



*The Y's Women*

December 2020

## The Y's Women Newsletter

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### Time to Renew Your Membership

As we're sure most of you have noticed, we didn't conduct a membership renewal drive during late summer/early fall this year. Because we were unsure about how much the Y's Women could do moving forward in light of the continued Covid-19 pandemic, the Board decided to wait and determine what the coming year would bring.

We have now had four virtual General Meetings, held from Temple Israel using the Temple's highly professional audiovisual system. The speakers have been excellent, and the presentations offer our members the same opportunity to ask questions of the speaker that we have had in the past. This system also provides the added benefit of having the lectures available on our YouTube site – [Ys Women YouTube](#) – for viewing at a future date. We hope you have had a chance to listen to these presentations. Several of the Y's Women satellite groups have also been meeting, via Zoom, throughout this pandemic.

Now that we are convinced that we have a robust season to offer members, we ask you to renew your membership for the 2020-2021 year. Many of you have already sent Doris Levinson a check for your dues, and we thank you for that. If you haven't renewed your membership yet, please complete the membership renewal form on page 3 of this newsletter, and send it with your \$45 check to Doris at the address provided.

### Chris Coogan – 'Holiday Favorites and More' December 14 at 11:30 am



For our December meeting, we offer a very special virtual holiday concert by Chris Coogan, including some holiday favorites arranged by Chris as well as standard repertoire of the *Great American Songbook*.

Chris is a local talent who has been working in the community for years. He plays piano, sings, and directs many local groups including the Good News Gospel Choir, Coleytown Drama, Hoot Owls, Connecticut Playmakers, and Wilton Summer Stage. You may remember that at last year's Y's Women Holiday Luncheon, Chris

accompanied the Y's Men's Hoot Owls on piano. He also works locally at various churches and synagogues including Temple Israel.

Chris has performed with many local musicians including Jim Naughton and Rex Fowler of Aztec Two Step, and with national luminaries such as Gene Wilder, Whoopie Goldberg, Paul Newman, Harry Connick, Jr., Donna Summer, and Bette Midler. He often performs with his jazz groups at local venues. For many years, Chris presented Christmas shows in which he arranged traditional carols in new settings with a jazz twist. This past year, he has released a new jazz trio recording called "Get Happy."

At our December 14<sup>th</sup> concert, be prepared to be entertained with familiar melodies done in a new way. After the concert, Chris will welcome your questions.

## SATELLITE GROUPS (Y's Women Members ONLY)

**Book Group 2** will hold its annual holiday party on Thursday, December 3 from 1:30 to 3:00 pm. The celebration will be held on Zoom.

**Book Group 3** will meet via Zoom on Friday, December 11 at 10:30 am to discuss *A Woman of No Importance* by Sonia Purnell. Marcia Goldstein will lead the discussion. The Zoom link will be sent the day before the meeting. New members are welcome. Questions? Please contact Doris Levinson at 227-3371 or [drjlevinson@gmail.com](mailto:drjlevinson@gmail.com).

The **Movie Club** will have a Zoom meeting on Wednesday, December 16 at 1:30 pm. We plan to discuss *Pleasantville* and *Molly's Game*.

*Pleasantville* was shown on PBS on November 21 at 9:00 pm. The DVD is listed in the catalog of the Fairfield Library, so you may be able to view the movie as a DVD. *Molly's Game* is available on Netflix, and its DVD is listed in the catalogs of the Westport and Fairfield libraries.

*Pleasantville* tells the story of David Wagner, a kid whose mind is stuck in the 1950s. He's addicted to a classic 1950s television sitcom called "Pleasantville" (reminiscent of "Leave It to Beaver" and "Father Knows Best"). Pleasantville is a simple place, a place where all of its citizens are swell and simple-minded folks, a place where the word "violence" and life outside of Pleasantville are unbeknownst to its inhabitants; things are perfect down in Pleasantville. One evening, the lives of David and his obnoxious sister Jennifer take a bizarre turn when an eccentric repairman hands them a supposed magical remote. After a quarrel between the siblings, they inexplicably zap themselves into the world of "Pleasantville." Now David and Jennifer must adjust to a 50s lifestyle of repressed desires and considerably different societal values while trying to find their way home.

*Molly's Game* is based on the true story of Molly Bloom, a beautiful, young, Olympic-class skier who ran the world's most exclusive high-stakes poker game for a decade before being arrested in the middle of the night by 17 FBI agents wielding automatic weapons. Her players included Hollywood royalty, sports stars, business titans, and finally, unbeknown



*The Movie Club's November 18th meeting on Zoom.*

to her, the Russian mob. Her only ally was her criminal defense lawyer Charlie Jaffey, who learned there was much more to Molly than the tabloids led people to believe.

If you wish to be added to the email list for future Movie Club events, please contact Margaret Mitchell at 255-9094 or [margaret06824@yahoo.com](mailto:margaret06824@yahoo.com).

### A Note from the Travel Committee

We all would like to be traveling as a group and enjoying one another's company. But until we are able to do so safely, perhaps some virtual activities might help to keep us connected.

Here are just a few websites that you might like to explore. They offer a variety of travel, shopping, and entertainment experiences:

- The Grand Central Holiday Fair is New York City's most coveted indoor holiday gift fair – [2020 Holiday Fair](#)
- Paris offers the largest concentration of tourist attractions in France, and possibly in Europe. Enjoy its offerings through this YouTube video – [Paris Guide](#)
- Watch full episodes and more from PBS' Great Performances – [Great Performances](#)

Please renew your Y's Women membership for 2020 – 2021 by filling out the membership form on the following page, and sending it with your check to Doris Levinson.

## Y's Women Membership Form 2020-2021

Date \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_ Cell \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

### DUES INFORMATION:

- Dues are \$45 a year.
- Make your check payable to the Y's Women.
- Dues for new members who join Y's Women in April 2021 or later are in effect through June 2022.
- Membership is complimentary after age 90. If you qualify, please indicate that on your membership form.

To join Y's Women, send this form and your \$45 check to **Doris Levinson, 6 Beechwood Lane, Westport, CT 06880.**

*For membership questions, contact Doris Levinson, membership chair, at [drjlevinson@gmail.com](mailto:drjlevinson@gmail.com) or 227-3371.*