

The Village Club

# Classes Catalogue

Fall 2024



190 EAST LONG LAKE ROAD, BLOOMFIELD HILLS, MI 48304 · 248-644-3450 · THEVILLAGECLUB.ORG

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***Your Participation  
is your support!***

## MISSION STATEMENT

The Village Club provides a unique private club experience and gracious, friendly environment for its members while offering cultural, educational, social and philanthropic opportunities, as well as casual and fine dining.

## Invitation to Classes at The Village Club

We look forward to welcoming you to Fall classes at The Village Club.

Many classes have a Michigan theme, including Uniquely Michigan, Detroit Lions & the Early NFL, Life & Death of Dodge Main, Jacobsons - I Miss It So, Michigan Women Go to War – Civil War, and Jam Handy & Its Role in World War II. There's also Berlin, Gershwin & Kern and Turning the Tide in the Pacific.

Art historian Wendy Evans explores the intense passions and stormy relationships of artist couples Camille Claudel & Auguste Rodin, Georgia O'Keeffe & Alfred Stieglitz, and Frida Kahlo & Diego Rivera. And, for the holidays there's a class for creating a swag for your table or mantle.

Returning by popular demand are Mah Jongg, Genealogy and a hands-on cooking demonstration where each of us will have an opportunity to create pierogi. Those who enjoy literature will be delighted with the books chosen for The Readers and Speed Dating with Books. Knitting, bridge playing and learning, yoga and mat Pilates fitness classes continue to be popular, catering to multiple skill levels. There's also a new class Chess for Beginners.

As a reminder, business casual attire is appropriate, as is tasteful denim.

Fall 2024 classes offer you opportunities to pause, learn, listen, and share with friends. We look forward to seeing you!

# Books

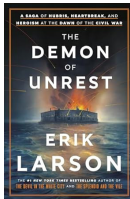
## The Readers

A Village Club tradition for more than 20 years, The Readers is a book study class that meets monthly for group discussion facilitated by Cathleen Russ. The four books selected by the group for fall 2024, all recently published, include both fiction and nonfiction. Register separately for each class.

**Instructor:** Cathleen Russ  
**Class Dates:** Tuesdays, September 10, October 8, November 12, December 10  
**Class Time:** 10:00-11:30 a.m.  
**Fee per Class:** \$10 Member, \$20 Nonmember

### Tuesday, September 10 *The Demon of Unrest: A Saga of Hubris, Heartbreak, and Heroism at the Dawn of the Civil War*

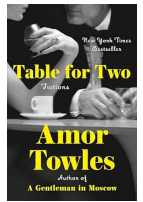
(592 pages - nonfiction), by Erik Larson



The pivotal five months between the election of Abraham Lincoln and the start of the Civil War was a slow-burning crisis that tore a deeply divided nation in two. On November 6, 1860, Abraham Lincoln became the victor in a tight race for president. The country was bitterly at odds; Southern extremists were moving ever closer to destroying the Union, with one state after another seceding. Slavery fueled the conflict, but somehow the passions of North and South came to focus on a lonely federal fortress in Charleston Harbor: Fort Sumter. Master storyteller Erik Larson offers a gripping account of the chaotic months between Lincoln's election and the Confederacy's shelling of Sumter—a period marked by tragic errors and miscommunications, and personal tragedies and betrayals. Lincoln himself wrote that the trials of these five months were “so great that, could I have anticipated them, I would not have believed it possible to survive them.”

### Tuesday, October 8 *Table for Two: Fictions*

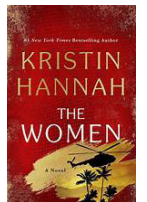
(464 pages - fiction), by Amor Towles



The author of *A Gentleman in Moscow* shares six stories based in New York City and a novella set in Golden Age Hollywood. The New York stories consider the consequences that can spring from brief encounters as well as the mechanics of compromise that operate at the heart of modern marriages. The novella features Evelyn Ross from the novel *Rules of Civility*, as she leaves New York City in September 1938 with the intention of returning home to Indiana. But as her train pulls into Chicago, she instead extends her ticket to Los Angeles. Told from seven points of view, “Eve in Hollywood” describes how Eve crafts a new future for herself in a noirish tale that ventures through the movie sets, bungalows, and dive bars of Los Angeles.

