



## *The Royal-tea Club Newsletter, Autumn, 2018*

*September signals the end of summer, a return to cooler weather and the routine of meetings and school schedules. Many of us have set aside the carefree, relaxed time of June, July, and August. Attending a tea we can forget our schedules and the calendar; and we can relax, talk with friends and enjoy the freedom to just BE! I hope that this newsletter brings you opportunities to enjoy your life, reflect and be thankful.*

### WHO WE ARE

An interesting statistic: the most popular names of members are Linda, Mary (including variations like Mary Ann, Mary Lou, etc.) Pat and Barb. The majority of members live in PA, followed by MD and then VA. There is one member from Alabama, one from Delaware, one Florida snow bird, 3 from New Jersey and 3 from GA. The Royal-tea Club members are from 8 states.

### **CHANGING TIMES**

The Royal-tea Club will be starting our 15th year in 2019! We have been to many teas in many places and have had wonderful trips. A lot has changed in 15 years. One thing that did not change is the cost of club membership. Since 2005 the dues have remained at \$5.00 for email and \$10 for mail. However, the cost of postage, printing, paper and web site charges (yes, there is a fee to maintain a web site) have all increased. Therefore, we find it necessary to increase the club dues to \$10 for email and \$15 for mail. You can pay for the 2019 dues beginning July at the luncheon. Anyone who has "paid ahead" for dues will be covered and does not need to pay an additional fee. If you have questions about this increase, please talk with Donna Lerew or Betsy Green.

### **TEA ETTIQUETTE** *What time should I arrive for tea?*

Several of the tea room owners have commented that we are arriving before they have completed their set-up for teas. They would prefer that we do not enter the tea room until 20 minutes before the tea is to begin. I know it may be difficult to determine how long it takes to get to the tea room and want to make sure you are not late. If you arrive early, drive around the area to see the sights or wait in your car or walk around the block. The tea hostesses will appreciate your cooperation.

**Please Note**—If you are wanting to join the Royal-tea Club, dues are \$10 for membership with email delivery of newsletter, and \$15 for regular mail delivery of the newsletter. There are membership forms and renewal forms available on the website. The dues are incorrect on those forms. Also, the address the [Royal-teaclub@aol.com](mailto:Royal-teaclub@aol.com) will no longer function. For questions regarding tea club business use [donnalerew@gmail.com](mailto:donnalerew@gmail.com) or [revnmj@aol.com](mailto:revnmj@aol.com) to communicate with the Royal-tea Club.

### **HOUSEKEEPING:**

1) Often parking space is limited or the tea room is a distance away. Car pooling is a smart option to consider. Anyone interested in car pooling, contact Donna Lerew and she will assist in finding other attendees in your area.

2) *How do I make a reservation for tea?* First, contact Donna Lerew either by email at [donnalerew@gmail.com](mailto:donnalerew@gmail.com) OR phone her at 717-741-2684. When your reservation is confirmed, mail a check, payable to The Royal-tea Club, to Donna Lerew, 110 Reynolds Mill Road, York, PA 17403. Payment is due within 10 days of your reservation. (NOTE - this is a change from 2017. Checks are to be sent to Treasurer Donna.)

**NOTE:** Reservations for tea close 2 weeks prior to the event. If you need to cancel after reservations have closed, contact Donna. If there is a waiting list she will try to fill your seat. Cancellations cannot be accepted after reservations close unless we can fill your seat.

### **TRIP AND TEA REVIEWS**

*Bus trip to St. Michael's* --It was a gorgeous day! Some people shopped, some walked, some lunched on oysters and other seafood, some walked, and some people took a boat cruise on the Miles River. After about four hours of fun and sun we boarded the bus for our tea stop at the Robert Morris Inn. This is a beautiful and historic inn in Oxford, Maryland, on the Tred Avon River.

*Tea at the Tillie Pierce Inn*—this is another historic location. The home was built in 18 We were welcomed by Gail in period dress. She served fifteen of us by herself and did a nice, attentive job. We began with chilled strawberry soup, followed by tea sandwiches and scones. Our tea ended with a cream puff and a chocolate éclair. We could explore the home and admire the décor, artwork, and antiques. We had more freedom because there were no guests staying in the Inn that day.

*Bus Trip to Hillwood Estate*--Awesome! Glorious! How many grand adjectives to describe the experience of visiting Hillwood? This was the home of Marjorie Merriwether Post, heiress and art collector. It was a beautiful day to stroll through the grounds. We

enjoyed the quiet, lush flower gardens and water gurgling from fountains. And inside the home there were many treasures: pieces made by Faberge, a jade collection, paintings, ornamental décor, porcelain and china. There is so much to see and admire that one visit is not enough. Who is ready to return?

### *Annual Covered Dish Luncheon, New Fairview Church of the Brethren*

Sixty members and guests were in attendance for the luncheon followed by the guest speaker, Todd Frey. The tables were groaning from the many dishes and plates of food arrayed for our selections. Mr. Frey, dressed in an authentic Japanese tea master's garb, shared the details of a Japanese tea ceremony. Mr. Frey and his assistant, also provided samples of macha tea for each of the attendees. Many people decided that one sample of macha was enough. The selection people wanted more of was the "Yummy Cookies" brought by Kathy Arconti. She shared the recipe with the Royal-tea Club (see recipe below). The silent auction was inspiration for conversation and discussion. For example, who would go home with the tea set? And the silent auction yielded some money for the club--\$348!

### *Dollies Tea Room, 150 Cumberland Street, Clear Spring, Maryland*

This Royal Tea Club member thought this was a lovely little tea room in the quaint town of Clear Spring, Maryland. The drive to this venue took about 2 hours from Fawn Grove, Pa. The wonderful ladies I was with helped to make it a lovely day. Driving with Donna Lerew is always a fun trip.

