



Friends and Newcomers Club

Prattville, Millbrook & surrounding area

www.friendsandnewcomers.org

Nancy Schrull, Editor

Issue 2023 - 1

January 2023



Patricia's Ramblings

Hello Everyone;

Wasn't our Christmas Party wonderful!!! Thank you so much to the hard working crew. The committee of Jenell Montgomery, Deborah Cheatum, Carol McCarthy and Marti Galloway did a superb presentation.

The New Year is almost here – and I have, again, decided to avoid disappointment and NOT make any New Year resolutions.

When I retired (hard to believe almost 29 years ago) I decided that within the first 5 years I would use up all of my supply of yarn and thread. Guess what – I only added to the stash. I am so thankful that I have always had something that kept me busy.

Which reminds me, some of us may be housebound for a short time. One of the best things about knitting and crocheting – it is portable!! Take your project and go sit with someone for a little while. You will both be better for the time spent.

Here is a funny: I noticed at church this morning the selection of tea included Sleepytime. I hope that was a mistake.

OK everyone – keep safe, stay warm, don't eat all the cookies at once, (nor chocolate covered M & Ms)

Patricia Hunter
President

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**ATTACHMENTS
IN A SEPARATE EMAIL**

DUES RENEWAL FORM
Membership Report
January Calendar
By-laws update sheet

Board of Director's Meeting

Mark your calendar - January 11, 2023 at 10:00

At Patricia Hunter's home

Board Members - Let Patricia know if **NOT** going.

All members; we welcome your presence, input and ideas. Just let Patricia know so she can plan spaces.

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INTEREST GROUPS

Check with the Interest Group Chairman for any questions or details not here.

PLAYS & EVENTS

Chairman: Elizabeth Champion

No plays in January. See page 5 for complete list of 2023 for Prattville, Millbrook and Wetumpka. Most of these plays are very well done and worth an evening of dinner and fun. Spouses and friends are welcome but always get your tickets online early as some sell out.

FOOD FUN & FRIENDS

New Chairman: Deede Smith

First Fridays at 11:30

January FFF is January 6 at 11:30

At Wanda Ballard's home

Wanda is cooking - Cost is \$8.00

Let Deede know if you cancel

CHAT & CRAFT

Chairman: Patricia Hunter

Meets every Tuesday at 10:30 AM

Millbrook Library meeting room

We will meet Dec. 27 and Jan. 3

BIRTHDAY LUNCHEON

Chairman: Elizabeth Champion

January Birthday Luncheon is January 20 at 11:00

Rocks Famous BBQ, 307 S. Memorial Drive

Across from Prattville Baptist Hospital (sort of)

Kay Mayfield	Jan. 10
Glenda Householder	Jan. 11
Jackie Carroll	Jan. 11
Wanda Ballard	Jan. 26
Marilyn Pace	Jan. 26
Bobbie McAtee	Jan. 28
Angela Boyd	Jan. 29

.HAPPY EARLY BIRTHDAY to all

Let Elizabeth know if you are going or canceling

NEW - BUNCO

Chairman: Jenell Montgomery

First Tuesdays at 1:00

Monday, December 5, at 1:00

At Jenell's home (\$10.00)

If you are a regular player and

cannot attend, let Jenell know ASAP.

if you want on the sub list, let Jenell know.

MIX IT UP MONDAYS

Chairman: Diane Weyers

Meets every Monday, 10:00 AM

Millbrook Senior Center

Senior Center closed Dec. 23 – Jan. 2

Playing various new games (or old games)

CHICK FLICKS

Chairman: Sherrie Bolton

Every Tuesday afternoon

Watch emails for movies and times

TRIPS & TOURS

Chairman: Nancy Schruhl

Scavenger Hunt \$10.00 See page 3

Downtown Prattville- Possibly Jan. 27 am?

