

*Woman's Club of Douglaston*  
Established 1916



**NEWSBYTES**  
**APRIL/MAY 2023**

---

**President's Farewell Message**  
**Helene Schutz**



Dearest Ladies,

I want to thank each and every one of you for giving me the opportunity to serve as your 50th president over the last two years. You have been a fully supportive, enthusiastic group. The time has gone by so quickly. I can say with pride that the presidency has been an affirming experience, and barely a day has gone by without exciting things happening and a tale to tell about the **WCD**.

Together, let's take a view of the accomplishments of **2021- 2023**. This couldn't be the work of one; it is all of those who constantly put service above self, step

forward and pull in the same direction. Volunteerism *par excellence*. The core of our strength, the executive board, has worked tirelessly and competently. They have brought creative ideas to fruition.

**These are some of the newest outcomes and highlights of the past two years:**

- **The Hat (2021) and The Doll (2022) Expositions** brought treasures to light from the **WCD** community and related them to individual memories. Due to the great appeal of these two expos, we are initiating plans for completing the **Trilogy, with The Handbag Expo** in the fall of 2023.
- **Our charitable endeavors have increased by more than 30%.** We have hosted inspiring representatives from our lead charities. A collection truck was filled to capacity for **Hour Children** (2022) with over \$2500 credit given to us for these donations. This event was remarkably successful and extended into the broader community. Currently baby gifts are being collected for **Bridge to Life** to help the needy.
- Money has been invested by our treasurer in a **\$5000 CD. I am currently requesting more of this CD strategy** be applied to our cash deposits, as interest rates are clearly up without risk. It is important to note our **exquisite as well as lucrative tabletop décor**. Raffles of these items brought in **\$3100** in profits and **\$209** in charitable contributions over the past two years. We are financially secure at this time.
- **An Education Committee** was formed to implement a pilot program with PS 98 for encouraging creativity in both student writing and artwork. We launched a contest with themes related to honoring women. There has been an overwhelming response. Monetary prizes, ribbons and certificates are being given to outstanding 4th and 5th grade entrants.
- **The History Committee has archived our earliest existing materials and records.** They are in the Central Library in Jamaica. This project is up to date as well as ongoing.
- **NewsBytes and WCD Website** are constantly being updated and curated. The Internet is the key to our organization's effective direct

communication.

- We experienced our first **Lunar New Year Celebration** in February with Chinese classical dance, music, and calligraphy as well as red envelopes with New Year's money.
- We have planned visits to our **eldest recorded executive board member**, now **105 years old**, in her assisted living home in Great Neck.
- **Plans are underway for the Memorial Day Parade.** It has been 14 years since we have participated. A float, new banner, and uniforms are currently being designed for the event. Men will participate for the first time.
- It has been my pleasure to periodically send **relevant and outstanding cultural and entertainment** videos. Membership has had a very positive response to them.
- **In terms of growth and development**, our membership is now **100 strong**. Two new members were inducted in March. Among our members are women from diverse backgrounds who carry with them a lifetime of information about everything from family and personal issues as well as the best footwear, doctors, and restaurants. A primary goal has been to **encourage greater friendship and interaction between members**. Let's keep this idea at the forefront.
- **Game Day**, which meets on a monthly basis, has gained momentum, and attracted a greater following over time. An additional incentive to socialization has been ordering delicious lunches at the Douglaston Club.
- Now that covid is a plague of the past, our **Antiques, Theatre, Museums, Music, Potpourri, Programs, Book Club, and the tradition of poinsettia arrangements** have been revitalized, up and running. Sadly, many more sympathy and get-well cards had to be sent during this

period by **The Sunshine Committee**.

- **Our grand, innovative annual luncheon** can proceed without restrictions. Last year's members' **fashion show** was the first **featuring our beautiful ladies as runway models**. Our profits were an unprecedented \$5461.07. This was due in part to the inclusion of local groups and organizations, who came to celebrate our 106th anniversary.

Our club is thriving with all committees maximized. From this vantage point of the presidency, I can see behind the scenes and know that none of this success is magically happening. **It is the result of the long, hard work of many.**

These last 2 years have changed my life and hopefully have changed yours for the better as well.

In closing, I would like to heartily thank the board and all **WCD** members once again.

It is now my final duty to pass on the club gavel to your new, capable, and trustworthy President **Maria DiChiara**.

