rodgers, Jean Kerr, Marie Killilea,

Camelot

October 18, 1989

When: Wednesday, October 18, 1989, at 10:45 a.m. Join the Drama Department for our annual theatre and luncheon party. Enjoy the timeless legend of "Camelot," a delightful song and dance tale of love, mischief and excitement set to the musical masterpieces of Lerner and Loewe.

Where: An Evening Dinner Theatre, 11 Clearbrook Road, Elmsford.

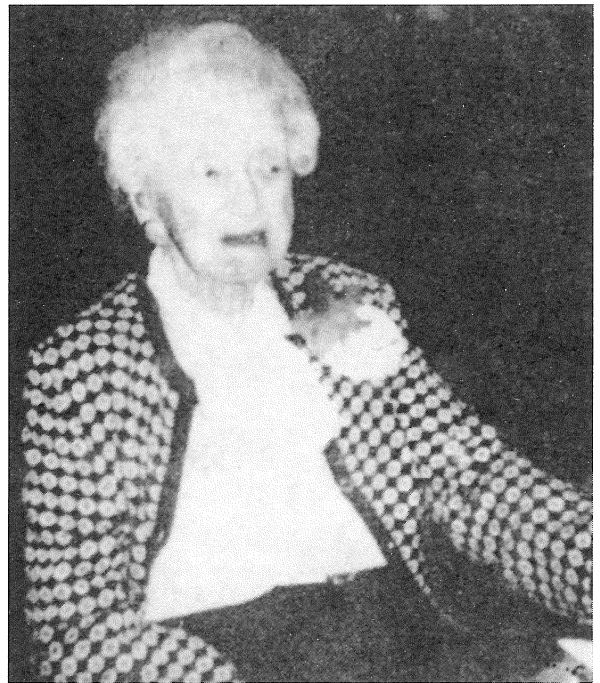
Price: \$29.00 for theatre and luncheon. Transportation not included. Send check payable to The Woman's Club of Larchmont, Inc., to Pat Mucci, Betty Garrabrant or Blanche Johnson.

Stephen Birmingham, Edwin Newman, Brendan Gill, E.L. Doctorow, Ilka Chase, Emily Kimbrough and Cornelia Otis Skinner.

In 1987 three authors, Harriet Segal ("Catch the Wind"), Donald A. Mackay ("The Building of Manhattan"), and Barbara Barondess Maclean ("One Life is Not Enough"), were featured with William Buschel, Jr., co-manager of Anderson's Book Store in Larchmont, the master of ceremonies. Anderson's had always been of valuable assistance to the committee over the years.

In 1992, the Book and Author Luncheon had to be postponed for the first time in recent memory. On December 11, residents of the New York area awoke to a violent winter storm with flurries, gales and heavy flooding of low-lying areas near the Sound. The chairman of the luncheon, Eleanor Lucas, hurrying to Orienta Beach Club in Mamaroneck where the event was scheduled, was prevented by local police from entering the area leading to the Beach Club. No entreaties to proceed dissuaded the officers. They had their orders; no one could enter the area because of flooded streets.

The situation became clear; the luncheon would have to be cancelled. The Club President, Berta Kinzly, was consulted. It was decided to contact the local radio stations to broadcast the news of cancellation. The Club Yearbook indicated that any cancellation of Club events would be announced on radio stations WVOX in New Rochelle and WFAS in White Plains. But when President Kinzly called the stations "to request the announcement of cancellation, WVOX said, 'Yes, certainly.' WFAS said, 'What is your code number?' Code number? We didn't have a code number. The answer was: 'We cannot put the message on the air unless your organization has a code number.' My question: 'How do I get one?' was answered by 'You can't until Monday.' The manager of the station gave me the same response."³



FIFTY-YEAR CLUB MEMBER
ETHEL ADAMSEN.

It was Friday and the telephone chain reached most members, except for two, Ethel Adamsen and Nadine Newton, who somehow circumvented the patrol and managed to arrive at the Beach Club in spite of the storm. They were royally welcomed and treated to the lunch which had been prepared for the event. The rest of the guests arrived a week later on December 18 at the rescheduled Book and Author Luncheon. Two of the expected authors were able to attend as well and the 1992 B. & A. Luncheon was a "delayed" success.