Watch email for details

Let Nancy S. know if you are going and canceling

BOOK CLUB

Chairman: Sue Kuzma

Meets second Mondays 10:00 AM

Millbrook Library

Monday, January 7

Book title - *The Bookwoman's Daughter*

By Kim Michelle Richardson

Sort of a part 2 of *The Bookwoman of Troublesome Creek*

Come even if you did not get the book read.

February Boo k – Mon. Feb. 13

***West With Giraffes*, by Linda Rutledge**

GAME DAY

Chairman: Diane Weyers

Meets every Thursday at 1:00 PM

Gillespie Senior Center, Prattville

Senior Center closed Dec. 23 – Jan. 2

NEW - DINNER OUT

Chairman: Sarah Thomas

Tuesday, January 24 at 5:30

Cindy's Cafe (room in front on the left)

205 S. Court St., downtown Prattville

(call if you need a ride)

Let Sarah know if going and how many

Everyone's invited **INCLUDING SPOUSES**

JUNKIN'

Chairman: Caroline Tait

Estate Sales, Antique Shops, Etc.

Contact her with ideas of where you want to go

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RECOMMENDATION BOOK

Sarah Thomas is the keeper of this book. Members can add companies/services you like or dislike. If you need a carpenter, hairdresser, cleaning lady, etc., we may have some suggestions for you. Check it out. Call Sarah or watch for the book at our General Meetings. Please add your favorite services. We always need **more recommendations**.

ANGEL TREE PROJECT

Patricia and Tammie took the 50 gifts for the 10 children to the DHS on Friday, Dec. 9. A big thank you to all who took Angels and bought the gifts. And thank you to all who helped sort and wrap them. We made those 10 children very happy on Christmas Morning.

YOUR CLUB NEIGHBORS

Did you ever wonder which club members live near you? Do you need a ride sometimes or when carpooling is necessary? We have several club members who can no longer drive, but we don't want them left out. So, at the General Meeting, look for maps of Millbrook and Prattville. Or, Nancy generally has them with her to look at.

SUNSHINE CALLERS

Thanks to all who volunteered to be Sunshine Callers. Every three months, volunteer callers draw names at random to call. We hope all of the callers have touched bases with their assigned names. So much is going on and we want them to know about it. And, anytime you hear of a problem, please let President Patricia know so she can reach out to them, see if we can share their concerns, and pray for them. If they have good news to share (new grandbaby, etc) also let Patricia know so we can send congratulations. **Please call them at least once a month and let Nancy know if they do not receive the Newsletter.**

PRATTVILLE'S CREEK WALK CHRISTMAS TREE TRAIL

The past few years, the club has purchased a tree from The Family Life Center. The City of Prattville sets the tree up along the **Creek Walk in downtown Prattville**. Our Club's tree was decorated November 27. We hope you all had a chance to go see downtown Prattville and stroll down the Christmas Tree Trail along the creek. If you took a picture with family by it, please send a copy to Tammie Steadham for the scrapbook and to Patsy Persons for our website.

Also, we hope you had a chance to visit **Millbrook and their Whoville Magical Show at the Village Green Park**, downtown Millbrook. They have coordinated music with the lights and you can just sit in the car and watch and listen. But, the littles will want to be out exploring all of the characters and beautiful lights and decorations. These are also worth the drive to see them.

And – you still have a few more days to go enjoy the sites. They don't come down until after New Years.

TRIPS & TOURS Scavenger Hunt

January is a hard month to get out and go, but Nancy has a new idea. We are going to have a **Scavenger Hunt** in downtown Prattville sometime in late January (maybe the 27th in the morning - then lunch). Details and sign up sheet will be at the January 19 General Meeting. We aren't sure which day or time yet. (Loking for a warm spell). But, basically, in a group of 3 or 4 to a car, you get a list of the rules on how to do it and the things to find. Each person brings \$10.00 and \$5.00 goes in the prize fund and the other \$5.00 could be used if you need to purchase something. But, any left over money can go in the prize pot. This could be a lot of fun so please consider trying this. You get points for the items on the list for you to find or take a picture of. Most points earned win the cash prize.

