

Edited by Ollie Rieley

Fulton Academy and the Carnegie Museums of Pittsburgh are working together to promote the Arts and Science in Highland Park.

Doug Graham

Through a new fund-raising program called Carnegie Cash for Schools, Carnegie Museums will donate to Fulton Academy \$10 for each family membership and \$5 for each individual membership purchased by Fulton Academy friends and family. Fulton Academy will use your gift wisely to promote learning for 268 neighborhood children. Your purchases also increase our eligibility to receive valuable memberships and museum visit discounts.

So please tell your friends, family and neighbors to mention Fulton Academy when purchasing or renewing your Carnegie Museums membership. To purchase on-line, just visit the Fulton page on the Highland Park web site:

<http://www.highlandparkpa.com/org/fulton.htm> or visit this special link to the Carnegie Museums web site: <http://members.carnegiemuseums.org/fulton>

You can also purchase a membership on your next visit to any of the four Carnegie Museums, or call 412-622-3314. Thank you for your support,

A Colorful Performance, A Downtown Display, and A New Christmas Song

janet jai

jai, a poet-artist who lives and creates in Highland Park, is doing a free peformance/talk/workshop introducing poemART (jai's unique blend of poetry and abstract art) at the East Liberty library on Wednesday, Dec. 3 from 5-6:30 p.m. The first half is performance (as anyone who has seen jai perform will tell you, she's really good) plus a very visual talk showing how jai creates poemART. The second half is your chance to create poemART yourself out of the words of Robert Frost's "Stopping by Woods on a Snowy Evening." (Hopefully it won't be a snowy evening.) You're welcome to drop in for all or part of this event, which is made possible by a grant jai received from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts.

jai's colorful poemART and acrylic/collage canvases are also on display downtown in the windows at 209 Fifth Avenue (across from Candyrama, two short blocks up from where Fifth Avenue meets Liberty) throughout the holiday season and possibly beyond.

You may also hear jai's new Christmas song (which is also a poemART) being played on WQED-FM and possibly other local radio stations during the holidays. The song is called "Evergreen or The Secret of Christmas," and it is a dialogue between a little girl and a tree. If you hear it, jai would appreciate your letting her know. jai is also selling a professionally recorded audiotape cassette of her song with a copy of the Evergreen poemART as a unique Christmas card/gift. More is at her Web site: www.poem-of-the-month.com.

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Lookee Here!!!

A Colorful Performance, etc. — Page 1 Pittsburgh Camerata — Page 2 Heth's Run Rehab — Page 4 Seminary Concerts — Page 5 Carols Around the Bonfire — Page 7

THE NEXT HPCC MEETING IS 7:30 P.M., THURSDAY, JANUARY 15, 2004, AT ST. ANDREWS

THE PITTSBURGH CAMERATA PRESENTS "A CELESTIAL CHRISTMAS" at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church, 5801 Hampton Street, on Saturday, December 13 at 8:00 PM.

The 24-voice chamber choir sings heavenly choral music inspired by the star, the angels and the light of Christmas with music by Dello Joio, Goudimel, Handel, Howells, Knapp, Lauridsen, Poulenc and Vaughan Williams. Plus traditional English, Dutch, French and Bohemian carols. **Tickets are \$15 and \$6 for students.** <u>Any adult who brings one or more elementary-age student will get \$2 off the \$15 ticket price.</u> **412-421-5884.** For more information and a concert program listing, visit the Camerata's website at www.pittsburghcamerata.org