President Kinzly called WFAS on Monday and made certain that The Woman's Club of Larchmont acquired a code number, an emergency measure which was successfully used later when other events had to be cancelled or postponed.

Joint meetings were tried. A cancelled Club Day meeting in November 1987 resulted in a later meeting for all three Sections. Cathy Miller, an



VILLAGE OF LARCHMONT'S CENTENNIAL PARADE—SEPTEMBER 28, 1991. THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF LARCHMONT'S FLOAT. LEFT TO RIGHT ARE BILL DENTZER (DRIVER), KIM YAMAGUCHI, SYRILDA HELGREN, ALITA BOOTS CRAFTS, PHYLLIS YOUNG, HELEN BONARDI AND ANNETTE NOE.

expert arranger of dried flower arrangements who had been scheduled for a holiday presentation, presented a program of spring arrangements in April 1988, reflecting the change in seasons. An author of several magazine articles, appearances on television and the arranger of 53 dried flower arrangements for the White House, Mrs. Miller presented a delightful, well-attended program. A similar all-Sections meeting on wine tasting was also tried.

The Club joined the celebration of the Village of Larchmont's Centennial by participating in the parade on September 28, 1991. A float depicting a typical Club Day meeting of the 50's or 60's featured Past Presidents and Club members wearing hats, gloves and stoles. Representatives of all three Sections participated.

THE LARCH TREE

Throughout the decade, *The Larch Tree* continued to be a club magazine of distinction both in the Club and among other clubs in the Federation. It continued to provide members with information about meetings and Club events, the field trips, Department Days, and anything else that involved the Club. But by the end of the decade, the magazine was suffering. The advertising was down considerably and the magazine was costing the Club instead of bringing in profit. For several years it ran over budget. The Executive Board began discussing alternatives to the magazine to provide vital Club information to members.

Finally, a decision was made and the following two articles appeared in the May 1994 issue.

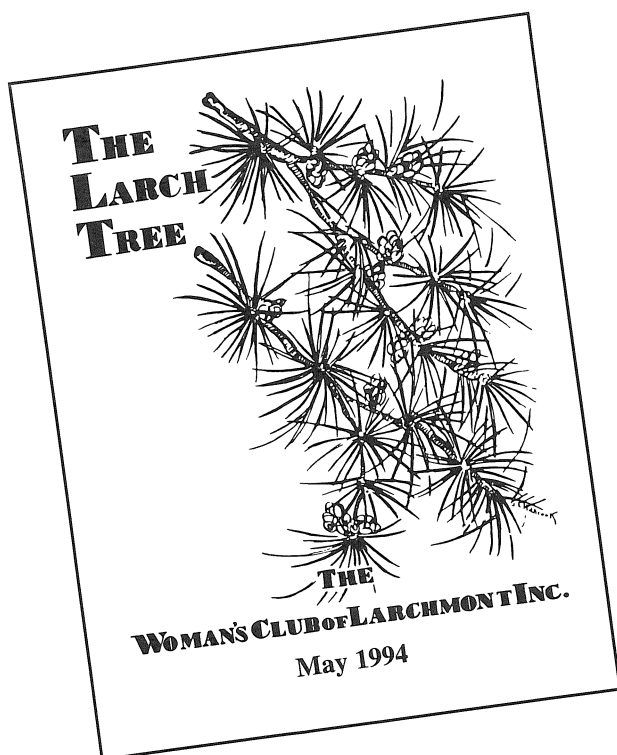
MESSAGE FROM NANCY

With this issue of *The Larch Tree* the magazine format that so many of us have enjoyed for so many years (57!) has come to an end. Next fall *The Larch Tree* will take the form of a newsletter. The reason for this change is mainly financial.

This is the time to mark the long dedication and outstanding performance of Hallie Sether. She has served as editor for 17 years. She has given us wisdom and wit with her editorials and Aunt Tree column, in addition to the mechanics of putting together a well constructed and highly readable publication. She deserves our sustained applause.

The good news is that Hallie has offered her talent and knowledge to our forthcoming newsletter. We are indeed grateful.

Nancy Jones, Director



Editorial

Two years ago I would have been saddened by the thought of giving up *The Larch Tree*. I considered it a privilege to have advance knowledge of coming events. The juggling of the placement of various articles required tact and judgment. The separation of competing ads and revolving them monthly from front-to-middle-to-back needed constant attention.