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REVIEW OF December 15 GENERAL MEETING and CHRISTMAS PARTY

Talk about a GREAT SUCCESS! After a brief General Meeting on December 15, we had our Annual Christmas Luncheon at the YMCA in our meeting room. But, you would have never recognized the room! It was transformed into a Christmas Wonder Land. Deborah Cheatum brought a semi truck (almost) full of decorations from her home and the room was beautiful. We should soon have some pictures on the Website where everyone can see them. We had over half of the membership (42 of the 83 members). The Christmas Party Luncheon Committee of Jenell Montgomery, Deborah Cheatum, Carol McCarthy and Marti Galloway set a new precedent for parties. Jenell had several fun games to play and we have a video of the Potato Race (can't put the right name to it). It was lead by two of our oldest members, Edna and Elizabeth A., and boy, can those ladies move! And, we have found out many of the members are great cooks. We all brought a dish (or two) to share and everything was delicious. We hope those recipes were – or will be – sent to Patsy for the new club's recipe book that is still in the works. Be sure to add comments with them when you send them to us, and sent on the computer if possible.

We have had a lot of beautiful parties at Bon Appetit (now Li'l Something Extra) and last Valentine's Day had a lovely party at Tammie's home with Sarah's help. All of our club members know how to party!! Please don't hesitate to be on these committees as this is how we come up with all the nice parties. Valentine's Day party is next! The volunteers for the Valentine Committee are Marsha Weir, Diane Weyers and Marti Galloway. They will soon be working on the details to share with us. Please share your ideas with them.

Friends & Newcomers Club's New Year & DUES \$10.00 DUES DUE JANUARY 19, 2023

Since we have changed the Club year to match the tax year, there will be a few updates in the By-laws. They are mostly schedule changes in what month we do things during the year. **Attached are the sheets with those changes so you can replace the By-laws in your directory.** We have an exciting year ahead and it makes more sense to start things in January in the future.

We do plan to collect partial dues (\$10.00) in January to take us to the end of 2023. . **There is an attached Renewal Form that MUST be turned in with your check for the dues. Please come prepared at the January 19th General Meeting to pay by check the \$10.00 dues for the year 2023.** You may also mail your check AND the Membership Renewal Form to Sarah Thomas. For the club's tax purposes, we just cannot have a big bag of envelopes full of cash as proof for a record of paying dues, like we had last year. If you absolutely cannot write a check for \$10.00, please touch base with Sarah Thomas and make other arrangements. Also, add a \$10.00 late fee if paid after Feb. 1, 2023

2023

If you want 2023 to be your year:
Don't sit on the couch and wait for it. Go Out!
Make a Change. Smile more.
Be excited, Do new things.
Throw away some of your clutter.
Unfollow negative people on social media.
Go to bed early. Wake up early. Be fierce.
Don't gossip. Show more gratitude.
Do things that challenge you. Be brave!

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PLAYS 2023

Millbrook, Prattville and Wetumpka all have a great series of play. These are nearby, professionally done, and a great date night, or just come and go out with the girls. We usually go to dinner together first, but you could just meet us at the plays. If you do not drive at night we will try to get you rides, or at least carpool from our carpool lot on Hwy 14 and Old Farm Lane. Watch your emails for dates and updates and plans.

Millbrook Community Players

February - Mr. Roberts - This rowdy, realistic saga of a group of American sailors aboard a Navy cargo vessel in the Pacific shows the crew suffering from that deadly boredom that is part of the routine of war.

April - The Odd Couple, Female Version - Neil Simon's revision of his hugely successful play, *The Odd Couple*, sees the lead characters transformed into Olive Madison and Florence Unger.

July - Willy Wonka - The delicious adventures experienced by Charlie Bucket on his visit to Willy Wonka's mysterious chocolate factory light up the stage in this captivating adaptation by Ronald Dahl.

October - She Loves Me - A euphoric romantic comedy with a soaring score. Amalia and Georg work together at a modest Hungarian parfumerie, and have disliked each other from the very beginning. He thinks she's stuck up, and she thinks he's arrogant and mean. But each rapturously writes to a lonely hearts pen pal when the work day is done. It doesn't take long for the audience to see that they're in love without realizing it.