Treasurer's Report - November

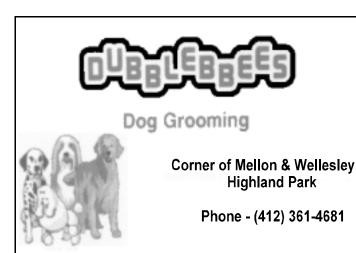
Actual
Year to Date

Income \$13,097.00

Expenses \$5,588.23

Current Balance, All Accounts \$20,407.07

Happy Holidays To All



H. P. C. C. Officers, Directors & Committees

President: Bob Staresinic (441-8972) President Elect: Comm. Dev. V.P.: Mitch Kates (661-4995) Treasurer: Kelly Vitti (361-7669) Secretary: Shannon Mischler (441-4967) Past President: Lisa Williams (665-3933) Directors Suzanne Colvin (04) Rudy Maceyko 441-9130(04) Mary Beth Steisslinger 661-4925 (04) Ed Sullivan 361-1101 (04) Roger Laib 362-5976 (04) David Delong 303-0747 (05) Lisa Solomon 661-0126 (05) Peter Hughes 363-4603 (05) Ollie Rieley 661-1205 (05) Bruce Robison 361-4892 (05) Brian Byers 661-2614 (06) John Ciroli 665-0513 (06) Marie Jackson 441-2450 (06) Amy Maceyko 441-9130 (06) Andrea Mudd 631-4574 (06) Committees Beautification: Dell Ziegler 363-1252 Block Watch: Jan Stayianos 363-8208 Children: Aimee DeFoe 361-0685 Commercial District: Muzz Meyers 661-2315 Day Camp: Janice Burgett 361-2195 Education: Kevin Bivins Hospitality: ----House Tour: Dana Thomas 720-0907, Angie Walker 362-2899 Membership: Kelly Meade 362-0331 Newsletter: Ollie Rieley 661-1205 Program: Bruce Robison 361-4892 Public Safety: John Ciroli 665-0513 Recreation: Charlie Peterson 441-2766 Reservoir Covers: Dave Hance 361-4935 Restoration: Dave Hance 361-4935 Super Playground: Kate Zober 661-9312 Yard Sale: Judy Wolfe 441-7830 Welcoming: Bob Staresinic 441-8972 Zoning: Dell Ziegler 363-0742

C. O. P. 665-3644 - Zone 5 665-3605 HPCDC/HPCC Web: www.highlandparkpa.com Phone Numbers A rea Code 412 unless Noted

Highlights of November 20 Meeting

Ollie Rieley

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Staresinic at 7:35 P.M.

Reports:

House Tour: Dana Thomas reported that the House Tour was very successful. It was a sunny day and many people turned out for the tour. She reported a profit of about \$800.

Newsletter: To support mailing the newsletter before Thanksgiving, all articles must be to the editor by Saturday, November 21.

Membership: Kelly Meade reminded all to send in their dues for 2004. We are currently about 200 short in renewals.

Community Plan: Dave Hance passed out copies of the final draft report and asked for comments. Comments should be provided by January 1. The Planning Team expects to ask final approval in the January 2004 HPCC meeting. The draft may be reviewed on line at www.highlandparkcommunity.com or copies are available at the Community Plan office in the Farm House or at Sandi's Deli.

Program:

Sal Wilcox presented a slide show summarizing the plans of Education Initiatives for an enrichment program at Fulton. The program will be an after school Nature Lab focusing on ecology. Ultimately, they expect to involve several nearby elementary schools, each focusing on a different subject. Together they will become a set of after school "magnet" programs. Students find their particular interest and go to the appropriate school for that area.

Announcements:

Bruce Robison announced Carols Around the Bonfire in the St. Andrew's Churchyard on Tuesday December 16 at 7:00 P.M. All are invited.

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Bob Staresinic said he had received an invitation to an Open House at the MennoCorps home at 5615 Stanton Ave. on December 10 from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M..

Dave Hance said a strong letter supporting the restoration of the Heth's Run bridge on Butler Street was sent to PennDOT.

Sal Wilcox requested people to give Education Innovations their used printer cartridges for recycling. EI recieves a small refund for them.

Brenda Cole requested donations of office supplies to the CDC office in the Farm House.

Bob Staresinic noted that a small donation to Fulton academy will be made by the Carnegie Museums in response to family memberships, if requested.

Everyone was reminded there is no December HPCC meeting and no January newsletter.

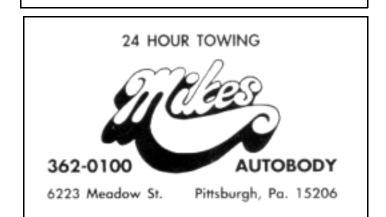
Meeting adjourned at 9:00 P.M.

St. Andrew's Church

5801 Hampton Street * Highland Park

Sunday Morning Services - December 9:00 a.m. Holy Communion in the Chapel 11:00 a.m. Choral Morning Worship Church School at 9:45 a.m. Nursery School at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday Morning Holy Communion 10:30 a.m.

> Visit our Homepage: www.forministry.com/15206saec



2003 Scarecrow Winners and Thanks

Aimee DeFoe Hi everyone,

First of all, sorry for the delay in this message--I am recovering from the flu.