Thank you to all our faithful advertisers for your support.

I think we had some talented writers, all different. Our copy readers were up to most challenges. I kept on hand a supply of dictionaries, gazetteers and *The New York Times Manual of Style and Usage* that we consulted. Our proofreaders had long debates on the usage of commas.

But now I am getting weary and forgetful. Doing the monthly layout is the part I enjoy the most, but now what used to take an evening now takes three days. I am making mistakes and omissions. So I look forward to working with Lori Bair with her expertise in newsletters. I hope we can make ours lively and interesting. I will need help in gathering together all the Club's activities. You'll be hearing from me as soon as I get this last *Larch Tree* put to bed.

Hallie Sether, Editor

In October 1994, *The Larch Tree* made its appearance in the mailboxes of Club members in its new form as a newsletter.



Looking Back: The Way We Were

THE LARCH TREE May 1985

Thank You Friends!

Our 60th Anniversary will always be a wonderful memory—it has been a year of splendid cooperation. My thanks go to President Terry Gentile for her constant support of our history book project . . . to the American Home Luncheon committee for the delicious birthday feast . . . to Betty Hardesty and her committee for the gala party and especially to my history book committee members—Mel Hardy, Ruth Rhoades, and Ann Zulch—for all their hard work.

The history book committee was tremendously pleased with your enthusiastic response to our request for contributions. Your financial backing helped to make our dream a reality.

Again, my heartfelt thanks to all of you!

*Jeanne Burt,
Chairman*



ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION:

MRS. HAROLD H. RHOADES, A FORMER PRESIDENT OF THE WOMAN'S CLUB OF LARCHMONT, CUTS THE CAKE COMMEMORATING THE CLUB'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY, RECENTLY, AS THE CURRENT PRESIDENT, MRS. RALPH L. GENTILE, LOOKS ON. THE CLUB'S CHARTER MEETING WAS HELD FEBRUARY 27, 1925, WITH A MEMBERSHIP OF 118 WOMEN. MRS. RHOADES WAS PRESIDENT FROM 1942 TO 1944. SIX OTHER PAST PRESIDENTS ATTENDED THE ANNIVERSARY EVENT, AS WELL AS DAUGHTERS OF SIX OF THE CLUB'S CHARTER MEMBERS.





AT THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY PARTY
(PHOTOS BY BOOTS CRAFTS)

Editor Hallie Sether enjoyed interviewing Club members with various questions and later noting the responses in The Larch Tree. An example was the following article in the April 1987 issue.

One Question

Picture this: You found an old lamp at a tag sale and have decided to polish it up for the Blue Ribbon Bridge. (1987) As you rub, it becomes warmer and warmer, and starts to glow. Then POOF! A dense puff of smoke appears and takes on the shape of a genie. "I am your magic genie," he says. "Be quick. I will be gone with the smoke, but first I will answer one question."

Betty Garrabrant, humorously. "Where have you been all my life?"

Doris Jaynes, cagily, "When are you coming back?"

Pat Foley, in exasperation, "Why does everything happen to me?"

What would you ask?

Apparently, many of us worry about world affairs. **Toby Axler** and **Katie Henriques** ask if we can ever be assured of peace and **Lorna Heutchy** and **Martha Burlinson** want to know how to stop the nuclear threat . . . **Pat Mucci** wonders what is the true purpose of life—self-fulfillment or helping others? **Priscilla Dibble** wants to know when the world will end. (I'd rather know how.)

Health is another major concern. **Loretta Dunne** asks when they will find a cure for cancer . . . **Myra Delanno** and **Ann Zulch** want to keep their arthritis from becoming crippling. **Nancy Wanzenberg** queries why more money isn't spent on spinal injury research when there are 20,000 people a year paralyzed. **Eleanor Lucas** would ask her genie his opinion on her need for plastic surgery. **Esther Flowers** would want his

suggestions on how to look and feel 40 years younger and **Nama Welty** wants to be assured of good health until her death. **Annette Noe**, as usual, is looking for a foolproof formula for losing weight.

Our children are another major interest (no one asked about her husband.) Will they, the children or grandchildren, have happy lives are the concerns . . . "What will their lives be like?" asks **Doree Kluss** . . . **Kim Yamaguchi** just wonders how many she'll have.

