

THE MOUNTAIN TOPPER

The Mountain Top Welcome Club Newsletter
December 2011

*Merry
Christmas*

A word from your PRESIDENT – Lisa East Ph: 474-6311, Email: lisaeast@verizon.net

Season's Greetings! The Holiday season is here. The time for parties and gift giving, visiting family and close friends and, of course, indulging in lots and lots of good food. But, it is also the time to remember those that are not as fortunate - some in our own community. I was very excited to shop for my little angel from the Angel Tree. I know that it won't change whatever situation their family is experiencing but, it will make this Christmas a bit cheerier for them.

On a similar note, we are gearing up for our annual Night at the Races fundraiser which is scheduled for February 17th. We will have forms available to start soliciting sponsors and selling horses at our meeting on December 15th. We will also have ballots to vote on the charities and/or programs that we would like to donate to.

If you did not see the email regarding the Christmas party, it is December 8th at Pam McGovern's home. We are going to get the party started at 6:30 and there will be a gift exchange! Everyone will be asked to contribute something to the festivities. I can't wait to eat, drink and be merry!

I hope to see each of you at one of the many events that our club has planned this month. Happy Holidays to you and your families!

Love & Light,
Lisa

SPECIAL HOLIDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christmas Gift Exchange Party! - Yes, Virginia, we are having a Welcome Club Christmas Party!

Pam McGovern has volunteered to host this year's event at her home in Deerfield Acres. The date is Thursday, December 8th. To make it a little easier on her, everyone will be asked to contribute something to the festivities. We will iron out the details when we have a guest list. Please RSVP to Pam at pam.mcgovern@century21.com or me at lisaeast@verizon.net or my cell 417-7517 by December 2nd. I am looking forward to my first gift exchange! I hope to see you all there.

Childrens' Christmas Party: Tis the season for the annual Christmas Party for the kiddos.

This year it will be on Monday, December 12th at 1pm – 3pm at the Presbyterian Church, 6 Chestnut Street, Mountain Top. There will be holiday crafts, games and goodies. The Cost is \$5 per child. SANTA will be coming by for a visit so don't let your kids miss it! Please RSVP by Thursday, Dec 8th to Maureen Petzold at petzmo@hotmail.com.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

1st Vice Presidents –

Kerri Fey, Ph: 479-2739, Email: Kfey@varsityspirit.com

Diane Keating, Ph: 474-6166, Email: Mountain92@verizon.net

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday, December 15th at 12:00 noon**. Lunch is \$8 per person, and babysitting will be available at the cost of \$3 per child. Please RSVP by December 12th.

December Topic: There will be no speaker at the December meeting. Let's just eat and chat....and RELAX during this crazy holiday season!

Don't forget your angel tree gifts at the meeting.

2nd Vice Presidents in Charge of Membership –

Pam McGovern, Ph: 905-4098, Email: pam.mcgovern@century21.com

Ashley Gregory Ph: 205-243-0723 , Email: agregory113@yahoo.com

So far this year, the guest attendance has been great. Thanks to all members who are inviting their friends and neighbors to join the Welcome Club!

Lets keep getting the word out about the club. New and experienced members of the Mountain Top community are all welcome to join our club. It is quite surprising how many people who have lived in the area for a long time have no idea what it is that we do. Keep this in mind as you talk with your friends and neighbors.

Feel free to contact Pam McGovern, Member Services Coordinator at 570-403- 5355 or pam.mcgovern@century21.com for more information.

Secretary –

Amy Rhodes, Email: amybrianrhodes@mac.com

Please let me know if any of our members are in need of a card for a birth, get well, death in the family, et al. This is a nice way to let members know that they are always in our thoughts and prayers.

Treasurer –

Mary Kate Finney (682-2389) or therapy97@yahoo.com

Please contact Mary Kate if you have any club expenses.

Publicity –

Carey Greives - Ph:410-746-4626. . .Email: cabrn5@msn.com

Please continue to forward me any pictures you may have of Welcome Club events or gatherings. Also, do not hesitate to email me any information you would like included in our monthly meeting announcements that I submit to local the local papers. The Mt. Peaks deadline was November 25th, but I do have until December 2nd for the Mt. Top Eagle. Thanks and I hope you all have a happy and healthy holiday season.

Services –

Donna Smith, Email: dlsmtntop@aol.com

Shannon Falcheck, Ph: 793-3429 Email: sfalc@ptd.net

Angel Tree - Please bring gifts for children selected from the angel tree to the next meeting. If you are unable to make the next meeting please call Donna at 403-6188. I will be happy to pick up the gifts and ensure they are delivered in time for Christmas.