The Scarecrow winners this year are:

- Clare and John McGowan of Grafton Street,
- Tommy Leavitt of Hampton Street, and
- Maddie DiFiore of Farragut Street

Congrats and thanks. An envelope is on its way to each of your homes.

Thanks also to everyone who participated this year, including:

- Volunteers Trish Kolarik, Kristen Tsapis, Roger, Tania Grubbs, Bob Staresenic,
- Citiparks (who were awesome),
- Stanton-Negley Drugstore,
- Enrico's Tazza d'Oro,
- Walnut Market,
- Martha Riecks for Scarecrow Prizes, and
- everyone else who helped in any way.

Thanks so much !!

Port Authority Letter

November 19.2003

Dear Mr Rieley:

As you are aware. new service changes will take effect on November 23rd. I want to assure you that Port Authority staff will continue to monitor the Highland Park issues.

We did not receive any customer complaints following our August 31st schedule changes.

There are no service changes occurring with the November 23rd pick that effect the Highland Park community

I sincerely appreciate and thank the community for their continued support and assistance.

If you have any questions. please contact me at 412-566-5323 Sincerely.

Lynda Conway Director of Operations Analysis, Port Authority ****

Heth's Run Rehab

Dave Hance

Most of us know Heth's Run as the location of the Zoo's parking lot, and for what used to be there, the City's Dept. of Public Works storage yard. Once a year, we'd haul our old Christmas tree "down there", or, perhaps, we'd walk down the path below the King Estate, past the remains of the burned-out cars, to view out at the asphalt plain that caps the Run's upper reaches. Once a dramatic feature of the East End landscape, Heth's Run is now a wasteland. That may be about to change. After decades of neglect, Heth's Run is suddenly the focus of significant new interest:

* PennDOT is moving toward the replacement of the once-beautiful, but now buried and deteriorated bridge at Allegheny River Boulevard;

* The City has abandoned its dumping grounds at the upper portion of the Run;

* Green soccer fields will soon replace some of the gray asphalt;

* The Pittsburgh Zoo is planning to upgrade it's "front door" parking lot and entry drive;

* A riverfront trail is planned along the south bank of the Allegheny River; and

* The new Highland Park Master Plan has highlighted the potential of the Run to make fundamentally exciting new connections between neighborhoods, the Park, the Zoo, and the River.

If coordinated properly, all of these efforts can be combined to create a whole that is far greater than the sum of their parts. Heth's Run can be reinvented in the process, and our City and our neighborhood stand to gain greatly. Years of neglect and environmental abuse can be undone in the process. The Highland Park Community Club and CDC, along with the Morningside Area Community Council, and the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, are leading the charge for a comprehensive design process to seize this one time opportunity to create a new Heth's Run. We are pleased to be working closely with the Mayor and City Planning, the

Pelminary Plar

Heth's Run River Trail Connection

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DECEMBER 2003

Riverlife Task Force, and the Zoo to create the "new Heth's Run."

There are significant challenges remaining, not least of which is money. But, great progress has already been made:

Heth's Run Bridge: Stand at the center of the existing bridge today, and look up Heth's Run. The view is dominated by asphalt. Millions of cubic yards of fill material were placed in Heth's Run by the City from the 40's to the 70's, and the stream that once ran 85 ft. below your feet is now captured by two large buried culverts.

The bridge you are standing on dates to 1914, and now is in need of replacement. As Allegheny River Boulevard is also PA Route 8, replacing the bridge is the responsibility of PennDOT. Working closely with the City and PennDOT, we have been successful in shifting the new bridge design towards one that fits in this remarkable, historic setting.

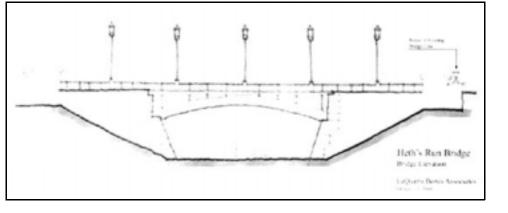
From our February letter to PennDOT: "The original bridge enhanced its setting because it worked with it: a single arched span, springing from masonry abutments anchored into the sides of the ravine, united the landscape and allowed Heth's Run to join with the Allegheny River in a most graceful way. It

acted as a true gateway to the City, to the Park, and to the Zoo. We believe the new bridge (shown) should be evocative of the original."