### Tuesday, November 12 *The Women*

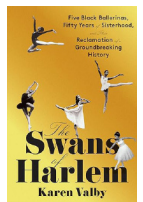
(480 pages - historical fiction),  
 by Kristin Hannah



When 20-year-old nursing student Frankie McGrath hears the words “women can be heroes,” it is a revelation. When her brother ships out to serve in Vietnam, she joins the Army Nurse Corps and follows his path. As green and inexperienced as the men sent to Vietnam to fight, Frankie is over-whelmed by the chaos and destruction of war. Each day is a gamble of life and death, hope and betrayal; friendships run deep and can be shattered in an instant. But war is just the beginning for Frankie and her veteran friends. The real battle lies in coming home to a changed and divided America, to angry protesters, and to a country that wants to forget Vietnam.

### Tuesday, December 10 *The Swans of Harlem: Five Black Ballerinas, Fifty Years of Sisterhood, and Their Reclamation of a Groundbreaking History*

(304 pages - nonfiction), by Karen Valby



The Swans of Harlem performed for the Queen of England, Mick Jagger, and Stevie Wonder, on the same bill as Josephine Baker, at the White House, and beyond. But decades later there was almost no record of their groundbreaking history to be found. This is the story of a pioneering group of black ballerinas and their 50-year sisterhood.

## Speed Dating with Books

Are you tired of the same old stories? Looking to recharge your reading?

Get help from Cathleen Russ and a team of librarians from the Baldwin (Birmingham), Bloomfield Township, and West Bloomfield libraries. Learn about 30 potential new reads, including audio- and e-books, and take home a list of all titles discussed, as well as giveaway copies of new books. This fun program is designed for all who love books and reading.

**Instructor:** Cathleen Russ and Team of Librarians  
**Class Date:** Wednesday, October 30  
**Class Time:** 5:00-6:15 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$10 Member, \$20 Nonmember

## Bridge, Chess & Mah Jongg

### Beginning Bridge: Introduction & Bidding Basics

Are you new to bridge? Never played? Or long ago and need a restart? This class is for the student who is essentially new to bridge. In four weekly sessions, the class introduces the game of bridge and builds basic bridge concepts, with a focus on bidding and understanding opening bids and responses. Each session begins with a presentation and ends with hands to play that illustrate topics covered in the presentation. No prior bridge knowledge is required. This is a four-session class.

**Instructor:** Laura Burke  
**Class Dates:** Tuesdays, October 1, 8, 15, 22  
**Class Time:** 1:00-3:00 p.m.  
**Series Fee:** \$60 Member, \$80 Nonmember



### Barometer Bridge: Play and Learn

This class offers an introduction to a format called "barometer bridge." In a barometer game, all pairs play the same hand at the same time. After everyone has finished playing the hand, players and the instructor discuss the auction, opening lead, defense, and play of the hand by the declarer. This approach, with immediate and specific feedback, enables players to compare their decisions and identify the most effective ways to meet the challenges of each hand.

Previous bridge knowledge is required. This class is intended for intermediate players and advanced beginners with experience, especially those interested in building skills with a partner. Please register one week in advance (by Wednesday, September 18) to facilitate preparing the hands for each table.

**Instructor:** Laura Burke  
**Class Dates:** Wednesday, September 25  
**Class Time:** 1:00-4:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$15 Member, \$20 Nonmember



## Chess for Beginners

Chess is a timeless game of strategy, skill, and intellect that has captured the hearts and minds of people around the world for centuries. Whether you're a complete novice or someone who has dabbled in the game before, learning how to play chess can be both rewarding and enriching.



This class offers comprehensive instruction for beginners, including first-time players, who want to learn the basic game of chess. We'll take you on a journey through the fundamentals of chess, breaking down the game into simple and easy-to-understand steps.

**Instructor:** Freeland Goddard  
**Class Dates:** September 4 & 11, October 2, 17 & 23  
**Class Time:** 10:00-11:30 a.m.  
**Fee per Session:** \$30 Member, \$40 Nonmember

## Mah Jongg

Mah Jongg is an ancient Chinese game played with colorful tiles.