*Helene Schutz*

---

WOMAN'S CLUB OF DOUGLASTON  
**ANNUAL MEETING LUNCHEON FUNDRAISER**

**Our WCD Kentucky Derby  
"A DAY AT THE RACES"**



**WEDNESDAY, MAY 3, 2023**

**North Hills Country Club**  
**200 Long Island Expressway North Service**  
**Rd.**  
**Manhasset, NY 11030**

**11:00 a.m.** Cocktail Hour  
**12:00 p.m.** Annual Meeting and Lunch

**INSTALLATION OF OUR 2023-2025**  
**NEW SLATE OF OFFICERS**

President: **Maria DiChiara**  
Vice President: **Geraldine Lynett**  
Recording Secretary: **Barbara Buckley**  
Corresponding Secretary: **Margarita Autz**  
Treasurer: **Sandy Hart**

***R.S.P.V. by April 19th.***  
***Don your favorite Derby hat.***



This highly anticipated afternoon of fun includes a race simulcast, raffles and vendors. For further information contact **Linda Akers** at [Linakers@yahoo.com](mailto:Linakers@yahoo.com)

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW OUR VIRTUAL INVITATION](#)

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW/PRINT OUR FLYER INVITATION](#)

[CLICK HERE FOR RAFFLE DONATIONS INFORMATION](#)

**Hurry and join the fun!**

---

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A Wait List** has been established for membership for non-resident applicants.

Until further notice **no guests** will be allowed to attend upcoming **WCD** General Meetings with the exception of the **Annual Meeting and Luncheon Fundraiser in May**.

To access our **Members Only Page** create a **secure online profile**. Go to the **WCD** website [www.womansclubofdouglaston.com](http://www.womansclubofdouglaston.com) [home page](#), upper right corner to sign up. Please use your email as recorded in our Membership Roster.

---

### **BOOK CLUB**

**THURSDAY, APRIL 6, 2023**

Joan Curran and 7 Members discussed a **Man Called Ove** by Fredrik Backman. Recommended reading for all.

**Books for upcoming Meetings as follows:**

#### **October**

Hour of the Witch by Chris Bohjalian

#### **November**

Lessons in Chemistry, by Bonnie Garmus

#### **December**

Reader's Choice

#### **February**

The Personal Librarian by Marie Benedict & Victoria Christopher Murray

#### **March**

Reader's Choice

## **April**

The Lions of Fifth Avenue by Fiona Davis

The Book Club will meet at [12:00 p.m.](#)

Join Chairwoman **Joan Curran** and other Book Club members in the Bar Room prior to our General Meeting. All members are welcome to share our love of books.

**Thank you Joan** for leading us down the road of discovery of new books - new authors - new friends - meaningful discussions. We appreciate you!

---

---

**FRIDAY, APRIL 14, 2023**

### **AFTERNOON OF CARDS AND GAMES**

Time: [12:30-3:00 p.m.](#)

(Optional Lunch : \$25.00 - cash only for non-Douglaston Club members.)

We will meet at the Douglaston Club for mingling with fellow members while enjoying your favorite table game. (Bridge, Canasta, Scrabble, Dominoes, Poker and other quick to learn and fun to play games.)

12:30 p.m. (Greet, meet, organize tables) 1:00 p.m. (Play commences)

For further information please contact Pat Doyle: [crxbeach@aol.com](mailto:crxbeach@aol.com) or Tel.718-631-1609.

**Please advise Pat Doyle if something comes up that you cannot attend.**

---

---

**WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023**

### **BROADWAY MUSICAL "MOULIN ROUGE"**

**Cost: \$130.00. If you signed up please bring your check to our April meeting.** This includes Orchestra seats, bus and tip.

By popular demand lunch will be at Daniella's Trattoria. Price **\$62.00** per person (Please bring exact amount in cash which will be collected on the bus). Bus will leave **Douglaston Club** at 10:00 a.m. Play is over at 4:35 p.m.

**Contact Maura Wrynn at [maura.wrynn@gmail.com](mailto:maura.wrynn@gmail.com) for further details**

---

---

**TUESDAY, JUNE 13, 2023**

### **MUSEUM OF BROADWAY** - 45 Street NYC

Two floors - Self Guided Tour (1 1/2 Hours).

**Cost:** Tour and Bus is \$90.

Lunch is Pre Fixed at Le Rivage 340 W 46 St. \$55. **Cash** (exact amount) will be collected on the bus.

Contact Fran [Belloffbello@aol.com](mailto:Belloffbello@aol.com) for further details.

---

## Editor-in-Chief

Annette Aloisio



## PONDERINGS, MUSES AND IDLE THOUGHTS

**TEMPUS FUGIT:** (A Latin phrase which means:” time flies”). The expression originated with Virgil’s Georgics (“Virgil was regarded by the Romans as their greatest poet” – some considered him to be a Prophet) The phrase is a common motto, particularly on sundials (makes sense!), clocks and gravestones (logical!).

