

THE HAMILTON STREET CLUB

**16 East Hamilton Street
Baltimore, Maryland 21202
410-727-4896**

www.hamiltonstclub.com
manager@hamiltonstclub.com
Dawn Elardo, Club Manager

DECEMBER 2016

The Club will be closed Dec 24 thru Jan 1st for Winter Break.

At this special time of year, we express our gratitude to the hard-working Club staff with a generous gift to the Staff Appreciation Fund. You may mail in your check or make a pledge that will be billed in December. Your gifts will convey to Dawn, our indefatigable manager, Mike, our imaginative cook, and Cindy, our ever-pleasant server, just how much we thank them for their efforts on our behalf throughout the year. Your thoughtful gift should be sent in or pledged by Wednesday, December 16. Thank you!

Please note that at the Annual Meeting on October 20, 2016 the By-Laws were amended and *Section 1. Initiation Fee* under *Article IV - Dues and Charges* - was eliminated. So bring on the new members!. On Nov. 16, the Board approved a motion to offer Carla Hayden an Honorary Life Membership, and a vote on this issue by a quorum of the members will be held at the Christmas party on December 15. Another reminder: For up-to-date information about club officers and committee heads, please consult our web site, www.hamiltonstclub.com, *The Hamilton Street Club: An Exceptional Club for Women in Baltimore*.

Many, thanks again,

Joan

DECEMBER PROGRAMS

WAIT LIST ONLY: Please note this program is now a buffet luncheon. Thursday, December 8. Luncheon with Guest Speaker. Upstairs at Noon, Lunch at 12:15. Popular Baltimore lecturer, **Judy Pittenger**, will present **Charles Dickens: "The Man Who Invented Christmas."** Our image of Christmas—the snowy landscape, the festive gathering and family feast, the yuletide spirit of generous giving—was largely established by England's most beloved novelist Charles Dickens. Although he celebrated the festival of Christmas in many of his works, it was primarily his beloved story, *A Christmas Carol*, published in 1843, that revived and preserved Christmas customs of Olde England and made them central to our own American celebration. In this program we will consider the development of Christmas from a relatively minor holiday to a major festival celebration which reflects the enduring influence of Charles Dickens. We will discover why London's Sunday Telegraph proclaimed him in 1988 as "The Man Who Invented Christmas." **In order to meet the high demand for this program, we will offer a buffet lunch and row seating for no more than 50 in attendance. For dining convenience, if they wish, members can take their buffet lunch upstairs in our lounge.**

Tuesday, December 13. Luncheon with guest speaker. Upstairs at noon. Lunch at 12:15. Historian **Mary C. Jeske** will speak about *A Tale of Two Families: Charles Carroll of Carrollton and his Relationship with his Granddaughters*. Carroll, a leader of the American Revolutionary movement in Maryland, a signer of the Declaration of Independence, and one of the wealthiest men in Maryland, was the patriarch of a large extended family. Dr. Jeske will focus on his unique relationship with his

three Caton granddaughters—the *Three American Graces*—in comparison and sharp contrast to his comparative neglect of the daughters of his only son, Charles Carroll of Homewood. Jeske is an editor at the *Charles Carroll of Carrollton Family Papers*.

Thursday, December 15. HOLIDAY LUNCHEON: Noon. 'Tis the season, so please join us for the Club's traditional holiday gathering. Following a buffet luncheon, Marilyn Tabb will play the piano upstairs for caroling or listening. Guests are most welcome. And, if you should arrive a bit early, the Upstairs Lounge will be open as usual for wine and soft drinks.

Monday, December 19. Current Events Discussion: Lunch and Discussion at noon. Please join us as we contemplate and try to understand the issues of the day with the help of articles by respected thinkers. Come and bring your informed views, your sense of humor, and perhaps a guest or two.

