



JANUARY 2022

SERVICE LEAGUE NEWSLETTER

Contents



www.ucserviceleague.org

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SL member Sarah Diwan, an early childhood specialist at the Hyde Park Neighborhood Club, was interviewed in the December 16 *Hyde Park Herald* about the state of child care in Hyde Park. hpherald.com/news/local/hyde-park-child-care-struggles.html (Note: This short "Hot Link" works only from here.)



A Special Thank You . . .

to all who contributed to our Annual Toiletries Drive in December. Four overstuffed, heavy bags and a box await distribution to the ladies at the SouthSide Center of Hope. This will arrive there a bit after Christmas, but will help them through the winter.



Lesley Bloch sends greetings from Paris, where she and her husband are enjoying a long visit with family who are currently living there. She sends this photo of a Jeff Koons whimsical sculpture, located behind the *Petite Palais*, as a cheerful New Year's Greeting to all. She observes that life goes on masked! (See Cercle Français on page 6 for more.)

Co-Presidents Letter – January 2022

Dear Colleagues,

Happy New Year! Despite the tumult of the past year, and with the arrival of the New Year, we are pleased to report that the Service League had a continually active and productive year beginning with the May Wine and Cheese Spring Benefit and our Fall Benefit/Bazaar in November.

At the December Board Meeting the Treasurer reported that our business account had approximately \$21,368.00. The first tranche of funds has been dispersed to our Community Service Organizations. In our benefit account, we are able to report a total of \$27,304.00. Kudos to Lesley Bloch and Kristen Woods and their committee for a remarkable and fun event held for the first time at Augustana Lutheran Church.

Special Interest Groups have continued to meet, adjusting meeting dates, times, and formats, as necessary. Please see their updates in the following pages for details.

At the December Board meeting, several key issues were raised for discussion. At Treasurer Clairan Ferrono's suggestion, the board voted to combine our two bank accounts, for operations/business and for the bazaar into one account. This will greatly ease the work of the Treasurer.

Pending topics open for further consideration are:

- **Nominations / recruitment for 2022/2023 Board**
- **Member Retention**

YOUR help is needed! Please volunteer for the short-term task of participating on the NOMINATING Committee, or perhaps serving on our Board.



Our members have been very generous with financial help, and with our operations. However, we need more of you to become involved with our committees and the Board to ensure the Service League's fine tradition of generous support of others will continue well into the future.

Thank you for your continued support and participation. Best wishes for a healthy and prosperous New Year to you and your family.

Barbara Wagner and Sarah Wright, Co-Presidents
wagner36@sbcglobal.net, sarahwright9688@yahoo.com

University of Chicago Service League's Music Group Presents

"A Medley of Nostalgic Show Tunes"

*Featuring Clara Takarabe,
Substitute Violist in the Chicago Symphony
for 24 years.*

2:00 PM, Thursday, January 27, 2022

Live on Zoom

*Clara will introduce her program
and answer questions after her performance.*



Clara is also the Co-Director of the Northwestern Music and Medicine Program at the Department of Neurology, Northwestern Feinberg School of Medicine, in which special music programs are designed for individuals with dementia and their caregivers and for those with epilepsy.

As part of her research on clinical music interventions for anxiety and agitation, Clara has also performed at Northwestern Medicine Lurie Children's Hospital.

PLEASE REGISTER for this Event.

Contact Kathy Huff, Music Group Chair,
by calling 773-241-7141 or emailing her at
ucserviceleague.events@gmail.com.

*A registration REMINDER will be emailed to
Service League members a few days in advance.*

HONORING OUR 50-YEAR MEMBERS

Helen K. Bailey

Mary Paxton Burks

Rose Dyrud

Constance Davis DuCanto

Mrs. Robert Donald Erickson (Iatser Cathline)

Anne Gomer (Mrs. Robert)

Mary L. Gray (Mrs. Richard)

Margot Haselkorn

Dianne C. Luhmann,

President 2016-17

Caroline J. Magsaysay-McClelland

Mary Lynn Parish

Barbara Plampin (Mrs. Geoffrey C. M.)