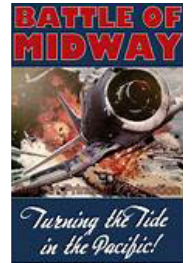


Introduced in the west in the 1920's, it is a popular table game of strategy, calculation and chance. It's not as hard as it looks! This class is designed for beginners and those who want a refresher. Continue your learning by playing with the friendly Mah Jongg Club at The Village Club. This is a two-session class.

**Instructor:** Cherie Ritter  
**Class Dates:** Thursdays, October 17 & 24  
**Class Time:** 6:30-8:30 p.m.  
**Series Fee:** \$40 Member, \$50 Nonmember

## History, Art & Music

### Turning the Tide in the Pacific



The story begins with the legendary Doolittle carrier raid on Japan and ends exactly one year later with the death of Admiral Yamamoto at the hands of intercepting P-38 Lightning fighter aircraft. While maintaining context with sea and ground actions, the emphasis is on the role aviation played for both Japan and the Allies. This presentation will show how the Midway victory was but one in a series of interconnected events that collectively changed the course of the Pacific War.

**Instructor:** David Tarrant  
**Class Dates:** Thursday, September 19  
**Class Time:** 5:30-7:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$20 Member, \$30 Nonmember

### Uniquely Michigan



Michigan truly is a unique state with its two peninsulas, beautiful beaches, great lakes, universities and ten million people. While our past has been colorful and bright, our future has all the ingredients for being more spectacular and dramatic, especially as climate change will certainly bring us many different surprises. This presentation will be highly interactive and will involve the audience. Come learn about our Great Lakes State and the many key elements that make Michigan "unique."

**Instructor:** Larry Bukowski  
**Class Dates:** Wednesday, September 25  
**Class Time:** 5:30-7:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$20 Member, \$30 Nonmember

## Artist Couples: Life, Art & Passion (3-part series)

Art historian Wendy Evans explores the intense passions and stormy relationships of these couples while looking at and discussing the magnificent art they created. Register for each class separately.

### Auguste Rodin & Camille Claudel

Camille Claudel was a 19-year-old sculptor when she met the great master Rodin. He was captivated by her talent and strong will to become recognized as an artist. Claudel became Rodin's muse and his mistress. They sculpted together for the next ten years. The richly illustrated lecture examines how each artist's work was influenced by the passion of their relationship.



### Georgia O'Keeffe and Alfred Stieglitz

Georgia O'Keeffe was a young art student when she met the already internationally famous photographer Alfred Stieglitz. Their love affair and later marriage led to a major series of photos of her by Stieglitz which in turn impacted how her art was viewed. His darkroom techniques influenced her art.



### Frida Kahlo and Diego Rivera

There is a story of strong passions and incredible art. This presentation explores their stormy relationship while looking at the art they created throughout their careers. Diego Rivera was famous for large public political murals. Frida Kahlo is celebrated for small intimate personal works. But we'll find common characteristics in their art.



Instructor: Wendy Evans  
 Class Dates: Wednesdays  
 September 18 -  
**Camille Claudel & Auguste Rodin**  
 October 16 -  
**Georgia O'Keeffe & Alfred Stieglitz**  
 November 13 -  
**Frida Kahlo & Diego Rivera**  
 Class Time: 10:00-11:30 a.m.  
 Fee per Class: \$20 Member, \$30 Nonmember



## The Detroit Lions & the Early NFL

Lions fans buoyed by recent team successes and eager to start the fall football season can satisfy their craving by attending this presentation on Lions history. This is the story of the Detroit Lions and professional football finding its place in American popular culture. Mr. Dimick will speak about the instability of the infant NFL and how the Lions won the hearts of Detroiters from their small-town roots through their golden age in the '50s and into the present.

Instructor: Jeremy Dimick  
 Class Dates: Friday, September 27  
 Class Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m.  
 Fee: \$20 Member, \$30 Nonmember



## The Life & Death of Dodge Main

In June 1910, John and Horace Dodge began construction of a factory in the southeast corner of Hamtramck. Within 10 years, the factory transformed Hamtramck into a major industrial city with a population that skyrocketed from 3,500 to 48,000. For seven decades Dodge Main was the lifeblood of Hamtramck. It provided tens of thousands of jobs and generated millions of dollars in tax revenue.

At its peak, Dodge Main was one of the largest factories in the world. In 1981, the plant was demolished to make room for the GM Poletown plant. This presentation will take you right into the plant, from its earliest days, through its massive growth to its death and final destruction.