Soccer Fields: A State grant was secured in recent years by the City to place new soccer fields at the former DPW yard. The Club has seen drawings of this design, and public meetings have taken place at the Zoo. Subsequent studies have shown that the lack of soil at this upper portion of Heth's Run will make soccer fields exceedingly costly. A break though occurred this summer, however, when it was suggested that the soccer fields would be a better fit at the other end of Heth's Run, near the bridge where soil conditions were better. Moving the soccer fields to the bridge brings many advantages: it "greens up" the lower third of Heth's Run with playing fields and park plantings, thereby transforming the image of this crucial entry to City, Zoo, and Park; it provides a compatible setting for grading of the trail that would wind down from parking lot level to the riverfront trail along the Allegheny; it allows the Zoo's parking to expand in the less-public upper reaches of the Run; and it allows for a more orderly phasing of the construction of soccer fields-bridge-parking lot-trails over the next few years.

Connections: One of the least costly, but most exciting aspects of this project are the new connections that will be formed. Via trails connecting up into the neighborhoods, Highland Park and Morningside residents will be minutes away by foot or bicycle from the Allegheny River Trail, and the Zoo. Land that is actually part of the Park will be accessible to the public for the first time. The Port Authority's Eastern Corridor Transit Study has identified the railroad right-of-way below the bridge as a possible future light rail line. The Highland Park Lock & Dam may one day house a visitor's center. And, we will live in a more attractive neighborhood as a result of any or all of these.

Next Steps: Key parts of this vision are in place: PennDOT has agreed to build a bridge that is sensitive to its natural and historic context; the soccer field money is in hand; and the Zoo was already planning for parking and entry upgrades. The piece still to be identified is the cost of removing and relocating the excess soil material from the bridge area. This is necessary to partially



recreate the ravine, thus allowing a proper setting for the bridge, and the critical trail pathway passing underneath. Thanks to the leadership and financial support of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy (with a partial match pledged by the HPCDC), the design of this final component is underway. Previously unconnected design initiatives will be pulled together on one plan, and a fund-raising strategy can be put together at that time.

(Conceptual drawings courtesy of LaQuatra Bonci Associates)

Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Concerts

Festival of Lessons and Carols with Pittsburgh Theological Seminary Choir, George Tutwiler, director. Tuesday, December 16, 7:00 P.M. Free and open to the public.

International Suites Music of Bazelaire, Stravinsky, Nin, Stutschewsky, and Paulus. Aron Zelkwicz, cello and James Johnston, Piano. Saturday January 10th, 3:00 P.M.

From one of our city's most distinguished musical families, cellist Aron Zelkowicz joins New York pianist James Johnston for a brilliant selection of suites by Bazelaire, Stravinsky, Nin, Stutschewsky, and Paulus.

Call (412) 362 5610, Extension 2196, for more information. ****

2003 House Tour a Success!

Dana Thomas

Because of the fantastic homes, kitchens, and cookbooks that were on display for the 2003 Highland Park House Tour along with the wonderful volunteers who stepped up to help on the day of the tour, I have heard nothing but positive feedback on this year's tour! Tourgoers made a point to let me know what an enjoyable day they had walking through our beautiful neighborhood. Food Glorious Food and the cookbook committees added to the fun by offering huge chocolate-covered strawberries and samples from the cookbook, respectively.

Interest was high and turnout was great - I am still waiting for the final numbers, however, a profit was made and Highland Park received priceless limelight attention. Over \$1000.00 was raised in pre-ticket sales alone and many tourgoers were interested in moving to the neighborhood which is a good sign for the values of our homes! The Community Development Corporation took this opportunity to showcase some of the properties that are presently being renovated on Mellon Street and Negley Avenue. That exposure should certainly lead to an eager market to purchase these homes after the renovations are complete.

On behalf of Angie and myself, I would like to express our gratitude for the gracious donation of funds and/or personal time as well as the enthusiastic attitudes of the homeowners, volunteers, ad sponsors, and members of the Highland Park Community Club, Highland Park Community Development Corporation as well and members of the community itself. Thanks also to Bruce Robinson and St. Andrew's Episcopal Church for donating space and participating in the tour, those of you who purchased tickets, and the businesses who sold our tickets.

Thanks to all for coming together as a community to accomplish this extensive and beneficial project - it truly benefits all of the residents of Highland Park -

Dana

P.S. Looks like we will be featuring gardens and homes with the 2005 tour. A major television show has expressed interest in "possibly" featuring some of our gardens if we can feature some very original plant-life among other interesting concepts. Regardless of whether that pans out, you have plenty of time to get those beautiful back-yard oases in shape for a tentatively scheduled spring 2005 tour!

