

The Women's College Club of Princeton Newsletter

February 2022

President's Message

February is almost here, so spring cannot be far behind. I am so looking forward to life without Covid and the things we took for granted years ago. I am sure you are too!!

We are planning to have the February meeting at Morven. Hopefully the COVID numbers will continue to decrease, or else we will be back on Zoom.

As I have discussed in the past, we are working to increase our membership. To that end, we are going to publish an article and an ad in US1 in the Women in Business issue on February 16. It will be a wonderful opportunity to reach women in Princeton and the surrounding towns to make them aware of the club and its many benefits and activities.

I attended the Princeton Community Works Conference via Zoom and found several of the sessions very interesting and informative. One of the speakers gave statistics which indicated people join organizations for the mission, but stay for the people. Meeting new people and forming lifelong friendships is one of the benefits of this club. Please take advantage of the wonderful new meeting space we have at Morven, attend our monthly meetings and participate in the various activities we offer.

I am pleased to advise you that students who have received scholarships in the past will be speaking at our May and June meetings. It will be a great opportunity to meet the women the Club helps.

I encourage you to visit our website wccpnj.org for photos, past activities and the list of interesting speakers in the coming months.

Connie Loukatos

BOARD MEETING

Our next board meeting will be on Tuesday, February 1 at 10 AM on Zoom.

FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING

February 21, 1 PM

Stockton Education Center at Morven

"The Roaring Twenties and its Presidents"

The Reverend Doctor Mulford will again share his knowledge and passion for presidential history on Presidents' Day. One hundred years ago the Roaring Twenties transformed America. This talk focuses on some of the characteristics of that decade and discusses its three presidents: Harding, Coolidge and Hoover.



David Mulford is a retired Presbyterian minister, who has degrees from Colgate University, Princeton Theological Seminary, and Drew University. He served churches in New York, New Jersey and Florida. He and his wife Nancy live in Skillman.

Jan Stout

MEMBERSHIP

If you know of women who would like to join our club, please contact Membership Chair, Alyce Conlon, alymar@comcast.net or 609-448-7064.

LUNCHING OUT GROUP

We will be meeting for lunch at **Seasons 52 at MarketFair, Thursday, February 24 at noon**. Please let Bonnie Larson know if you will be attending the luncheon, so that she can make a reservation. Guests are welcome.

If you would like to join the group, please contact Bonnie Larson, bonniejarson63@comcast.net or 609-655-2663.

BOOK DISCUSSION

The book group is meeting on Friday, **February 25** at 1 PM. The book we are reading is *Please Look after Mom*, by Kyung-Sook Shin. Bonnie Larson has copies which the group is able to borrow.

The group will be meeting at Janet Young's home. Please make sure that you are vaccinated if you would like to participate. Also, bring your drink with you. All members are welcome to join this group.

If you would like to join the group, please contact Bonnie Larson, bonniejarson63@comcast.net or 609-655-2663.

WALKING GROUP

What: February 4 Walk

Where: Mercer County Park marina area

When: Feb. 4, 1 PM

For our First Friday Walk in February, we'll meet in the County Park at the 9/11 Memorial, at the top of the marina area parking lot. If you have any questions contact Jan Stout at 609-475-5649.

TRIP GROUP

On Friday, March 18th we will visit the Ellarslie Museum in Trenton to see the juried show "Painting the Moon and Beyond: Lois Dodd & Friends Explore the Night Sky".

Details to follow in March newsletter. Please contact Katy Hutchins, wodowh@hotmail.com or 609-430-1565 if you have interested in going.

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



We would like to welcome **Sally Willson**.

Sally Willson learned about WCCP before she even moved to Princeton, thanks to Helen Ju's very colorful, eye-catching, informative website!

As a member of a women's club in Columbus, Ohio, she wanted to join a similar club in Princeton. So, she's been coming to WCCP ever since.

