



# The Severn Town Club, Inc.

## Annapolis, Maryland



### *Severn Town Club, Inc.*

Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs  
"Seeking to Serve"  
Maryland Federation of Women's Clubs  
[Severntownclub.org](http://Severntownclub.org)

#### **BOARD MEMBERS**

President – Debbie Mayer

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President – Nancy Parsons

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President – Sheryn Blocher

Treasurer – Jan Stewart

Recording Secretaries –  
Board Meetings - Liz Elliott  
General Meetings – Linda Gottfried

Corresponding Secretary – Sherri Pennock

## Monthly Newsletter for the Severn Town Club, Inc. **The Crier**

March 2021 | The Crier

### *Upcoming Dates*

**March General Meeting:**  
Thurs., March 18<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 pm  
Zoom: Debbie Mayer to send invite  
Program: Alice Estrada  
Annapolis Maritime Museum



Headshots due to Jane Giles  
March 31<sup>st</sup>

GFWC Maryland Convention  
April 17<sup>th</sup>, Virtual  
Registration deadline April 2<sup>nd</sup>

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## ***From the President***

Hello All!

March is upon us, and a strange month it is! I feel compelled to reflect upon the last twelve months as we mark the one-year anniversary of the pandemic changing our lives. In some ways this year has dragged on yet in other ways it has raced on by. During these moments of reflection, I try hard not to let myself dwell on the melancholy, but rather to focus on the positive. I have been blessed with many things to be thankful for during this crazy time.

I also have been spending some extra time reflecting on all that we have accomplished as a Club. We were able to provide gift cards at Christmas to the Weinberg House residents, we were able to donate to the food bank, we continue to help out by dropping off books to B.I.G., we are sponsoring two students to attend this year's virtual HOBY workshop, our endowed scholarship at the community college has helped to provide a start to higher education for an amazing young woman and we made a wonderful donation to the Annapolis Maritime Museum. Each of us should be proud to be a member of this incredible group. Wow!

And now here we are in March and spring is upon us. The days are getting a little longer, the sun is shining a little brighter and the news is getting just a little better each day. I believe that the luck of the Irish is with us. It must be because we are so lucky to be a part of this group.

Have a Happy St. Patrick's Day and I look forward to seeing you all at our meeting on the 18<sup>th</sup>!

Debbie

## ***General Meeting: Thurs, Mar 18, 6:30 PM***

By Sheryn Blocher

This month's General Meeting will feature Alice Estrada, CEO of the Annapolis Maritime Museum as our speaker. She has been at the helm of this vibrant organization since 2013, and with her steady and very competent hand, the AMM has expanded and created new programs and services for the community. STC supported the work of the organization this year with a \$4000 donation that was raised through the Wine Tasting Dinner and individual contributions. Way to go ladies!

Debbie will be sending out the Zoom invitation so be on the lookout for it. Please join us to say hello to your fellow STCers, hear a great speaker and catch up on all things STC. And remember, the more we all get vaccinated, the sooner we'll be back to seeing each other in person!

## ***B.I.G.: Books for International Goodwill***

By Sheryn Blocher

Kudos and thanks to several of our members who have taken books over to the B.I.G. Warehouse on Defense Hwy. Our donation tally at present is 115 books/ videos- and we're only a third of the way through the year. Liz Elliott is currently leading the charge with a donation of 60 books! Keep up the good work ladies!

## ***Spotlight: Jane Giles, Membership Chair***

This month meet Jane Giles, our Membership Chair.

The boxes were barely unpacked after the move from New York to Maryland in 2018 when Jane began searching for a women's group to join. "I wanted to belong to a dynamic club that was very active in helping local service organizations and whose members also shared fellowship and fun," she said. "The Severn Town Club's Web site caught my eye. It talked about social events as well as charitable projects." She joined in the fall of 2018.

Jane and her husband Phil had spent 45 years in New York City and neighboring Westchester County, raising two children, establishing their careers, being active church members and enjoying life along the Hudson River and Long Island Sound. Similar waterways around Annapolis eventually drew them here.

Their journey together actually began in Ohio, where they were born, and where they met in Columbus on a blind date. Jane had recently graduated from Ohio University with a degree in journalism and found work in PR for United Appeal. "There I learned about diverse social services and how badly they need volunteer help as well as financial support," she said. Phil was working as an aerospace engineer. But soon Jane decided she wanted to explore, so bid "Goodbye Columbus" and set out for Southern California in her little green Sprite in July 1969 – the summer of Woodstock, the moon landing, the Stonewall uprising and the Tate-LaBianca murders. Pretty heady stuff for a girl from Belpre, Ohio. She landed a job as editor of *Where Magazine* (for visitors to LA and San Diego). Although long hours and low pay, it did include fun assignments like covering Sammy Davis Jr.'s performance at the Coconut Grove.

But Phil was still in the picture; they were married the next year and Jane returned to Columbus. Not for long. Phil was accepted in the Ph.D. program at Columbia University. So off they went to New York City with a U-Haul, motorcycle, cat, and his promise to quickly get the diploma so they could settle in California. Ten years later, he received that diploma. By then he was an established financial services trainer and beginning a long stint as a professor in Columbia's Graduate School of Business. Jane, meanwhile, found her niche in business-to-business publishing, working for newsmagazines such as *Billboard* and *Nation's Restaurant News* in subscription marketing and audience development ("what no one goes to school for," she noted).

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Best of all, along came daughter Margot and son Philip in the 80's; and the family became true New Yorkers, Yankee fans, boaters and lovers of the Big Apple. Phil's work also enabled the family to visit Finland, Tunisia and other intriguing spots.

When it was time to look for a more relaxed and warmer environment in semi-retirement, the Annapolis area seemed perfect. Phil and Jane now live in Severna Park, with easy access to the B&A Trail and their community beach by the Severn River for kayaking.

"I miss New York and our long-time friends," she said, "but Annapolis is charming and convenient to many places and steeped in history. And being a part of the Severn Town Club has been really rewarding. Just a terrific, energetic group of gals."

Jane has already taken on some duties for the club, being Publicity Chair for the 2019 Holly Ball and currently serving as Membership Chair. "I'm looking forward to post-Covid and hopefully attracting more members, maybe even transplants like me," she added.

### **Call to Convention!**

This year the GFWC Maryland will be held virtually on April 17. All Club members are welcome and encouraged to attend. If you would like to attend but are unsure of whether you will be able to, please register anyway. There is no registration fee, but you MUST register to attend. Please let me know if you register and are planning to attend as I will forward that information as well.

Please read the attached information which contains details regarding registration, as well as the convention agenda. Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions.

### **We're Ready for Your Close-up!**

By Jane Giles

The Members Only section of the STC Web site will soon include each member's picture alongside her listing in the membership roster. This will be a great way to get acquainted with new members and also refresh our memories after so many months' apart. Email a recent color headshot of yourself to Jane Giles - [janegiles16@gmail.com](mailto:janegiles16@gmail.com) - jpeg preferred. Or send as an attachment in a text to Jane at 914-649-1540. For any questions, please contact Jane. Deadline: March 31.



*Happy Birthday!*

#### MARCH BIRTHDAYS

08	Stacey Johnson
13	Kathye Geary
16	Rose Brice
23	Janet S. Morgan
27	Nancy Parsons
29	Nancy Burns
31	Elizabeth Robb