Marian Scheffler (Mrs. Milton)

Mrs. Robert G. Schloerb (Mary),

President 1972-73

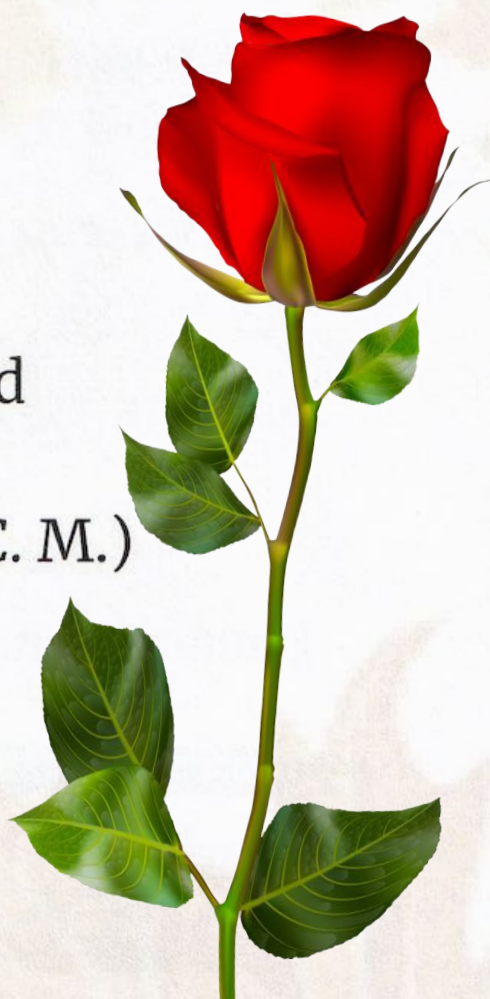
Anne Schumacher

Elaine B. Smith

Lorna P. Straus

Edel Tave

Jean Yngve (Mrs. Victor)

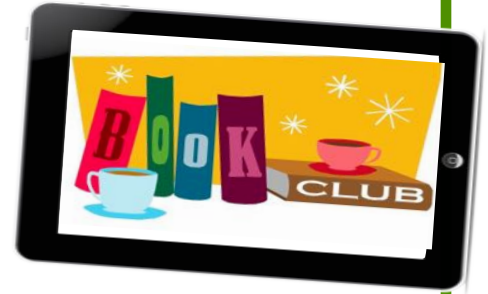


A symbolic rose instead of the real ones given at our Fall Benefit to honor our Fifty Year Members.

SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

The Book Group's **January meeting**
will be on 1/04 at 7:00 P.M.

on Zoom to discuss "Anxious People"
by Frederick Bachman.



If you are new to the group, send your email address
to lhkracke@earthlink.net to be added to the mailing list,
so you can get the Zoom link to the meeting. That info is
sent to the group list a day or two before the meeting.

Thank you, and hope to see you soon! *Laura Kracke*, Chair.

Contemporary Civics

Chair, Dorothy Patton, dep712@att.net

The "Contemporary Civics" group continues
to meet every other week on Zoom.

The next meetings are scheduled for 2:00 P.M.
on Monday, **January 10th**, then **January 24th**.

All Service League members are welcome.

Anyone not on the mailing list can join a
meeting by contacting Dorothy Patton before
1:00 to get the Zoom link.



The Games Group

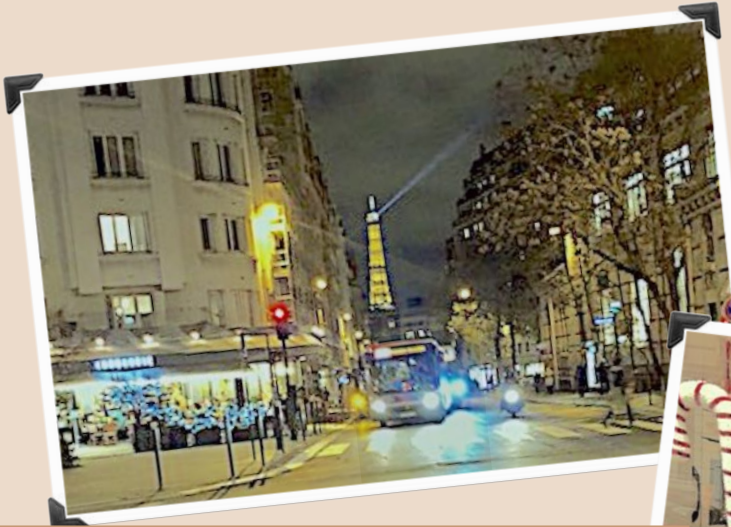
We normally meet in a member's home to play board games
chosen by the group. We are on hiatus for the time being.