Open House on Stanton Avenue

C. Heather Kropf

I work for Mennonite Urban Corps, a nonprofit located in Highland Park on Stanton Avenue. We're hosting an open house on Wednesday, Dec. 10, for our neighborhood and program partners, 7-9 p.m. I'd like to invite members of HPCC to join us. We're at 5615 Stanton Avenue. Briefly, some info about MennoCorps:

We're a 10-year-old nonprofit that attracts college and university graduates to Pittsburgh. We offer participants vocational and leadership development opportunities through a year of service to a broad array of institutions, organization, and businesses. This year our partners include: Rachel Carson Homestead, Rivers of Steel National Heritage Area, Greater Pittsburgh Community Food Bank, Mom's House/Angel's Place, Pittsburgh Leadership Foundation, Heinz History Center, 9 Mile Run Watershed Association, Mildred's Daughers Urban Farm, The Allegheny Front, United Steelworkers of America, and Pittsburgh Center for the Arts.

Our program is competitive, accepting only 8 participants each year. They live communally in our Highland Park boarding house. In addition to placing them in uniquely appropriate worksites, we also provide a weekly educational seminar. Topics and activities range from Pittsburgh history, theology, racial & urban issues, conflict resolution, book discussions, field trips, cultural activies, and lectures. The goal is to create engaged, wholistic and civic-minded urban citizens.

About 1/3 of all alumni have chosen Pittsburgh as their new home (that's roughly 35 folks), and about 7-10 of those people have purchased homes in Highland Park, E. Liberty or Morningside. In addition, MennoCorps has attracted dozens and dozens of other college graduates to Pittsburgh (they often relocate to the East End). Alumni of this program formed the Union Project.

So, we're trying to find ways of being more visible to our neighbors as an organization rather than as individuals. Thus, the open house. Please stop by if you have some time. We'd love to meet you and learn about what the Community Club does!

T.O.L.A.T.R. HIGHLAND PARK PREPARATORY ACADEMY

- Founded in 1979, T.O.L.A.T.R. Highland Park Preparatory Academy is a preparatory school for college.
- A small academy, housed in a stately mansion, T.O.L.A.T.R. Highland Park Preparatory Academy is able to offer individual attenetion to each attendee.
- T.O.L.A.T.R. (An acronym for Taylor's Oral Language Approach to Reading) Highland Park Preparatory Academy offers a unique program, which utilzes the basic phonetic and linguistic skills necessary for reading.
- T.O.L.A.T.R. Highland Park Preparatory Academy is licensed by the Department of Education for Private Academic Schools, in the State of Pennsylvania.
- T.O.L.A.T.R. Highland Park Preparatory Academy offers day care services for children one to five years; and before and after school services to students in grades Nursery/Kindergarten through Eighth grade.



HIGHLAND PARK PREPARATORY ACADEMY

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DECEMBER 2003

Around St. Andrew's

Bruce Robison

Advent and Christmas are always rich and meaningful seasons around old St. Andrew's Church.

One newer tradition, in the past six or seven years, has been a community "Carols around the Bonfire" night in St. Andrew's Church Yard on Hampton Street. We begin at 7 p.m. with all the old familiar songs--Jingle Bells and Silent Night and Frosty the Snowman--and then, when we're all sung-out, we repair to the Parish Hall for hot cocoa and festive holiday cookies. The date this year is Tuesday, December 16. It's a great night for the neighborhood, and all are invited.

The traditional midnight candlelight service on Christmas Eve, Wednesday, December 24, begins at 10:30 p.m. with full Choir and Festival Orchestra presenting Antonio Vivaldi's famous Gloria in D major. The Choral Service then continues at 11 p.m., and always one of the meaningful highlights of the year.

Families with younger children often prefer to attend the earlier Christmas Eve afternoon service, beginning at 4:30 p.m., also with many familiar Christmas Carols and with a Christmas Children's Sermon.

www.howardhanna.com

A full schedule of holiday services and activities is available on the St. Andrew's Website. Visitors and newcomers are always welcome.