Monday, December 19. French Table: 12:00-1:00. Join other Club members for an hour of conversation and lunch, *en français* with a little English, but mostly French. You don't have to be fluent to enjoy the hour -- come listen and speak when you wish. Please sign up in advance.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Thursday, January 5. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon: Lunch at 12:15. *Nineteenth Century Baltimore – A City of Immigrants.* This illustrated talk examines Baltimore's role as a major port of entry for immigrants. During the period from 1866 to 1900 over 610,000 people came to the City in search of a new beginning. Many were from the countries of northern and central Europe such as Germany, Poland, Russia, Austria-Hungary, Bohemia and Lithuania. Most of these immigrants sailed on the North German Lloyd Steamship Line from Bremen, Germany to piers 8 & 9 at Locust Point located adjacent to Fort McHenry. From here, they started their new lives in America. **Wayne Schaumburg** has been giving tours and lectures on Baltimore history for over 35 years, covering topics from architecture to the Great Baltimore Fire, and he is well known around town for his tours of Green Mount Cemetery. Mr. Schaumburg taught in the Baltimore City School system for nearly four decades, and currently teaches courses at Towson University, Notre Dame of Maryland University, and the Community College of Baltimore County.

Wednesday, January 11. Luncheon with Guest Speaker and Tour: Lunch at noon. **Gabrielle Dean**, curator of the exhibit, *The Enigmatic Edgar A. Poe in Baltimore and Beyond, Selections from the Susan Jaffe Tane Collection*, currently displayed in the exhibition gallery of the George Peabody Library. Ms. Dean will discuss her work in curating the exhibit and the collection that inspired the exhibit. We will walk from the Club to the George Peabody Library for her discussion and to tour the exhibition. **Lunch will begin at noon. Limited to 20 people.**

Thursday, January 12. Luncheon with Guest Speakers: Upstairs at noon. Lunch at 12:15. Ever wonder what it would be like to circumnavigate South America? You can do this without leaving the comforts of home when our member **Alice Cherbonnier** and her partner, retired psychologist **Sumner Clarren**, take us *Around South America in 67 Days*. They'll offer lively commentary about the multifaceted histories, cultures, environmental and social issues, politics and arts of our vibrant Neighbors to the South as they show up-close views of such marvels as Macchu Pichu, the Chilean Fjords, Andean volcanoes, Tierra del Fuego, pristine Antarctica, the immense Amazon and Devil's Island.

Thursday, January 19. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon. Lunch at 12:15. The Goucher Prison Education Partnership (GPEP) gives men and women incarcerated in Maryland the opportunity to pursue an excellent college education. GPEP, as directed by **Goucher College's Amy Ai-Mei Roza**, offers Goucher courses at the Maryland Correctional Institution for Women and the Maryland Correctional Institution – Jessup. For those needing additional support to be ready for

college work, GPEP also provides college preparatory courses. Almost 100 men and women are enrolled as Goucher students through GPEP and are held to the same rigorous academic standards as students on campus. Courses are taught on site by Goucher faculty as well as by outstanding professors from nearby universities. The inclusion of these talented, dedicated students enhances and strengthens the entire Goucher academic community as it stimulates awareness and meaningful dialogue about justice, incarceration, and educational access. GPEP is made possible primarily by private grants and individual donations. Courses, books, and supplies are provided to participating students at no cost.

Monday, January 23. Current Events Discussion: Lunch and Discussion at noon. Please join us as we contemplate and try to understand the issues of the day with the help of articles by respected thinkers. Come and bring your informed views, your sense of humor, and perhaps a guest or two.

Monday, January 23. French Table: 12:00-1:00. Join other Club members for an hour of conversation and lunch, *en français* with a little English, but mostly French. You don't have to be fluent to enjoy the hour -- come listen and speak when you wish. Please sign up in advance.

Thursday, January 26. Book Discussion: Lunch at noon. Psychoanalyst and psychiatrist **Tom Allen** continues the discussion of psychoanalytic perspective on trauma (PTSD) as it applies to J.D. Salinger. He will discuss Salinger's novel *Catcher in the Rye* for insight into Salinger's psychological reactions to his prolonged exposure to combat during World War II. Salinger was a heroic survivor of some of the worst battles on the Western Front, starting with landing on the beaches of Normandy and ending with the Nazi surrender. With their lives constantly threatened, soldiers must do whatever is necessary to survive. But there are inevitable psychological consequences for that. Salinger was very reluctant to talk about his wartime experiences except with others who shared the same experience, as is common among combat veterans. Dr. Allen will discuss the clues to the impact of the war on him that can be found in disguised form in his writing, especially in *Catcher*, which Salinger worked on throughout the war, and for 6 years after it.