November - Good Old Fashioned Big Family Christmas - Hayden Stewart's wife, Judith, and her sisters, Carla and Beth, are worried about their parents. When she mentions this to Hayden, he casually suggests maybe the women could spend some time with Jack and Arlene, their parents, and squelch any such arguments. The next thing Hayden knows, Judith is planning a huge Christmas party with the whole family.

MORE PLAYS

Way Off Broadway Theatre – Prattville

Feb. 16 to March 6, *Of Mice and Men*

April 13 – 30, *Hounds of Baskervilles*

June 1 – 17, *Nine to Five*

Sept. 21 – Oct. 6, *Present Laughter*

Dec. 7 – 17, *Christmas Eve Chaos*

Wetumpka Depot Plays

We generally carpool to these.

They do Not have the dates, yet.

Big River; Adventures of Huckleberry Finn

Don't Dress for Dinner

Monty Python's Spamalot

The Sugar Bean Sisters

**From Elizabeth Champion
Plays & Events Chairman
Birthday Lunch Chairman
Ex-Officio and Past President**

As chairman of the Birthday Luncheon and the Plays & Events Interest Group I would like to thank everyone for your great participation. We have had 20 to 24 Ladies attending the celebration of our Birthday Ladies each month. I'm trying to find different restaurants to go to that welcome us and have room. Any suggestions of places to go are welcomed. I would like to thank Nancy for filling in as Hostess for a couple of luncheons I was not able to handle.

As for Plays, we have several ladies who have attended and I think really enjoyed the Plays. There are some coming next year that are very interesting. Hope to see you there. Watch for sign-up sheets at the General Meetings or let me know.

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GriefShare

From our member, Gloria Kuykendall

A new session of GriefShare is starting on Jan. 23 at First Baptist Church of Prattville. We meet each Monday from 6-8 p.m. in Room 104, from Jan. 23 to April 17.

GriefShare is a faith based program which includes helpful videos, group discussion, and a workbook. Cost is \$20 for the workbook.

If you or someone you know is struggling with grief over the loss of any family member or friend, GriefShare provides understanding and guidance among people who have suffered from grief.

Interested people, please sign up online at griefshare.org or call First Baptist Church at [334-365-0606](tel:334-365-0606) or contact our member, Gloria Kuykendall at GCK1210@gmail.com.

WEBSITE

Have you ever been to the club's website? Patsy works hard to keep it updated and it has *everything you ever need to know about our Friends and Newcomers Club*. If you have never been to see what all is available, check it out. Go to www.friendsandnewcomers.org.

It has the Newsletters, information and pictures.

PICTURES

Anytime you have pictures from your Interest Groups or any club event, please either make a copy of them or email them to Tammie so we can print them for **our club's albums and also send to Patsy for the web site**.

Vice President of Communications

At the December 15, General Meeting, Nancy Schrull was voted in as the new Vice President for Communications. This is the newest position on the Executive Board. Since Nancy is currently on the Executive Board as Treasurer, she will resign as Treasurer effective midnight, December 31, 2022. Following the By-laws, when an elected officer resigns, the remaining Executive Board names a replacement for that position to serve until the club's next officer elections. The Executive Board has chosen Sarah Thomas to be Treasurer starting January 1, 2023. She has accepted. An audit will then be done on the total year 2022. Nancy Schrull will step into the new position of Vice President Communications January 1, and is **hoping to hear a lot of ideas from you members**. Please send any comments and ideas to Nancy Schrull. We have a Communications problem in this club and we will try to come up with ideas to remedy this.



TO MY 82 FRIENDS THAT I AM HONORED TO HAVE IN MY LIFE.

I hope 2023 will be a good year for you and yours, that it will bring love to your heart and bless you with everything this life has to offer.

*Love to you all,
Nancy Schrull, Editor*

(Boy, do I have some good-looking, skinny friends!)