Eleanor Gordon, **Boots Crafts** and **Kay Ryan** had one good practical question for Mr. Genie. How to win the lottery. **Jean Peterson** and **Elaine McHugh** wanted a stock market prediction . . .

Time bothers some of us . . . **Celia Dentzer** wonders if she'll ever have all the time she needs. **Chris Schellhammer** wants to see year 2000. **Anne Bailey** and I want to know what year we'll die, I to facilitate financial planning and Anne because she's planning to return and haunt George. Chris asked if she could return in 50 years to see what's going on down here.

Travel, usually a prime interest, didn't attract much curiosity. We figured we could answer our own questions there. **Margaret Foley** wondered when she could sail to Europe and **Lorna Heutchy** asks if she will ever have all the money she needs to travel as much as she wants . . .

A few of us had very specific questions. **Helen Bonardi**: "Where are my three missing watches?" **Mel Hardy**: "Will I ever be a good cook?" **Jinny Renz** wondered if she would have been a hit on the stage? Should she have been a comedian or is she one now? **Helen Clephane** worried about her garden's time schedule and asked for an accurate weather forecast . . .

Esther Steinmetz posed a question that had never occurred to me. "When will helicopter service or some other fast direct route across the Hudson be established?" And Kay Kincaid asked "Can a girl from the midwest find happiness in Westchester County?"

Margaret Hudders and Fran Fisher agree that they would prefer not to know the future. They must like surprises.

Hallie Sether



THE LARCH TREE

October 1989

"Only" a Housewife?

In the late spring, there was an article published in the Westchester section of *The New York Times* that really bothered me. The author, "only" a housewife wrote, "despite the fact that my children have grown into fine human beings, I definitely do have regrets" about being a stay-at-home housewife.

She continued to write that in devoting sixteen years to her children, she felt that she excluded herself from her "growth potential" and that she honestly felt that her "personal development" stopped in her early twenties when her children were born.

I put the paper down and sat for a long time mulling over her opening paragraphs. I, too, stayed at home bringing up five daughters. I don't happen to have any regrets. But that was not what I found puzzling. How is it possible not to grow and develop with all the volunteer activities that are not only available but are an integral part of life when one is at home in the daytime?

During the school years, I was class mother, worked on fun fairs, went on school trips, worked on telephone committees, etc., learning in the process organizational skills, personnel skills, and-

fund-raising techniques. Working on church-related activities, I did publicity, arranged for programs (developing for myself public speaking skills) and much more complicated fund-raising knowledge.

When my oldest child joined Brownies, suddenly I was elected treasurer of the Girl Scouts and I had on-the-spot training in accounting. As a Junior League member working at the Golden Shoestring, I learned marketing and retailing.

The list of the small volunteer jobs I did goes on and on. Sometimes I was an executive, more often a laborer. I have always felt that nothing one does is wasted, and I feel strongly that I personally learned a tremendous amount from volunteering that contributed not only to my own growth but also to my children's.

Another important facet of this volunteering is the large number of people I met, worked with and came to know. If I had just stayed home with my children, my friends and acquaintances would have been very limited indeed.

My "personal development" was nurtured by classes at Adult Education, mornings at Manhattanville, Junior League French classes and music appreciation, Woman's Club antique courses, investment classes, etc. No way am I the same person I was in my early twenties.

Whether or not you have regrets now about not trying your wings at a career is not at all my point. I know that anyone who has spent years volunteering, from president of the PTA to driving Meals on Wheels, working the hospitals to working the soup kitchens, singing at the County Home to square dancing with patients at St. Vincent's, is not the same person she was years ago. Your growth potential was not stilted by staying home. Not only have you and your family gained but so has the whole community.

Elaine McHugh



THE LARCH TREE

October 1988

Picnic at Ruth Taylor Institute

The annual picnic at Ruth Taylor Institute on June 16th was the occasion chosen to donate a "Wheel of Fortune" and a smaller board game to the Institute. Pat Mucci, former Director of Philanthropy of The Woman's Club, and Roberta Wick, Director of Activities at the RTI, had long been discussing a donation that would really spark the attention of the residents, especially the men. James Davis, Director of the Ruth Taylor Institute, was on hand to accept the gift and to thank The Woman's Club for their efforts on behalf of RTI throughout the year.