Thursday, February 16. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon. Lunch at 12:15. Come learn about a very popular specialized literary genre when Baltimore-based science fiction writer **Sarah Pinsker** tells about her burgeoning career. "I like to explore the edges," she said in a recently published interview, "technologies that are useful but can lead to unexpected problems." Her novelette, "Our Lady of the Open Road," won the Science Fiction & Fantasy Writers Association's Nebula Award in 2016. Her fiction has been published in magazines including *Asimov's*, *Strange Horizons*, *Fantasy & Science Fiction*, *Lightspeed*, *Daily Science Fiction*, *Fireside*, and *Uncanny* and in anthologies including *Long Hidden*, *Fierce Family*, *Accessing the Future*, and numerous "year's best" compilations. Her stories have been translated into Chinese, Spanish, French, and Italian, among other languages. Sarah is also a singer/songwriter with three albums on various independent labels (the third with her rock band, *the Stalking Horses*) and a fourth forthcoming.

Wednesday, February 22. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15. **John Tapscott**, Manager of Public Programs & Naturalist at the Irvine Nature Center, will present a program about oysters and their role in a healthy Chesapeake Bay. He will discuss the biology of the oyster, its habitat in the Bay, how water pollution and sediment adversely affect the oyster population, oyster farming and harvesting, and how the oyster restoration efforts are helping water quality in the Bay.

Monday, February 27. Current Events Discussion: Lunch and Discussion at noon. Please join us as we contemplate and try to understand the issues of the day with the help of articles by respected thinkers. Come and bring your informed views, your sense of humor, and perhaps a guest or two.

Monday, February 27. French Table: 12:00-1:00. Join other Club members for an hour of conversation and lunch, *en français* with a little English, but mostly French. You don't have to be fluent to enjoy the hour -- come listen and speak when you wish. Please sign up in advance.

Tuesday, April 4. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15. **Phoebe Hayes**, Director of Horseman's Relations at Laurel and Pimlico Race courses, will discuss her work at these two horse racetracks, the plans the current owners, the Stronach Group, have for the facilities, and the outlook for the 2017 Triple Crown races. The history of Pimlico Racetrack is tightly tied to the history of Maryland and the annual Preakness Stakes is one of the premier sporting events in the nation. Ms. Hayes will take us 'behind the scenes' to find out how the many people involved--horse owners, trainers, jockeys, racetrack owners, stablehands, etc--coordinate this event.

Thursday, April 20. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon. Lunch at 12:15. **Ralph Webster**, in his first book, *A Smile in One Eye: A Tear in the Other*, tells the story of the Websters, prosperous, churchgoing and good Germans, living in a small East Prussian town. With the rise of Nazism, they are told they are Jews and are persecuted, even though they have been Baptized and confirmed as Lutherans. The author reports on how his family's life is destroyed as they flee their heretofore comfortable lives. Ralph Webster's father is the central figure in this remarkable story. The book raises the question: What does it mean to be Jewish: Is it a religion, a race, an ethnicity?

AROUND THE CLUB

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

Renee Wilson: Renee, in addition to being the owner of Bijoux (a jewelry store in Mt. Washington), volunteers at the House of Ruth and is involved in pet adoption and rescue. Her interests include French, food, dogs, history, history of jewelry and art. Thank you to Jane Dyer and Phyllis Von Stade for sponsoring Renee.

Leslie Brown: Leslie, a psychotherapist/analyst, belongs to the Art Seminar Group, Baltimore Women's Giving Circle, and the Chinese-American Psychoanalytic Alliance (a pro bono counseling project). She is interested in art, music, and theater. Thanks to Marsha Ramsay and Bettina Jenkins for proposing her membership.

Mary O'Byrne: Mary is an attorney whose practice concentrates in special needs planning. She is a former board member and vice president of Planned Parenthood of Md. Currently, Mary is on the boards of NAMI (National Alliance of Mental Illness)-Metro Baltimore and of Special Needs Alliance. Her interests include travel, theater, gardening, reading, and helping women be successful. Thank you to Susan Adams Weiss and Michelle Pasternak for sponsoring Mary.