Chair, Clairan Ferrono, clairan@gmail.com

more SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

Cercle Français

Eight of us gathered for our hybrid December meeting—six in person, two via Zoom. We spent some time catching up and then watched a mini-slideshow of images taken by a member of our group (Lesley Bloch) currently spending time in Paris. A few of her photos are included here.



Above, a view of Lesley's Metro stop, with La Tour Eiffel in the distance. Right, this was the first holiday decorated window Lesley saw. Hard to see, but the tiny reindeer in the center is wearing a mask.

At our Zoom meeting, we also read an online article on lepoint.com about the 1991 murder of Ghislaine Marchal that has been reopened - unusual in France - based on new evidence.

Lastly, we discussed ideas and thoughts about our plans for the new year. We agreed that reading and discussing a story or article at our meeting is enjoyable. We decided to meet once a month, and due to uncertainty about wintry weather and the virus, we will meet via Zoom on the second Tuesday's afternoon during January, February and March.

If you would like to be added to the Cercle Français email list for updates, please contact Ruth Koval: 773-726-8870 or rthkvl@gmail.com.

Photos from PARIS!



In Lesley's words: "The French believe in LUNCH!"



more SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS

DINING OUT GROUP



The Dining Out group enjoyed a special concert and luncheon downtown on December 20th.

We were entertained by harpist Julie Spring, (not in photo), the Irving Sisters singers and Chris Walz, guitarist. The setting in the Union League club was lovely, the music brought back beautiful memories, and the joy of sharing a delicious meal with friends was delightful.

The Dining Out group will not meet in January but we are looking forward to a nice, sweet **Valentine's Day treat at Sweet Dip, 1658 E. 53rd Street on February 14th.** The time will be announced in the February calendar. For this event, ~ Registration Not Required ~ Wearing Face Masks and COVID Vaccination Verification Required.

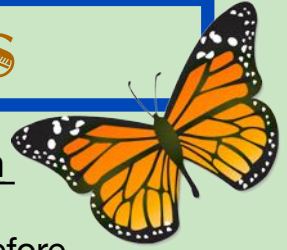
Contact Member Fran Gordon or Jan O'Malley for information, hddro@sbcglobal.net

At the
Union League Club,
December 20th:
Rosalie Guttman,
Astrid Fuller,
Mary Ulinski,
co-chairs
Jan O'Malley
& Fran Gordon
and Judy Chernick.





more SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



Monarch News

By Marilyn Cavicchia

Hello from the Monarch Special Interest Group! Though re-injuring my back before Thanksgiving put a crimp in winter preparation plans (*I'm now mostly back to where I was before and have learned a sobering lesson about the need for daily maintenance for a middle-age body*), I'd like to accomplish two monarch projects this winter (via Zoom):

1. planting milkweed seeds in milk jugs and other plastic containers to set outside over the winter, and
2. potentially connect with workers at one of the big monarch sanctuaries in Mexico.

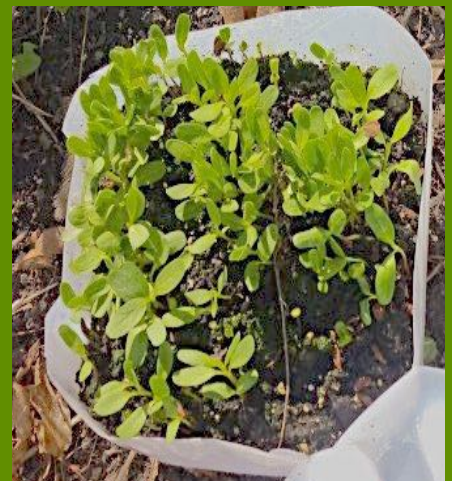
Before Omicron I had hoped to do the milkweed planting in person, but we had a pretty successful Zoom class last year and can repeat that. The ideal time for this event is January or early February, so the seeds can experience several more weeks of winter, which helps them germinate. Here are my favorite instructions, in case you'd like to try this project on your own (this is part 2 of a 3-part series, but it has the most important steps):

<https://monarchbutterflygarden.net/winter-sowing-milkweed-seeds-prepare-containers/>



LEFT: Native milkweed seeds germinate better if they are first exposed to winter conditions.