The picnic itself was a huge success! Ninety residents and staff were served a luncheon of turkey salad, potato salad, iced tea and cookies by Celia Dentzer, Pat Mucci, Betty Garrabrant, Emily Capogrosso, Judy McGinnity, Terry Mastracchio, Terry Putney, Kay Holding and Marie Beringer. In addition to those attending the picnic, Pat Mucci would like to thank all the other women who worked so hard during the year. Even though it is not always apparent, our efforts are truly appreciated.

THE LARCH TREE

March 1992

Editorial

What's new? In the Club's money-raising efforts to fulfill our philanthropic obligations, a lot is new! This is not the same old Annual Bridge. What's new is: A beautiful new setting overlooking the Sound at Orienta Beach Club.

New day: Wednesday, March 25

New Hour: The Boutique opens at noon.

A raffle: Chances will be sold on a few selected items, i.e., a painting of your home.

Dessert and coffee: Eat lunch at home.

Reservations: The number of tables is limited. Pat Foley will reserve prepaid tables of four. Singles and couples will fill the unreserved tables.

New table prizes: the most imaginative ever!

BELOW: AT THE RUTH TAYLOR GERIATRIC INSTITUTE PICNIC. L TO R. JUDY MCGINNITY, KAY HOLDING, TERRY PUTNEY, MARIE BERINGER, CELIA DENTZER, EMILY CAPOGROSSO, BETTY GARRABRANT, PAT MUCCI.





AT THE "UNDER THE BIG TOP" BRIDGE: THIS WAS THE LAST PHILANTROPIC BRIDGE HELD AT LARCHMONT AVENUE CHURCH. MARCH 1991.



COMITTEE MEMBERS CELEBRATED AFTER THE BRIDGE. LEFT TO RIGHT: HALLIE SETHER, CELIA DENTZER, ANNE BAILEY, BETTY GARRABRANT, CHAIRMAN, AND KIM YAMAGUCHI.

New Boutique policy: We will not reduce prices in the last hour of the Bridge, so there is no need to hide your intended purchases to be bought later at a lower price. We will try to price items at what we think they will sell for; not what we hope they might sell for. We'll have some real bargains: punch cups, brunch plate and cup sets, hors d'oeuvres platters and some unique items: a doll house, an old lantern.

What isn't new? We'll still have stunning decorations, a challenging silent auction, door prizes.

The profit we make for philanthropy depends on you. Many of our boutique items come from estate sales or friends who are moving. But we depend on our members to donate nice items in good condition. Please help us. Call me and I will make sure my garage door is open to receive your largess. Be generous!

Hallie Sether



HALLIE SETHER

THE LARCH TREE

March 1993

The President's Corner

Musings

I am writing as 1993 is just beginning. My wishes for all of us are for good health, good weather with enough precipitation to keep the reservoirs filled, good friends and good fun.

I'm sure our club year will be a rewarding one as we all work together to make it so. When each one of us does her share of the work that is necessary, it is much easier for all and all of us enjoy the wonderful feeling of a job well done.

This seemed a good time to share with you some of the thoughts that have evolved as I, as your President, have been invited to attend President's Day at other clubs this fall. It is always interesting to see how others organize such functions.

On one occasion, the editor of their monthly publication was my hostess. She presented me with the October issue and mentioned that she always reads our *Larch Tree* with interest. As other clubs were visited, I found some publications were smaller, some much slimmer and some were in the form of a newsletter. None, you understand, were comparable to our *Larch Tree*. The format in most is similar but some had quite a few poets contributing. Where are our poets? I know of one who wrote most interestingly of her trip to Australia. When she reads this, I hope she will remember to send a copy to our editor. I looked in vain for something written by the other presidents, thought I might do a little plagiarizing – no luck!

The meetings are varied. Some are dinner meetings in clubroom or restaurants. Several were luncheons for the visiting presidents, followed by the meeting, program and tea for membership. Some were meetings followed by program and then tea. Others do as we do with the reception

followed by luncheon, meeting and program. All were most interesting and enjoyable. The clubs who have clubhouses have many advantages – space to store things, usually “live-in” help – but costs are high and soaring, dues must be high and in many instances each department has its own dues as well as its own fund raisers.

There are many clubs who use catering services. I was impressed by one service which brought the waiters, dishes, glasses and silverware, everything! In all honesty, the most delightful meetings were those planned and executed by the members.