Firehouse Baking - There are still a lot of slots open for Fire House baking, including December for Wright and Rice Townships. Please consider signing up to make a snack or treat for one of our volunteer fire company's monthly meetings. Don't have time to make something? They will not turn down cookies or brownies from Carone's or a dozen Dunkin' Donuts.

Ways & Means –

Mary-Ellen McFarland, Ph: 868-6467, Email: mcfarland12@epix.net

Jennifer Smith, Ph: 847-687-7831, Email: jjmgsmith1@msn.com

RELAY FOR LIFE

The Mountain Top Relay for Life is celebrating its 10th anniversary this year with the theme Vacation Destination. The Relay will be held May 19-20, 2012 at Crestwood High School. For those who may not know, the Welcome Club has joined with the Roadrunners relay team. As team members we assist in the fund raisers for the team as well as walking during the event.

The Roadrunners have several fund raisers planned for throughout the year. These events include luncheons, a pizza sale for Ash Wednesday, lottery calendars, a fudge sale, a tea party and of course the plant and flower sale in the spring.

Holiday Luncheon - One of the events planned for throughout the year will be monthly luncheons at Rice Elementary School for the teachers and staff. The menu will vary each month and the proceeds donated to the Relay. The first lunch will be on **Tuesday, December 13th**. It will be the Holiday Lunch. I realize that this is a lot at a busy time of year but if anyone is interested in preparing an entree or a side for December 13th it would be appreciated. Please contact me to make pick up/drop off arrangements. Don't worry if you are unable to help this time there will be plenty of opportunities!

Homemade Fudge Sale - I am currently taking orders for Homemade Fudge. The chocolate fudge is \$10 for a 1 lb. box or \$6.50 for a 1/2 lb box. Orders will be taken until December 14th.

I also have Lottery Calendars for sale. They are \$5 and are for the month of February. They make great stocking stuffers!

I would like to wish everyone a very happy holiday season and thank you so much for all that you do to support the Relay for Life. It is unfortunate that so many of our lives have been touched by cancer but please know that your help and support is appreciated.

If you have any questions, would like to donate a menu item, buy a calendar or some fudge please call me at 868-6467 or email me at mcfarland12@epix.net – **Mary Ellen McFarland**

Night at the Races!

Save the Date! We will have a "**Night at the Races**" as our annual fundraiser again on **Friday, February 17th, 2012**. Please mark your calendars and watch for more information coming soon! We would like all groups and committees to start thinking/planning ahead for a basket donation.

Information about selling horses will be available at the January meeting.

Also, for the January meeting, please bring any alcohol or basket item donations that you may have. Have a wonderful holiday season!

If you have any questions please contact Mary-ellen McFarland mcfarland12@epix.net or Jennifer smith jjmgsmith1@msn.com.

Meals That Heal –

Karin Caporuscio, Ph; 474-1199, Email: kacap66@yahoo.com

A long standing Welcome Club tradition, members support each other by providing meals to those who have recently experienced a serious illness, surgery or new addition to the family. Please help us out with this important program. No gourmet cooking skills are required. Simple comfort food is always appreciated, or you could just prepare some extra portions of whatever you are feeding your own family that evening. Also, store bought items such as rotisserie chicken or deli trays work just as well.
meals.

Please contact Karin to volunteer to be a “meal maker”, or to let her know of a member in need of meals and support.

Moms and Tots & Children's Playgroup-

Tricia M. Russell, Ph: 403-7785, Cell: 262-6058; Email: tricia.russell@wilkes.edu

Hi, Everyone! I'm looking forward to organizing and attending some fun events this year for our Moms, Dads, Grandparents or other Caregivers and their children. Please let me know of any great ideas to consider in 2012. Some F.M. Kirby Center events are already in the planning stages. See below for quick RSVP needed for January's show. I hope everyone enjoys the holiday season!

December Event:

What and Where: *The Learning Tree Educational Toys and More* followed by lunch at Hazelton McDonalds

291 Airport Road
Hazleton, PA 18202
(570) 455-4334
learningtreetoys@verizon.net

When: Tuesday, December 13th at 10 am

Meet at 9:30 am in Carone's parking lot if interested in carpooling.

Time: 10 am – 11:30 am followed by lunch at local McDonalds or Burger King if interested.