RIGHT: If all goes well, we'll have many milkweed seedlings in spring!



For the potential Zoom meeting with workers in Mexico, either January or early March might work well. They have said the best viewing time for tourists is in February, so that's probably an especially busy month at the monarch sanctuaries.

In the meantime, there's been some interest in possible ways the Monarch Group could connect with Chicago Commons, perhaps via a Zoom version of the winter seed-sowing project and/or helping to plant some milkweed and butterfly-attracting flowers at one of their sites. If those ideas progress further, I'll keep everyone posted.

If you'd like to stay up to date with our group, please email me at marilyn.cavicchia@gmail.com. Thanks!

more SPECIAL INTEREST GROUPS



film "Green Book"
seen Feb. 2019

Movie Group

Carole Landrum, Chair

cplandrum@sbcglobal.net Hope you all are safe and well and were able to enjoy the Holidays. Unfortunately, the chair will not be able to host the JANUARY meeting, and possibly not until Spring. She looks forward to viewing and discussing wonderful films with you again when possible.

The Needlework Group

is on temporary hiatus, due to the pandemic. The group will confer in the future to decide what might be possible.



Chair, Lucy Lester, 773 255-5868

The Spanish Group

HAS RESUMED MEETING on alternate Thursdays, usually in members' homes. We often read a book of modern Spanish writing. Please email the chair for current title. We hope to eventually resume weekly get-togethers.

Contact for dates/times:

[Chair, Agnes Zellner azellner@gmail.com](mailto:azellner@gmail.com)

Twice-Read Books

Next Meeting: Tuesday, JANUARY 18 at 2:00 by Zoom.

(The group decided to forgo their December meeting due to the closeness of Christmas.)

All are welcome to join in the discussions!

For more information contact our Chair, Marie Schilling:

mschilling17@earthlink.net; 773-955-4949.



The all-vaccinated **Walking Group**
continues to happily enjoy being together.

MEET: Mornings at 9:30 A.M. on Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

We usually meet at the 55th Street Shopping Center (near the Post Office).

We walk throughout the winter (*when humanly possible*). In this season, we try to stay west of the Metra tracks, to keep out of the wind so we can still enjoy each other's company, the fresh air and hopefully a bit of sunshine.

A weekly reminder will be sent to all participants. We welcome new members and only ask you to let Peggy Garrett, edwpeggy@ameritech.net, know if you are coming.

12/8/21.
Left, Peggy
Garrett and
Marie
Schilling, and
Right,
Barbara
Wagner and
Marie all
started their
walk at the
55th St.
Shopping
Center. They
enjoyed a
beautiful
pre-
Christmas
day.



Community Service Organizations

On December 2nd, Governor J. B. Pritzker announced grants, that across the state total \$300 million, for Child Care Recovery, aimed to make child care more affordable for working families in Illinois. Chicago Commons hosted the Governor, State Senator Robert Peters, IDHS* Secretary Grace Hou-Ovnik, IDHS Early Childhood Director Kirstin Chernawsky, and State Representative LaShawn Ford at its Paulo Freire Family Center in the Back of the Yards neighborhood. (* Illinois Department of Human Services.)



Chicago Commons was selected to host this major state-wide funding announcement to spotlight its high quality early education programs. Carolina Torres, a parent and a participant in Commons' Pathways for Parents program, told the story of the difference Chicago Commons has made for her family. You can read about it at <https://chicago.suntimes.com/politics/2021/12/2/22814507/illinois-child-care-grants-childcare-provider>.

Commons is also creating a team for the Chicago Marathon. If you, your friends, colleagues or family want to be part of the team, please contact Chicago Commons. It's a great way to help Chicago Commons and enjoy training for the Marathon.

As always, Chicago Commons is grateful to the Service League for its commitment and support.

Caroline Harney. SL Representative, harneyc@att.net



Gov. J.B. Pritzker talks with Carolina Torres at Paulo Freire Family Center in Chicago.



Hyde Park Neighborhood Club

www.hpncclub.org

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year to the Service League! **A very hearty thanks to the many of you who gave personally to our Play On! campaign these past few months.**

I hope all of you had the chance to watch the three stories we shared on our website. IL State Representative and HPNC parent Curtis J. Tarver II, Tot Lot facilitator and Caregiver Fitness instructor Carolyn Banner, and HPNC teacher Jarrell Cobb all shared what they have seen, that **play is so important for kids at HPNC, especially during the pandemic.**



If you haven't already seen these videos, I hope that you'll take a moment now to hear their stories—they're each only 1 minute long! You can find them at hpncclub.org/play-on.



