



Women's Civic League of Portage, Inc.

Preserving our Heritage - Fostering Community Welfare

www.WomensCivicLeagueOfPortage.com

May 2017

**Wednesday, May 10th @
Dino's Restaurant**

Social Hour: 11:30

Lunch: Noon

Program to follow

Menu: Shepherd's pie,
Salad, Rolls & Butter,
Strawberry shortcake with
whipped cream.

Cost: \$12 (includes entrée,
coffee & water, dessert, tax
& tip). Ice tea, milk or soda
an extra charge.

Reservations: Contact
Sandy Blankenheim (617-
4957) or Kathy Crawford
(742-5262) by Sunday, May
7th.

Thank you.

PHS Vocal Jazz

Holly Atkinson and the Portage High School Vocal Jazz group will entertain us with song.

Vocal jazz has many qualities that include the ability to swing, the ability to interact in a creative way with the music and the ability to transform song into something distinctive and personal. Famous female jazz artists include: Ella Fitzgerald, Billie Holiday, Nora Jones, Amy Winehouse, and Joni Mitchell. Their most famous male counterparts are: Louis Armstrong, Nate King Cole, Frank Sinatra, Harry Connick, Jr. and Michael Buble'.



June Bus Trip Reminder

There are still seats available for our June 14th bus trip to New Glarus. Jean Damm or Holly Powers will be available to accept your reservation and check (made out to "Women's Civic League") at the May 10th Luncheon Meeting. **Don't delay, reservation deadline is May 15th.**

Membership Dues Reminder

Civic League members will have the opportunity to pay their 2017-2018 dues at the May 10th Luncheon Meeting. **Dues are \$25.00. Checks are to be made payable to the "Women's Civic League" and may also be mailed to PO Box 311, Portage, WI 53901.** Consider asking a friend to join also.

FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK

May 2017 President's Letter

Dear Friends: Goodness! Where did this year go? But it was wonderful to be sure.

This is the time when we thank all those who volunteered to make Civic League what it is. Bobbie Goodman, Holly Powers and the Program Committee outdid themselves with entertaining and thought-provoking programs at our Lunch meetings. Generous member support toward our monthly drawings, organized by Andi Rietmann and Shirley Harty, once again boosted funds for our civic welfare donations. Thanks to Dorothy Rice, her Committee and Dino's Restaurant for delicious meals. We will miss Kathryn Crawford and Sally Moe, who have cheerfully greeted us at the door each month for the last several years. Thanks also to Sandy Blankenheim for maintaining our permanent reservation list.

Peggy Nelson has produced outstanding newsletters, maintains our Website and has started a Facebook page to share our events. Nancy Wehlage always keeps our membership information organized and ensures distribution, with able assistance from Nan Rebholz, of the newsletters to members. Kay Jenkins produced her last membership book and we thank her for years on this task; we are grateful to Sallie Lillie for her successful publicity efforts; Karen Fisher and Judy McMahon sent cards to members and families needing a little "sunshine" in their lives; and Betty Christianson and Judy Longfield maintained our scrapbooks. Thanks go to Judy Eulberg for coordinating, and Shirley Rehdantz for conducting, the majority of our House Tours throughout the year. Our historic Zona Gale Home would never be the same without the TLC of Clarice Rosing and Bobbie Goodman.

Appreciation goes to the organizers and volunteers of our special events: Rita Maass for the Christmas Tree decorating at the Heritage House; Sallie Lillie and Linda Wendt for the Valentine's Day party; Kim Cibulka and Walda Wood for the Holiday Open House; Colleen Davison, Walda Wood, Kim Cibulka, Tracy Cooper for our popular Red Stocking event; and Holly and Clarice for pulling off a profitable No Bake-Bake Sale.

Dorothy Rebholz will announce our new two 4-yr scholarship recipients in May; Kay Jenkins and her committee are nominating worthy recipients for our civic welfare donations; our (JBH) tour guides Jean Damm, and Bobbie Goodman, and Holly Powers are organizing our fun June trip to New Glarus; and Tracy Cooper is once again planning our Zona Gale Days pie and ice cream social in August.

The Civic League is grateful to the many hours donated by this year's Officers: Holly Powers, Jean Damm, Tracy Cooper, and Helen Lantz. And a most special thanks to all our members who volunteer their time, talents and energy and financial support. You make Civic League what it is!!

Gratefully, Betty Kutzke

Installation of Officers:

At the May luncheon, we will be voting on and installing the officers for the 2016-2017 year. They are as follows:

President:	Betty Kutzke
Vice-President	Tracy Cooper
Recording Secretary	Vicki Bortz
Corresponding Secretary	Nan Rebholz
Treasurer	Jean Damm

In Memoriam

We pause to express our condolences to the families and friends of those members who passed away this year. They were very special to the legacy of the Women's Civic League.

Karen Kaiser
Rosemary Van Bree West

April 2017 Drawing

Fresh floral arrangement given by Judy Eulberg won by Vickie Bortz

\$25 gift certificate for 2017-2018 Portage Women's Civic League membership given by Civic League won by Vivian Zurbuchen

2 tickets to Performing Center for the Arts and Satin Hands given by Betty Kutzke and Judy Eulberg won by Nancy West

Chicken Soup Book/Guest soap/Robin egg/Bird with blue egg given by Nancy Beasley/Judy Eulberg/Shirley Harty/Rita Maass won by Gladys Chance

Stuffed Bunny/Mother's Day Angel/Hand soap pump given by Nan Rebholz/Shirley Harty/Judy Henrich won by Judy McMahon

Mystery prize 2 Bracelets in mini Longaberger basket given by Judy Longfield/Nan Rebholz won by Dorothy Rice

Total collected \$146

Thank you to everyone for your continued generosity!
Andi Rietmann and Shirley Harty

New Member Moment

Meet Melody Brooks-Taylor

I moved with my job to Portage ten years ago without knowing very much about the area. Imagine, I had never been to a Fish Fry or heard of Ice Fishing, despite my 10 years living and working in downtown Chicago. Then, I fell in love with and married a wonderful Portage native. So, I learned about Curling and other such things, and now call Portage "Home." We have recently returned from 3 years of teaching at the College of Medicine & Health Sciences at the University of Rwanda, which was an absolutely amazing experience. We're happy to be back in Portage where we feel a strong sense of connection to the people and place. In appreciation for all that Portage has given to us, we're looking forward to becoming involved and giving back to our community. Joining Civic League is one such opportunity for me and I am pleased to part of this inspiring group.



In Gratitude.....

Dear Women's Civic League of Portage,

I was a scholarship recipient in 2006 and I wanted to express my continued gratitude for the gift of education. It's been almost 11 years since I graduated from Portage High School and even now I mention in conversation how honored I was to receive your scholarship. To give a quick update, I work in the Des Moines, IA area at a church working with high school girls. I am transitioning to work in a college ministry in California, where I will get to work side-by-side with college women as they navigate life. I recently came across your letter and felt the need to express my gratitude once more. Thank you.
Tamara Sanner

Celebrate Historic Preservation month by visiting the graves of some of our most illustrious citizens. The City of Portage Historic Preservation Commission is sponsoring a walking tour of Silver Lake Cemetery on Saturday May 6 and Sunday May 7 at 1PM. The tour should be about an hour in length and is led by Judy Eulberg. Park on County O and enter at the cemetery gate. Wear comfortable clothing as there is walking involved and the tour will be held rain or shine. All of this fun will be presented free of charge.