**Instructor:** Greg Kowalski  
**Class Dates:** Thursday, October 3  
**Class Time:** 5:30-7:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$20 Member, \$30 Nonmember



## Jacobson's, I Miss It So!

Reenter the marvelous stores and meet the personalities who transformed Jacobson's from its humble Reed City origins to a staple of sophistication throughout Michigan and into the rest of the country. The brainchild of a retail genius, this deluxe specialty store gave customers a peerless social, shopping and dining destination. Experience anew the refined beauty of its Williamsburg-style Grosse Pointe store, the chic designer world of its Birmingham ensemble, or the charm and allure of its original Florida branch in Sarasota, revealing the secrets which made Jake's the dazzling store it was, and why it remains so profoundly missed by anyone who entered through its solid wooden doors.

**Instructor:** Bruce Kopytek  
**Class Dates:** Thursday, October 10  
**Class Time:** 1:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$20 Member, \$30 Nonmember

## Michigan Women Go to War - Civil War

The underappreciated role Michigan women played in the Civil War included a widely acclaimed battlefield nurse, a teacher who earned the moniker "Michigan's Florence Nightingale," an accomplished war correspondent, and a 22-year-old who concealed her gender for two years to serve in the ranks. Naturally, most Michigan women stayed home - managing farms, raising children, organizing soldiers' relief societies, and worrying about their loved ones. In so many ways, women contributed to suppressing the rebellion.

**Instructor:** Roger Rosentreter  
**Class Dates:** Friday, October 25  
**Class Time:** 5:30-7:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$20 Member, \$30 Nonmember

## Jam Handy & Its Role in World War II



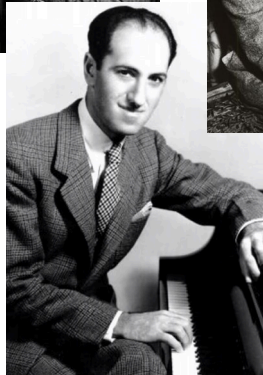
John Rusche will share an insider's look at the Jam Handy Organization. Noted for its ability to craft easy-to-understand tutorials, it was called upon to make 7,000 training films for the U.S. armed forces during WWII and produced building aerial trainers. Jam (Jamison) Handy was the Father of the Industrial Film Industry and produced more than 25,000 films. He created the concept of "distance learning" and made the first technicolor business film as well as the first musical comedy for business meetings. Jam Handy was a vendor-partner of GM for over 50 years and its successor exists today, after 95 years.

Instructor: John Rusche

Class Dates: Thursday, November 14

Class Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Fee: \$20 Member, \$30 Nonmember



## Berlin, Gershwin & Kern

Berlin, Gershwin & Kern - the three Titans of the American Songbook. Join us as Henry Feinberg, in his own inimitable style, relates the history and background of the composers who formed the backbone of modern American music. All three had deep roots in 'Tin Pan Alley' which embraced newly popular styles.

Instructor: Henry Feinberg

Class Dates: Friday, December 6

Class Time: 5:30-7:00 p.m.

Fee: \$20 Member, \$30 Nonmember

# Skills & Creativity



## Knitting

Knitting continues for those who have taken lessons from Naomi. She welcomes beginners and experienced knitters who want to enhance their skills. You will build upon previously learned lessons, continuing to create a beautiful garment; or, if you are a beginner, you will knit a scarf.

**Instructor:** Naomi Frenkel

**Class Dates:** Fridays, September 6, 13, 20, 27;  
October 4, 11, 18, 25;  
November 1, 8, 15, 22;  
December 6, 13

**Class Time:** 1:00-3:00 p.m.

**Fee:** \$40 Member, \$50 Nonmember

Fee is per month. Please register for each month separately. \$15 material fee paid to instructor at first class.



## Create Your Own Pierogi Magic

Learn to make pierogi from scratch! We will be making cheese-filled and potato/cheese-filled pierogi. We will roll the dough, create our own fillings complete with seasonings, and have containers to take our two dozen pierogi home. Please bring your apron, rolling pin, mixing bowl and masher. Filling scoopers and cutters will be provided along with all food ingredients. Sure to be a fun class!

