

**THE HAMILTON STREET CLUB**

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Dawn Elardo, Club Manager

**DECEMBER 2017**

**The club will be closed Monday Dec 25<sup>th</sup> thru Monday Jan 1<sup>st</sup> for Holiday 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 January. Your gifts will convey to Dawn, our indefatigable manager, Ryn, 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 Tuesday, December 12. Thank you!

**This Fall the Board happily acknowledged the twentieth anniversary of Dawn Elardo's tenure as The Hamilton Street Club's Manager. Dawn keeps our club on a steady keel, and we are so grateful for all that she does to make our club a home-away-from-home. Thank you, Dawn**

**The busy Holiday season is approaching, but I hope many of you will be able to relax a little and take part in the special programs planned for December. I myself look forward to celebrating with members and friends at the Holiday Party on Thursday, December 14 as we enjoy each other's company while Marilyn Tabb leads us in holiday songs.**

**Joan**

**DECEMBER PROGRAMS**

**Tuesday, December 5. Book Discussion: Lunch at noon; Discussion to follow.**

*Anything is Possible* is Pulitzer Prize-winning author Elizabeth Strout's latest novel. It is a memorable story of small town characters lost in the range of human emotions. Set in Amgash, Illinois, each person in this story collection is linked to Lucy Barton, who is returning to Amgash for a visit after a successful career as a writer in New York. All of the characters in Amgash are interconnected in emotional and family ties, but each carries secrets long since buried. Each chapter builds on the preceding one and together they move to a conclusion in which anything is possible for anyone. Do join **Betty Kansler** for a discussion of class, life, and relationships as revealed by master storyteller, Elizabeth Strout.

**Monday, December 11. 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, December 14. 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 18. 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.

**Tuesday December 19. Luncheon with Guest Speaker: Upstairs at noon; Lunch at 12:15.** We are pleased to announce that **Dr. Matthew Crenson**, Johns Hopkins Professor Emeritus of Political Science at the Johns Hopkins University will discuss his most recent book on Tuesday, Dec. 19. In his latest book, *Baltimore, A Political History*, Dr. Crenson examines the role of politics and race throughout Baltimore's history. Revealing how residents at large engage (and disengage) with one another across an expansive agenda of issues and conflicts, he shows how politics helped form our complex city's personality.

Dr. Crenson received his PhD from the U of Chicago in political Science and came to Hopkins as an assistant professor the same year, teaching in the Department of Political Science. Thirty-eight years later, he became Professor Emeritus in Urban Government and American Political Development, his primary areas of interest. He spent the bulk of his career doing scholarly research on policy issues. He has published well-reviewed books on neighborhood politics in Baltimore, the "prehistory" of the federal welfare program, and the effect of political elites on democracy.

### UPCOMING EVENTS

**Monday, January 22. 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.

**Monday, January 29. 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 12. 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.

**Monday, February 26. 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.

### AROUND THE CLUB:

#### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS:

With delight we announce our new member, **Susan Brooks**, who brings her experience in Community Health Education and Development and her avocation of legacy history. She is a Board Member of the Greater Baltimore History Alliance, and a docent at both Clifton Mansion and the Evergreen Mansion. She also plays the flute with the Chesapeake Community Band and manages to find time for horseback riding too. Welcome Susan!

**Please note: You must cancel by noon of the day prior to any event to avoid a house charge for the lunch.**