We understand it to mean the rapid passage of time. That is an understatement! How is it possible that we are nearing the end of “our season”? Were we not just preparing for our new “season”? Did we not just celebrate Christmas/Hannukah – how is it possible we are now approaching Easter/Passover?

Does it not seem a short while ago the Luncheon Committee was preparing for our Annual Luncheon (who will ever forget that extravaganza?) Can we believe it was almost one year ago? As a matter of fact, the invitations have already been sent for **“A Day At The Races” which will take place on Wednesday, May 3rd.**

We have enjoyed these past months through our meetings, programs and greetings. We have enjoyed several trips; we have enjoyed being together. *“Time flies when you are having fun”!*

So, while it is true that “time” does indeed fly by – I believe it is also true and fair to say that we, the **WCD** make our time together count. Yes, we all get caught up in our daily lives – fair to say days go into weeks and the months pass by so quickly. Yet, we make our days meaningful – we try to keep abreast of happenings – in our own little world and also in the big picture.



Our time is dedicated to making the **WCD** an environment wherein whatever “time” you spend within this organization, it is friendly, meaningful, charitable, informative and of utmost importance, sociable. (“... *strong community bonds fosters both emotional and physical health and is an important component of adult life*”.)

So, as our season will shortly come to an end, the **Newsbytes Staff** will put **NB** to bed for awhile (rest assured before we know it – our new season will begin). We will continue to keep you informed via our alternate Newsletter.

*“Use your time in the best way you can” (Colossians 4:5)*

*“Time flies over us but leaves its shadow behind” (Nathaniel Hawthorne – short story writer and novelist)*

### ***On a personal note:***

It is “time” once to again thank **Linda Akers** for her “time” and talent devoted to making **NB** what it is. I thank **Sarah Milunec** for rescuing us when it was decided **NB** was going to be published only four times a year with Sarah in her capacity as Corresponding Secretary composing a newsletter and getting it out to our non- email members. I humbly and sincerely state that I am but a small part of **NB**. We are a team.

I would also like to thank our President, **Helene Schutz**, for her contributing “President’s Message” which is always thought - provoking, informative and heartfelt. It seems impossible that **Helene’s** “time” as President is nearing its end. It seems like yesterday when she stood in front of the Podium for the first time and now soon to be her last as President – rest assured, she is not leaving us and will remain an integral part of the **WCD**.

So – “so long for awhile...” – that’s all the “**NB**” for awhile. See you later – *Au revoir – Adios –Ciao!* Have a safe and happy Summer my friends!

**Annette A.**

---

### **THOUGHT FOR THE DAY:**

*WHAT DO YOU SEE WHEN YOU LOOK AT A TREE? (Think Joyce Kilmer’s Poem)*

**Annette A.**

---

## Meet Our Board

### Sharon Lee



In September of 2018, **Ms. Sharon Lee** joined the **WCD**. Sharon has been Program Chair and Public Relations Chair for several years. We have enjoyed all her endeavors. As Program Chair, Sharon has brought us many enjoyable, varied and unforgettable programs.

As Public Relations Chair, Sharon shares the news of the WCD regarding Club Events - be it fundraisers, luncheons, general information about the **WCD**. She keeps us “in the news”. Sharon is a Manorite who has lived here since 2014. It was our dear friend Nina Kowalsky who first introduced her to WCD and our President Helene Schutz who convinced her to join our Club.

Sharon is a Mom of three; her husband, Kit, is an attorney whose practice is in Whitestone. Sharon is his Office Manager. Sharon is very much involved in the DMA (Douglas Manor Association) and wears several hats in that organization. Sharon loves “giving back to the community”.

Sharon was born and raised in Houston, Texas where her Mom and siblings still reside. How does one go from Houston to New York one might ask? Sharon’s husband received a work opportunity in New York which he accepted (at her urging) and the rest is history.

Sharon’s first love and background is journalism – having self-published once a month newsletters under the name of “Queens Senior”. She has a varied and extensive background in journalism, including business writings, magazines, etc.

Lastly, Sharon shared with me that her ultimate dream is to establish a non-

profit community for seniors which would be housed in a local facility including services and activities pertinent to seniors – be it yoga, writing groups, walking groups, book club, etc. – basically a way for seniors to connect with one another. This desire stems from her grandmothers, both of whom resided with her in her childhood home, both of whom influenced her and instilled in her the qualities we know and love about Sharon. She is and hopes to be an advocate for seniors – whatever it takes to fulfill that dream – we applaud you and encourage you to continue on your journey.

I was impressed by Sharon’s openness, intelligence, and dedication to so many causes. What shall remain with me is her quote: “Do one big thing at a time”. Sharon, I believe you have accomplished that. I believe bigger and better is in your future.