**Instructor:** Erica Pietrzyk

**Class Dates:** Thursday, September 12

**Class Time:** 1:30 p.m.

**Fee:** \$70 Member, \$75 Nonmember

## Create a Holiday Swag for Your Table

Instructions and materials will be provided to allow you to create a beautiful swag for your holiday table or mantle. Silk flowers and greens will be included and you are welcome to bring any fresh greens you would like to include.

**Instructor:** Joanne Brown

**Class Dates:** Wednesday, November 20

**Class Time:** 10:30 a.m. -12 Noon

**Fee:** \$60 Members, \$70 Nonmembers





## **Genealogy 101 – Digging Up Your Ancestors & Preserving Them!**

Where did your ancestors really come from? Are the stories passed down through the generations true? Do you have boxes of old family photos and documents that will get tossed if no one knows who or what they are? Genealogy takes on many forms, including preserving the precious memories we have, learning about our ethnicities, piecing together family stories through vital records and censuses, to general learning about places, events, and eras. This class is for those who want to take first steps into the fabulous (and addicting) hobby of genealogy. We will begin with simple family trees, explore the most popular genealogy research platforms, discuss “rabbit holes”, how to get past “brick walls”, and methods for organizing the photos and documents we have for future generations. Please bring a tablet or laptop.

**Instructor:** Kellie Evans  
**Class Dates:** Friday, September 20  
**Class Time:** 1:30-3:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$20 Member, \$30 Nonmember

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## **Genealogy 201 – Digging Deeper – Every Family Has Its Issues!**

After learning about the many popular genealogy research platforms in 101, the first part of this class will focus specifically on navigating FamilySearch (the free genealogy website with the largest number of records). We'll then move into a workshop setting with Q & A about specific genealogy issues, document/photo organization, family photo dating, research methods, etc. Bring your laptop or tablet and your family issues (everyone has 'em)!

Prior to class, please create a free account on FamilySearch at <https://www.familysearch.org/en/united-states/>

**Instructor:** Kellie Evans  
**Class Dates:** Friday, November 8  
**Class Time:** 1:30-3:00 p.m.  
**Fee:** \$20 Member, \$30 Nonmember

# Wellness



## Restorative Yoga

We're pleased to offer a one-hour Restorative Yoga class on Wednesday evenings. The class will be a blend of Hatha, Ashtanga, and Restorative yoga practices led by Caryn Ciagne, a veteran Detroit area yoga instructor.

Instructor: Caryn Ciagne

Class Dates: Wednesday Evenings

Class Time: 6:00-7:00 p.m.

Fee: \$12 Members, \$18 Nonmembers



## Combination Yoga & Mat Pilates

This is a hybrid class that blends Pilates with yoga stretching, strength training, balance work, breath work, and relaxation to tone and strengthen the entire body, but especially upper arms, abdomen, hips, and legs. The class is offered with many modifications so that each participant, regardless of experience or current fitness level, can comfortably challenge herself. A certified yoga therapist and highly experienced Pilates instructor, Kathy Forgrave, welcomes all and is adept at providing group instruction that meets individual needs. Classes will be offered via Zoom only. Link is provided. Please indicate your device name on your first sign-in.

Instructor: Kathy Forgrave

Class Dates: Mondays & Wednesdays

Class Time: 10:00-11:00 a.m.

Fee per session: \$12 Member, \$18 Nonmember



## LaBlast Dance Fitness

LaBlast is based on the basic patterns of Ballroom Dancing! It's done partner-free and covers every style of dancing - waltz, tango, foxtrot, swing dances, and more. Come join the group for an energetic workout and stay for lunch afterward by subscription.

Instructor: Donna Tomassi

Class Dates: Fridays

Class Time: 12:30-1:15 p.m.

Fee per session: \$12 Member, \$18 Nonmember

# SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2	3	4 Chess 10-11:30 am Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Restorative Yoga 6-7 pm	5	6 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm	7
8	9 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11am	10 The Readers 10-11:30 am	11 Chess 10-11:30 am Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Restorative Yoga 6-7 pm	12 Create Pierogi Magic 1:30 pm	13 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm	14
15	16 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	17	18 Artist Couples 10-11:30 am Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Restorative Yoga 6-7 pm	19 Turning the Tide in the Pacific 5:30-7 pm	20 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm Genealogy101 1:30-3 pm	21
22	23 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	24	25 Barometer Bridge 1-4 pm Uniquely Michigan 5:30-7 pm Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Restorative Yoga 6-7 pm	26	27 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm Det. Lions & The NFL 5:30-7 pm	28
29	30 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am					

# OCTOBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
		1 Beginning Bridge 1-3 pm	2 Chess 10-11:30 am Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Restorative Yoga 6-7 pm	3 Life & Death of Dodge Main 5:30-7 pm	4 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm	5
6	7 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	8 The Readers 10-11:30 am Beginning Bridge 1-3 pm	9 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	10 History of Jacobson's 1-3 pm	11 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm	12
13	14 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	15 Beginning Bridge 1-3 pm	16 Artist Couples 10-11:30 am Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	17 Chess 10-11:30 am Mah Jongg 6:30-8:30 pm	18 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm	19
20	21 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	22 Beginning Bridge 1-3 pm	23 Chess 10-11:30 am Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	24 Mah Jongg 6:30-8:30 pm	25 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm Michigan Women Go To War-Civil War 5:30-7 pm	26
27	28 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	29	30 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Speed Dating w/Books 5-6:15 pm Restorative Yoga 6-7 pm	31		

# NOVEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					1 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm	2
3	4 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	5	6 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Restorative Yoga 6-7 pm	7	8 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm Genealogy 201 1:30-3 pm	9
10	11 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	12 The Readers 10-11:30 am	13 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Artist Couples 10-11:30 am	14 Jam Handy & Its Role in WWII 5:30-7 pm	15 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm	16
17	18 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	19	20 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Create a Holiday Swag 10-11:30 am Restorative Yoga 6-7 pm	21	22 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm	23
24	25 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	26	27 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Restorative Yoga 6-7 pm	28 Thanksgiving	29	30

# DECEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1	2 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	3	4 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Restorative Yoga 6-7 pm	5	6 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm Berlin, Gershwin, Kern 5:30-7 pm	7
8	9 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	10 The Readers 10-11:30 am	11 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Restorative Yoga 6-7 pm	12	13 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm Knitting 1-3 pm	14
15	16 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	17	18 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am Restorative Yoga 6-7 pm	19	20 LaBlast Dance Fitness 12:30-1:15 pm	21
22	23 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	24 Christmas Eve	25 Christmas	26	27	28
29	30 Yoga & Mat Pilates 10-11 am	31 New Year's Eve				

# Instructor Highlights

## **BROWN, JOANNE**

### **SKILLS & CREATIVITY**

Joanne Brown did her undergraduate work at Eastern Michigan and earned her Master's degree at Wayne State University in Education & Art Design and her teaching degree for K-12. She taught in the Southfield School District for over 38 years. For 10+ years she worked in floral design for Northwood Florist in Birmingham.

## **BUKOWSKI, LARRY**

### **HISTORY, ART & MUSIC**

Larry Bukowski has been an educator for over 45 years as a high school and middle school social studies teacher, counselor, and principal, as well as a college instructor of teacher education. He holds MA degrees in history & counseling, and a doctorate in administrative studies.

## **BURKE, LAURA**

### **BRIDGE**

Laura Burke began playing bridge a decade ago. She discovered bridge to be enriching, not only socially but also mentally and competitively. A Bronze Life Master since 2020, she is working toward becoming a Silver Life Master. She enjoys teaching new and experienced students to appreciate and benefit from the great game of bridge.

## **CIAGNE, CARYN**

### **WELLNESS**

Caryn Ciagne has taught all forms of yoga for several years and is certified. She teaches students of all levels from novices to experienced yogis and is regularly on the fitness schedules at Beverly Hills Club and the Birmingham Athletic Club.

## **DIMICK, JEREMY**

### **HISTORY, ART & MUSIC**

Jeremy Dimick's career began in 2007 as a History Specialist and Community Programs Coordinator at the Michigan Historical Museum. In 2012, he joined Sloan\*Longway as a Curator of Collections and in 2017 he became Director of Collections at the Detroit Historical Society. Jeremy has a Bachelor of Science degree in History with a concentration in Museum Studies and a Master of Arts in History from Central Michigan University.