Sally describes herself as a "jill-of-all trades," like a puppy dog following her professor husband around the globe: northern and southern California, India, Ithaca, New York and finally Columbus, Ohio where he was on The Ohio State University faculty. For Sally, every move was a new career challenge: from Peace Corps staff in Washington, DC, to high school teacher, university researcher, publicist and media specialist and then Ohio where she was a licensed financial planner for 20 years!

In Columbus, Sally and her husband hosted adult professionals from South Africa, Malawi, Brazil, Sweden, France and Russia for one-month stays. They also participated in an international diners' club.

After Sally's husband died, she enrolled in French classes at Ohio State where anyone over the age of 60 can take classes for free. French is a language she has loved since the 1950s when she lived with a French speaking family in Switzerland. A Francophile, she joined "Alliance Francaise." She was designated dessert maker for many of their parties. One time she made 36 Napoleons and then couldn't find the party because her GPS died!

When she wasn't working with clients, hosting visitors, cooking etc. she was playing pickle ball or golf. For the past five years, Sally has been researching and writing a family history that goes back to 1600s in Scotland, 1700s in Ireland and 1800s in Central Pennsylvania. She was hooked on this endeavor because of receiving family letters going back to 1794.

Sally wonders if any of you attended Tufts University, University of Pennsylvania or Ohio State. If so, she would like to compare notes!

Another new member is **Mary Castria**.

Mary was born and raised in upstate New York, near Buffalo, but has lived her adult life in the NY metro area, with 20 years in Hopewell Borough. She was widowed fairly young, and



largely raised her two children as a single mother. Her daughter and grandson live with her, and her son lives over the border in Pennsylvania.

Mary is a retired CPA, having worked over 25 years as a controller at two not for profits - a performing arts school in NYC, and here in Princeton at a private grant making foundation. She is active in her church, doing assessments on benevolence needs as requested, and providing some financial coaching to attendees and low-income individuals in the community.

After retiring, she used her accounting skills to volunteer with accounting projects at several (primarily religious) NGO's, traveling to several countries in Africa, and spending five summers in North Dakota providing accounting support to an organization that provides linguistic training to take oral languages and put them into written form. With Covid, there are less opportunities to travel and provide this support, and she is looking to making more connections with people in this community.

She loves to read and look forward to participating in the book club.

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

This month we are highlighting our President, **Connie Loukatos**.

Connie (Encarnacion) Loukatos was born in Santander, Spain and grew up in Newark N.J.



After getting a degree, in economics from Rutgers University, she worked as an internal auditor at Chemical Bank for three years.

At the same time, she attended New York University at night and studied real estate. She started working for the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in the Newark office in 1972 as a Loan Specialist reviewing financial statements and monitoring the physical condition of FHA insured multifamily housing properties.

Throughout the forty-one years she worked at HUD, she had increased responsibilities, including Director of the Multifamily Division of the NJ HUD office.

In 1997, she was appointed to the position of Director of the Philadelphia Multifamily Hub. As Director, she administered the FHA multifamily insurance programs, as well as the Section 8 Rental Assistance Programs.

The region included the states of Pennsylvania, Delaware, New Jersey, and West Virginia. The work of the four offices covered over 2000 multifamily properties and more than two billion dollars in mortgage insurance and a staff of over one hundred.

Her interests include traveling, reading, attending concerts, volunteering and spending time with her husband of over 50 years, her two children and two grandchildren.

WEBSITE

For more information about our club and its activities, please visit our website:

www.wccpnj.org

Dates to Remember

Board Meeting	Tuesday, Feb. 1, 10 AM
Walking Group	Friday, Feb 4, 1 PM
General Meeting	Monday, Feb. 21, 1 PM
Luncheon Group	Thursday, Feb. 24 noon
Book Discussion	Friday, Feb. 25, 1 PM
Trips	Friday, March 18

Club Email: wccpnj@gmail.com

Website: www.wccpnj.org