How much: \$8 per child/Learning Tree activity

RSVP to Tricia: by Thursday, December 8, 2011

The Learning Tree Educational Toys and More Itinerary:

10:00 Arrival; Get acquainted in our Music Room with balls and other warm-up equipment

10:10 (Art Room) Paint a Christmas tree: use fun texture tools to paint 3 tree cutouts with various lines and textures, then Paint Handprint Leaves for a Wreath craft

10:20 (Music Room) Music and Movement with Christmas songs: various rhythm and movement exercises and gross motor skill-building, dance-along activities to familiar holiday tunes

11:10 (Art Room) Return to art tables to assemble Christmas trees and wreaths; cutting, gluing, following oral directions skills to decorate projects with a variety of glittering collage materials.

January Event:

What and Where: *Charlotte's Web at F.M. Kirby Center* followed by pizza at Rodano's

When: Monday, January 30th 10 am show

Meet at 9:15 am in Carone's parking lot if interested in carpooling.

How much: \$6.50/ticket

RSVP to Tricia: Must have payment and RSVP by 12/15 for best reserved seating.

Can bring payment to December Welcome Club meeting.

Childrens' Christmas Party:

Tis the season for the annual Christmas Party for the kiddos. This year it will be on Monday, December 12th at 1pm – 3pm at the Presbyterian Church, 6 Chestnut Street, Mountain Top. There will be holiday crafts, games and goodies. The Cost is \$4 per child. SANTA will be coming by for a visit so don't let your kids miss it! Please RSVP to Maureen Petzold by Thursday, Dec 8 at petzmo@hotmail.com.

OTHER SPECIAL INTEREST ACTIVITIES:

Welcome Club Night Out –

Amy Rhodes, Ph: 243-1842, Email: amybrianrhodes@mac.com

Mary Ellen McFarland, Ph: 868-6467, Email: Mcfarland12@epix.net

If you have a suggestion for a Night Out event, please contact Amy Rhodes or MaryEllen McFarland. We always welcome new ideas! Please join us for one of the upcoming events.

Entire Family: Thursday, December 29 - 11:00 am: CHACKO'S Bowling, located in Wilkes Barre. By Thursday, certainly everyone will be getting a little stir crazy, right? Please bring your children and/or significant other for an afternoon of bowling. Please RSVP to Amy or MaryEllen with the number in your party by December 22. Lanes will need to be reserved.
<http://www.chackosfamilybowlingcenter.com/>

Ladies Only: Tuesday, January 10 - 6:30 pm: Cork Restaurant, located in downtown Wilkes-Barre. Mark your calendar early and plan to join us for drinks, dining, and entertainment with psychic medium Lauri Moore. Reservations are required and seating is limited. Please contact Amy or Mary Ellen asap if interested in attending. <http://www.corkdining.com/specials-events>

Dinner Club –

Nancy Eckhart at nancy72465@yahoo.com (868-8197)

Roberta Brandreth at rbrandreth@msn.com (678-5069)

Dinner Club has gotten off to a great start with our Fall Gathering. Members are now beginning to set up small group dinners. It's not too late to participate. Anyone interested in joining as a substitute is most welcome. If interested, please contact Nancy at nancy72465@yahoo.com (868-8197), or Roberta at rbrandreth@msn.com .

Needlework –

Jan Pagodin (647-3908) or pagodin@pa.metrocast.net

We are a small friendly group who meet on the **second** and **fourth Wednesday** of most months. You don't have to have a needlework project to attend, just come for the company and conversation. Please contact the hostess or me if you will be able to join us.

Wednesday, December 14th, 11:30 am at Top of the 80's for our Holiday Lunch. Please bring a wrapped gift with an approximate \$5 - \$10 value for the annual swapping game. We will also be accepting cash donations for Ruth's Place . **Reservations are necessary.**

Book Club –

Beth LaMarca (474-6446) or betdoug@ptd.net

We will be reading Swan House by Elizabeth Musser and meeting at Shannon Williams house on January 13th at 9:30. Shannon lives in Bow Creek at 507 Morning Glory Place. RSVP to Shannon at 474-5570 or e-mail her at richshan1@verizon.net

**Mountain Top Welcome Club – Reservation Form for
December General Meeting**

December 15, 2011

Let's enjoy some lunch and RELAX for the Holidays!

TIME: 12:00pm

WHERE: Presbyterian Church, 6 Chestnut Street, Mountain Top

LUNCH: \$8

BABYSITTING: \$3 per child

RSVP: by December 12th with this form or
by email to Kerri Fey (Kfey@varsityspirit.com)

Name: _____
Attending (@ \$8.00)_____

Please return this form with your check to
Mountain Top Welcome Club
P.O. Box 243, Mountaintop, PA 18707
or RSVP by calling or *emailing*
Kerri Fey at Kfey@varsityspirit.com or 479-2739