We are so happy to be back from our winter break and are ready to have the kids back in our building!

The holidays are fun, but we tend to get lonely after a week of quiet. This past month, we hosted our Winter Holidays Around the World Party in our Tot Lot. Children from infants to age 5 enjoyed making crafts and playing games representing celebrations from Hanukkah, Christmas, Kwanzaa, and St. Lucia's Day. (Photo above right.) We even had a visit from **Santa!** (I enjoyed playing St. Nick at our Winter Holidays party.)

Chris Younkin-Wilson,
HPNC Development Director

more Community Service Organizations

DELTA LITERACY PROJECT ~~ NEW LIAISON NEEDED.

PLEASE CONTACT BARBARA WAGNER, WAGNER36@SBCGLOBAL.NET

Delta Literacy continues to be unable to tutor at their main site, 4525 S. King Drive. Olivia Amos, the Executive Director, encourages the tutors to stay in touch with their students by phone and email. She urges both tutors and students to get the COVID vaccine.



Tutors reach out to the students by phone instead of online or in person sessions. Delta hopes to restart their math and reading tutoring and other programs when it is safe.

The Southside Center of Hope (SSCH) continues to receive new residents, all adults without children. Most of the young ladies are adjusting well. They all attend intensive Outpatient Services at Healthcare Alternative Systems because of behavioral health needs.

In the spring, the SSCH will be partnering with Chase Bank to teach financial literacy classes. Spring will also bring the resumption of yoga therapy and art therapy programs. Further, in January the SSCH will start applying to become a licensed recovery home with the State.



If you'd like more info about the SSCH's activities and staff, visit their general website or their blog at southsidecenterofhope.org/news-and-events/blog.

The Southside House of Hope would like to thank the University of Chicago Service League for their unwavering support of their mission. Wishing the Service League a New Year full of health and hope,

Patricia Bennett, pbenne@comcast.net,
UCSL Liaison, Southside Center of Hope

The Hyde Park and Kenwood Interfaith Council - Hunger Programs (submitted by **Chair Agnes Zellner**, azellner@gmail.com)

Breakfasts for 15 people and lunches for 30 to 35 people are being provided at St. Paul and The Redeemer Church. There are three to four people who are helping to prepare and serve the meals. They also deliver 20 meals to Hyde Parkers unable to come to the Soup Kitchen.

Please note that through their many partner organizations, the Interfaith Council participates in these area Hunger Programs:

- The Hyde Park Kenwood Food Pantry.
- Food Pantry at Kenwood United Church of Christ
- Soup Kitchen • Community Breakfast

You can read more about these programs at

<https://hpkinsinterfaith.org/programs/food-pantry/>



2021-2022 Board Executive Committee:

Co-Presidents	Barbara Wagner and Sarah Wright
First Vice-Presidents (<i>Program Chairs</i>)	Deborah Franczek & Roberta Bernstein
Second Vice-Presidents (<i>Membership Chairs</i>)	Nadine Foster & Sherry Glick
Third Vice-President (<i>Communications</i>)	Judith Wright
Recording Secretary	Sarah Diwan & Margaret Huyck
Corresponding Secretary . . .(<i>Newsletter/Calendar *</i>)	Carol Johnson & Sarah Wright
Associate Corresponding Secretary (<i>Yearbook</i>)	Raiselle Resnick
Treasurer	Clairan Ferrono
Associate Treasurer	Ginny Meeker
Website Manager	Theodora Shih

** {click on Newsletter/Calendar to submit info/pictures/dates for next issue}*

New Members

Please see the "Become A Member" form on page 15,
and/or email names and contact information for prospective members to:

ServiceLeagueMembership@gmail.com

Please include in the subject line: "Service League Membership"

Memorials/Donations

In Memoriam: Dr. Laurel Jonas, who passed recently.

Please consider making a memorial donation to the Service League
in memory of your family member or friend.

Service League Website: www.ucserviceleague.org

On our website, you'll find information about our Monthly Programs,
our Special Interest Groups and our Community Service Organizations.