St. Andrew's has been a part of this Highland Park neighborhood for nearly a century. If you or anyone you know might have a need with which we can help--a baby to be baptized, a wedding to plan, a sick or shut-in family member or friend to be visited, an offering of care at the time of the death of a loved one--please feel invited and encouraged to give us a call. St. Andrew's office is open Tuesday - Friday, 9 a.m. - Noon, 1 p.m. - 3 p.m., and messages are received 24 hours a day at (412) 661-1245.

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Donate your printer cartridges

Salvador Wilcox

Soon, Education Innovations, Inc., will be announcing its latest projects, SchoolSynapse and NatureLAB. While we won't give you the details right now, we can tell you that you will be proud to be living in the neighborhood. SchoolSynapse deals with how schools make smarter use of community resources. NatureLAB, a demonstration of SchoolSynapse, will be coming to Fulton Academy of Science next year. Come to the Community Club meeting this Thursday to get in on the details.

Our fund-raising goal for SchoolSynapse and NatureLAB is \$250,000. Lucky for you, we're not asking you for any of it. Right now. We would like your help raising these funds by donating your used printer cartridges. You can bring them with you to this Community Club meeting, or feel free to stop by The Learning Club in Highland Park at 5808 Bryant Street, Suite 2. We will have a kick-off celebration in January, complete with music, food, and other entertainment. But in the meantime, get in the habit of keeping your empty cartridges. Just one way you can help us in our effort to make Highland Park the center of educational innovation in Pittsburgh.

Union Project Update

Justin Rothshank

Stained Glass Dates Announced

The next Union Project stained glass class will be offered this winter. The class will be held on Saturdays from 9 A.M. to 1 P.M. for six consecutive Saturdays beginning January 10 and ending February 14. The class fee is \$175 which includes all tools and materials. Classes will be held at Prism Stained Glass studios in Lawrenceville at 5234 Butler Street. Students will work in pairs to clean, re-lead, and restore Union Project stained glass windows. To register for the class please call 412-478-3105 or email Justin@unionproject.org to get a registration form. Deadline for registration is January 5, however the class is expected to be filled and early registration is recommended.

Weekend Successes

The beginning of November marked the end of The Union Project's 2003 volunteer opportunities. Friday evening's 2nd annual Artists of The Union Project Holiday sale was a great success. Several hundred people came out to listen to the band Monarch and view some fantastic art by six local artists. Saturday's final volunteer day included folks from GLENDA, the Junior League of Pittsburgh, and Carnegie Mellon University. Over 30 volunteers filled a dumpster that was generously donated by Pittsburgh Roll-Off. Several volunteers also spent the day putting the finishing touches on 11 stained glass windows that were restored by the two fall stained glass classes. The Union Project stained glass restoration class was also featured in Friday's edition th e Pittsburgh Business Times. o f

http://pittsburgh.bizjournals.com/pittsburgh/stories/2003/11/10/s mallb1.html

Keep your eyes open for many more volunteer opportunities starting next spring. If you or your group are interested in volunteering at The Union Project email justin@unionproject.org or call 412-478-3105 to set up a date.

Restoring neighborhood space to connect, create, and celebrate.

Membership Committee Report

Kelly Meade

To date, we have a total of 585 members of which 51 are new members for 2004, 335 have renewed and 48 are complimentary status. Those of you who have not sent in your renewal please do so. If someone needs the information regarding membership. please call (412) 362-0331

Should anyone be in need of envelopes, I have in my possession a quantity of them dating back to Diane DiNardo's reign as membership chair. A large number of business size with a return address and a large number of reply envelopes with address imprinted. To use, you would yhave to cover the return address or the reply address with a label. I do not want to discard them, so if there is a school, charity. or someone who could put these to good use please let me know; they have been sitting in my office for too many years. Thanks!!

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December/January CALENDAR	
December 3	j. jai Performance/talk/Workshop on poemART at E. Liberty Library, 5:00 - 6:30 P.M (also display downtown at 209 Fifth Ave.)
December 13	Celestial Christmas Concert, Pittsburgh Camerata, St. Andrew's, 8:00 P.m. Admission
December 10	MennoCorps Open House, 5615 Stanton Ave., 7:00 - 9:00 P.M.
December 16	Carols Around the Bonfire, St. Andrew's Churchyard, 7:00 P.M.
December 16	Festival of Lessons and Carols, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, 7:00 P.M.
January 10	International Suites, Afternoon Concert Series, Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, 3:00 P.M., Admission
January 16	HPCC meeting, St. Andrew's, 7:30 P.M.