Dollies Tea Room was very nice, and cozy. The servers were friendly and helpful. My favorite items on the menu were the scones and the Crème Brulee tea, and my favorite dessert was the Chocolate Truffle. As with a lot of tea rooms, the filling on the sandwiches was way too thin. I like to be able to taste what is between the bread and not just the bread. This review is just my opinion and I hope no one is offended, but I believe in honesty and this is how I really feel.

I would not return, mainly because it was just too far to travel. *Rose Ortel*

### **Yummy Cookies**

INGREDIENTS: 1 sleeve Saltines    1 stick butter

1/2 cup sugar    12 oz. chocolate chips,    crushed Heath bars, optional

Heat oven to 350'.

Lay saltines in the bottom of a cookie sheet (jelly roll pan). Break in half to cover the edges.

Melt butter with sugar and mix well; pour over crackers, spreading evenly.

Bake at 350' for 10-13 minutes, until lightly browned.

Pull them out and immediately add chocolate chips and wait to melt. (or put them back into the oven for a minute or two to melt.) Smear chips evenly over the top.

Add nuts or crushed Heath Bar, if you want.

Refrigerate for 1 hour and break into pieces. *Note: Will melt in the summer if not kept cool.*

## UPCOMING TEAS

**Steeped Tea Café** NOTE: this Tea is full; there are two on waiting list.

3223 Main Street, Manchester, Maryland (443-986-9745)

**Saturday, October 27, 2018** -- at 1 pm. Free parking is available on both sides of the street with a few spots available in the rear of the tearoom. Car pooling is suggested.

**Camilla's Sin** NOTE: this Tea is cancelled due to tearoom closing end of July.

36 West Pomfret Street, Carlisle, Pennsylvania (717-243-6292)

However, the owner informed us she is re-opening beginning of October, so if you are interested in a tea, you can book a tea there. The club is NOT having a tea there.

**Loxley's in Heritage Hills Hotel** (next to Dutch Apple Theater, off Centerville exit of Rte. 30)

500 Centerville Road, Lancaster, Pennsylvania 717-898-2431

**Saturday, November 17, 2018, at 1:00 pm** NOTE: 47 reservations, 8 seats available

PRICE-- \$35 for members, \$40 for guests, inclusive. **Cut-off date**--November 3, 2018

This restaurant is named for Robin of Loxley in England - better known as Robin Hood! The building resembles a tree house on the outside and inside has cottage-like rooms. The food is delicious in a nice atmosphere. The Jane Austen Society of Lititz had tea here and claims it is the best tea.

If you want to add to your schedule of the day, you might want to make reservations for the show at the Dutch Apple, take in the Christmas show at The American Music Theater, see the Christmas show at Bird-in-Hand or see the new show Jesus at Sight and Sound. Lots of opportunity to see some shows while you are in the area. If you need help choosing a show, email or call Donna.



### **Hershey Chocolate World Holly Jolly Trolley**

Saturday, December 8, 2018, at 11:15 am.

101 Chocolate World Way, Hershey, PA 17033

Enjoy a 45 minute journey through the town built on chocolate riding an old-fashioned Trolley. Note - there are 4 steps to get into the trolley, no handicapped entrance. There will be tour guides on the Trolley to tell us about the town and lead us in singing carols. The tour starts at 11:45 but we need to be there at 11:15 am. Meet at Chocolate World - feel free to come early and tour Chocolate World (no entrance fee). Lots of free parking up to 3 hours. The Trolley departs in front of Chocolate World.

Following the Trolley ride, drive to our tea at--

The Berry Patch Bed and Breakfast- The tearoom is 20 - 25 minutes from Hershey.

Our Tea is at 1:00 pm. 115 Moore Rd., Lebanon, PA 17046 , 717-865-7219 (Max 45)

Cut-off date for reservations --November 21. Total cost for the Trolley and the tea \$45.00.

If you do not want to ride the Trolley, the tea is \$30.

### **BUS TRIPS**



### **Holly Lights and Tea Bus Trip**

Wednesday, December 19, 2018 84 reservations filled, 16 seats remain.

Final reservation due December 1, 2018.

For more information go to Bus Trips on web site [www.theroyal-teaclub.org](http://www.theroyal-teaclub.org)

**NOTE:** We will not be having anything to eat until 2:30 pm so have a hearty breakfast and feel free to bring snacks to eat on the bus. A bottle of water will be available on the bus.



## INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL NEWS

Our second British Isles cruise on the Crown Princess next year has generated lots of interest. Already 34 people have signed up to visit sites in England, Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and France. Many signed up because of the special beverage package worth almost \$900. This promotion ended September 5th but a new one started on September 6th.

If you book a balcony cabin, the new promotion includes a stateroom location upgrade, a \$150 per person onboard credit, and free gratuities worth \$162 per person. This promotion does not expire until November 19th. Are you interested? Balcony cabins are \$3499. (There was some miscommunication between Princess and myself initially but this is the definite price of a balcony cabin regardless if you have traveled with Princess before or not.) Please contact Jeannene Laliberte at 1-800-901-1172, ext. 41676, to book this cruise.

Jeannene has said air fare will not be available until the end of the month, but she estimates it will probably be about \$1050 when booked through Princess EZ Air program.

For those who have already booked:

**If you are interested in going to the Edinburgh Tattoo, I suggest you book it as soon as possible as there are limited tickets available to Princess. Look for this under Glasgow shore excursions, not Edinburgh.**

If you have any questions, please contact Sharon Hart by phone at 717-332-5851 or email at [shalee2@aol.com](mailto:shalee2@aol.com)