Parking is a problem even at some of the clubs with their own clubhouses – just not enough! When churches are used, there is a problem with schools – nursery and public – again we are not alone. There seems to be no solution.

As I have come home and compared notes of our “doings” and others, I am glad in most ways that we didn’t acquire the clubhouse we planned for so many years. I am very proud of our Club, and honored to be your President.

Berta Kinzly



From time to time, The Larch Tree featured stories and articles from members that were amusing and fun to read. Here are two examples.

A Roommate



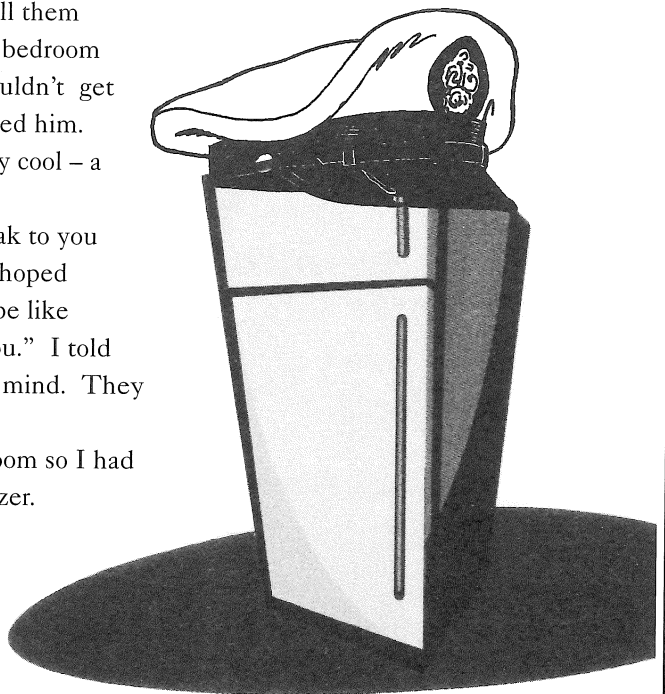
Little did I think this would ever hit the pages of *The Larch Tree*, but in these permissive times anything can happen – even this. Hallie Sether asked me to write about it. (Hallie Sether is a very enlightened person.)

It’s a long story, but I’ll just give you the basic facts. I knew all my friends would soon know so rather than have whispering, I decided to come out point blank and tell them myself. “I have a new bedroom companion. No, we couldn’t get married, much as I loved him. He’s tall, light and very cool – a Navy man.”

One of my oldest friends said, “I’ll never speak to you again.” One of my daughters said, “Well, Mom, I hoped you’d meet someone, but I didn’t think it would be like this.” One of my sons said, “Mom, I’m glad for you.” I told my Spanish class and said that my children didn’t mind. They said, “It’s none of their d - - business.”

“Well,” I said, “He wouldn’t fit in the store room so I had to put him in my bedroom.” It’s my Admiral Freezer.

Kay Ryan

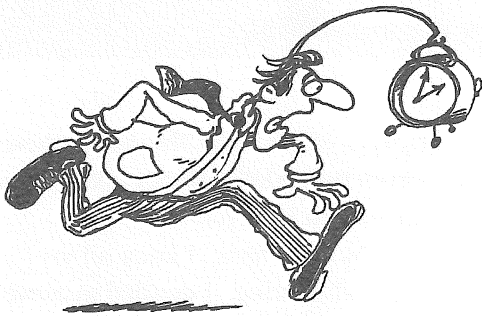


Calorie Burners

Remember that New Year Resolution to lose weight? Are you sticking to that diet? If not, you may enjoy some alternative suggestions Kathy Taylor sent us.

Calorie-Burning Activities

Climbing the ladder of success	750	Jogging your memory	125
Making mountains out of molehills	500	Dragging your heels	100
Running around in circles	350	Jumping to conclusions	75
Racing against time	300	Beating around the bush	75



Bending over backwards

75



Wading through paperwork 300

Throwing your weight around (depending on your weight) 50-100



Hitting the nail on the head 50

Pushing your luck 250

Flying off the handle 200

Jumping on the bandwagon 200

Sticking your neck out 175

Beating your head against the wall 150

Climbing the walls 150

Fishing for compliments 50

Swallowing your pride 25

Patting yourself on the back 25

Balancing the books 25

Wrapping it up at day's end 12