Attention Service Leaguers on Facebook!

Did you know that the League has a Facebook page?

Ask to "friend" The University of Chicago Service League.

If you go to Facebook and type in "University of Chicago Service League",
our page comes up.



For a complete list of all Committee Chairs,
Special Interest Group Chairs/Contacts
Community Service Organizations Representatives,
go to the Committees, etc. listing page on our main website.
<https://www.ucserviceleague.org/board-and-committees>

Become a Member of the Service League

Founded in 1895, the University of Chicago Service League provides financial support to local organizations: Chicago Commons Association, Delta Literacy Project, Hyde Park Kenwood Hunger Program's Open Kitchen, Hyde Park Neighborhood Club, and Southside Center of Hope. Our Monthly Program Meetings feature speakers of general interest. We also sponsor Special Interest Groups. We hope very much that you will join us and look forward to welcoming you to the Service League!

First Name _____ Last Name _____ (Please Print)

Address _____ Apt. _____

City _____ Zip Code _____ Telephone (H) _____ - _____ - _____ (C) _____ - _____ - _____

Email _____ List in Yearbook (Member Directory?) ____Y ____N

I am interested in these Special Interest Groups:

Books____ Contemporary Civics____ Dining Out____ French____ Spanish____ Needlework____

Monarch Butterflies____ Movies____ Music____ Games____ Walking____ Twice Read Books____

I am interested in working on:

Membership/Welcoming Newcomers____ Planning Programs/Speakers____ Fundraising____

Hospitality/Refreshments____ Publicity____ Technology____ Other_____

Dues (May 1, 2021 to April 30, 2022).....\$ 35.00

Donation.....\$ _____

Total.....\$ _____

Signature _____ Date _____

Make check payable to the University of Chicago Service League. Send completed form and check to Virginia Meeker, 1700 East 56th Street, Apt. #2309, Chicago, IL 60637.

The University of Chicago Service League is a registered 501(c)(3) organization. Membership dues and contributions are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.






UC Service League JANUARY CALENDAR

Here's our events and meetings, some on Zoom -
please confirm dates/times with chair/leader.

We hope to have even more meetings in person, over time.
 Send dates/times/info to be added to the newsletter in the

FEBRUARY issue **BEFORE JANUARY 22ND, PLEASE,**
 to ucsl.newsletter@gmail.com. We all enjoy hearing from YOU!

THURS.,
 1/27, 2 p.m.
 via Zoom the
MUSIC Group
 presents a
 concert.
 Details, pg. 3.

<u>week in month</u>	<u>MON.</u>	<u>TUES.</u>	<u>WED.</u>	<u>THURS.</u>	<u>FRI.</u>
1st		WALK GROUP EVERY TUES. 9:30 a.m. → BOOK GROUP 7 P.M. via zoom. Laura Kracke, lhkracke@earthlink.net FIRST TUESDAYS	WALK GROUP EVERY WED. 9:30 a.m. Contact Peggy Garrett, edwpeggy@ameritech.net		WALK GROUP EVERY FRI. 9:30 a.m. Contact Peggy Garrett, edwpeggy@ameritech.net
2nd	Contemporary Civics 2 PM via zoom. Dorothy Patton, dep712@att.net NEEDLEWORK (on hiatus) info Lucy Lester 773-255-5868.	FRENCH GROUP via ZOOM. FOR DATES Contact: Ruth Koval, 773-726-8870, rthkvl@gmail.com		SPANISH GROUP alternate Thursdays. CONFIRM with Chair Agnes Zellner azellner@gmail.com	
3rd 	HOLD 2/14 for a delicious DINING OUT GROUP TREAT at Sweet Dip on 53rd St.	TWICE READ BOOKS GROUP Marie Schilling mschilling17@earthlink.net ; 773-955-4949 2 PM via Zoom	NO JANUARY BOARD MEETING NO JANUARY PROGRAM MEETING	MONARCH BUTTERFLY GROUP 3 p.m. on Zoom marilyn.cavichia@gmail.com	Trash Pickers! ANY FRI. @ 2 p.m. (weather permitting!) Contact MarilynHelm holz@aol.com 773-493-0420
4th	Contemporary Civics 2 PM via zoom Dorothy Patton, dep712@att.net			THURSDAY, 1/27, 2 p.m. via Zoom the MUSIC GROUP presents a concert.	