On behalf of the **WCD**, we thank you for your dedicated service. We appreciate your hard work and strong work ethic in your capacities within the **WCD**. Lastly, we say – “may all your dreams come true”!

**Annette.A.**

---

## **SPOTLIGHT ON A SPECIAL 105<sup>TH</sup> BIRTHDAY**

### **Gertrude Malin**

Past **WCD** Corresponding Secretary



Gertrude Malin was an active member of the WCD until 2008. She moved to Great Neck, not far away from us.

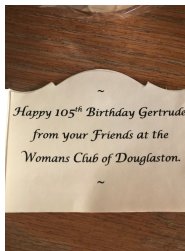
Gertrude celebrated her 105th Birthday on Thursday, March 30th surrounded by her large family members including her children, their spouses and 15 grandchildren. Gertrude current residence is the Atria Senior Living where they celebrated her birthday at a special gathering with all the residents, her family and some members of the WCD: Helene Schutz, Maria DiChiara, Mary Taylor, Joan Curran, and Linda Akers.

It was an unforgettable afternoon full of “unforgettable” songs that Gertrude enjoyed listening to and singing along some of the lyrics with Toni, the MC and performer.

We were all amazed at the clear mind, wittiness, good sense of humor and unremarkable physical fitness of Gertrude. She remembered some of us and many of her friends at WCD and the DGC.

She was presented with a special proclamation by the Great Neck Plaza Mayor. It is worth to note that Gertrude was an educator in the **NYC** Public Schools for more than 30 years and a Graduate of Queens College and St. John’s University. Gertrude was the **WCD** Corresponding Secretary for many years. When it was time to fill in her vacant position in 2009, her job was split among three people. That is how remarkable devoted she was to **WCD**.

**We wish Gertrude many more years of longevity and good health. Happy Birthday Gertrude!**





## SUNSHINE NEWS

A birthday card was sent to **Gertrude Malin** (a former member of the **WCD** Executive Board). Gertrude celebrated her **105th birthday** on March 30th.

Get well cards were sent to **Helene Schutz** and **Sylvia Wolinsky**.

Thinking of You card was sent to **Carolyn Lippmann**.

A Thank you card was received from **Amparo Minogue**.

Let us keep all our members in our prayers.

---

## Happy Birthday to our Spring and Summer Birthday Girls



Those born in the Springtime manifest an enthusiasm for life. Their energy is prodigious where initiating projects is concerned, and their ability to survive and/or adapt is noteworthy.

Those born in the Summer have more measured responses than those born in the spring and, although enthusiastic, are more critical, their energies are perhaps a bit less focused on initiating projects and more on bringing them to fruition.

**MAY:** Joyce Ramirez, Carolyn Karoff, Ruth Ma Harrigan, Sandy Hart, Patricia O'Connor, Jeri Lynett.

**JUNE:** Aida Ieraci, Josephine Marotta, Marie Romano, Beverly Emery, Helene Schutz, Miriam Albert.

**JULY:** Maria Falco, Jean Raccuglia, Catherine Towsma, Martha Gotz,

Rosemary Pepe, Gloria Kemper, Evelyn Wrynn, Pat Doyle, Janet Fini.

**AUGUST:** Elizabeth Ehler, Sharon Larkin, Sharon Lee, Ann Ferry, Sylvia Wolinsky.

---



Contact us

Visit us

---

**OFFICERS:**

Helene Schutz, President  
Vice President, Maria DiChiara  
Recording Secretary, Barbara Buckley  
Corresponding Secretary, Sarah Milunec  
Treasurer, Sandy Hart

**NEWSBYTES EDITORIAL TEAM**

Annette Aloisio, Editor-in-Chief  
Linda Akers, Design, Audiovisual, Publishing  
Sarah Milunec, Hard Copy

---

The Woman's Club of Douglaston is a tax-exempt organization under section 501(c)3 of the IRS. Donations are tax deductible to the fullest extent allowed by law Section IRC 170.

---

*Copyright © \*2022\* \*WOMAN'S CLUB OF DOUGLASTON\*, All rights reserved.*

Established 1916

**Email:** womansclubofdouglaston@gmail.com

**Website:** [www.womansclubofdouglaston.com](http://www.womansclubofdouglaston.com)

Woman's Club of Douglaston  
Douglaston, NY 11363

Want to change how you receive these emails?  
You can [update your preferences](#) or [unsubscribe from this list](#).

---

This email was sent to <<Email Address>>

[why did I get this?](#) [unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Woman's Club of Douglaston · Douglas Manor · Douglaston, NY 11363 · USA