## **EVANS, KELLIE**

### **SKILLS & CREATIVITY**

Kellie Evans is a Village Club member and amateur genealogist. She has spent countless hours going down many genealogy "rabbit holes", along with multiple trips to ancestral graves in Michigan, Ohio, Canada, Scotland and Germany. Of her genealogy travels, she says "there is nothing that can describe the incredible feeling of standing at an ancestral grave and saying thank you". When not visiting cemeteries, Kellie is a professional singer/musician and private music teacher.

## **EVANS, WENDY**

### **HISTORY, ART & MUSIC**

Art historian Wendy Evans was raised among the museums of London, England. She has advanced degrees from Oxford University, England and Wayne State University, Detroit. She taught art history at Wayne and is a long-time volunteer at the Detroit Institute of Arts. Known for her English accent and crazy socks, Wendy is a skilled storyteller who loves to share her passion for art. [www.art-talks.org](http://www.art-talks.org).

## **FEINBERG, HENRY**

### **HISTORY, ART & MUSIC**

Henry Feinberg is a musician, composer, and music instructor. He has taught music classes at Oakland Community College since 2002, coached numerous piano and harmonica students, and for 30 years, performed throughout the metro area. Most recently, Henry has been entertaining audiences with his popular presentations on musical history.

## **FORGRAVE, KATHY**

### **WELLNESS**

Kathy Forgrave is an E-Registered Yoga Teacher (E-RYT) through the Yoga Alliance and lead instructor at the Beaumont School of Yoga Therapy Teacher Level 1 RYT 200 Training Program. She currently provides yoga therapy to the Beaumont patient population, and teaches private and group yoga classes. She is also certified in Reiki, an alternative therapy known as energy healing.

## **FRENKEL, NAOMI**

### **SKILLS AND CREATIVITY**

Naomi Frenkel began knitting at the age of 8 years old. She has a teaching degree from Michigan State University and taught in the Ferndale Schools. She was a yarn rep for many of the leading yarn companies including Trendsetter, Classic Elite Yarns, Swedish Yarn Imports and Anny Blatt. She was program director for Woolgatherers Knitting Guild where she taught many classes including stranding of two colors and how to finish a knitted project with crocheted edges. She is currently teaching knitting classes at Costick Center and Troy Community Center.

## **GODDARD, FREELAND**

### **CHESS**

Freeland Goddard is an avid chess player and has taught introductory chess classes at many local schools.

**KOPYTEK, BRUCE**  
**HISTORY, ART & MUSIC**

Bruce Kopytek was born in Hamtramck, Michigan, into a family that valued faith, education, and culture. He travelled widely as a youth and now with his wife. He has been a licensed architect for 45 years. He developed his passion for books and has written several historical books regarding the area, including the histories of area department stores. Bruce maintains a blog entitled "The Department Store Museum".

**KOWALSKI, GREG**  
**HISTORY, ART & MUSIC**

Greg Kowalski has lived his entire life in Hamtramck. He was a writer and editor for many local newspapers and magazines for over 40 years. In 1998 he was appointed to the Hamtramck Historical Commission, which led to the formation of the Hamtramck Historical Museum, where he serves as executive director. Greg is the author of 11 books.

**PIETRZYK, ERICA**  
**SKILLS & CREATIVITY**

Erica Pietrzyk is the founder of Pietrzyk Pierogi located in Eastern Market. She has been making pierogi since childhood and found a passion in sharing her love of pierogi after college. What started as a way to feed friends while tending bar, turned into a business built on fresh ingredients and love. Her class provides insights into the tricks of the trade learned from Babcias in basements of local Polish Parishes. She enjoys making the class fun for everyone to learn and feel confident making pierogi.

**RITTER, CHERIE**  
**MAHJONGG**

Village Club member Cherie Ritter has been playing MahJongg for many years and is part of the Club's MahJongg group. It is one of her favorite games to play and she particularly values the social time spent with the other players.

**ROSENRETER, ROGER**  
**HISTORY, ART & MUSIC**

A native Michigianian, Roger L. Rosentreter (PhD, MSU) teaches courses on American History at Michigan State University. From 1988-2009 he served as editor of *Michigan History Magazine*. Recent publications include *Michigan: A History of Explorers, Entrepreneurs, and Everyday People* (University of Michigan Press, 2014) and *Grand Rapids and the Civil War* (The History Press, 2018). *Come On, You Wolverines: Michigan in the Civil War* (Michigan State University Press) is scheduled for release in 2024.

**RUSCHE, JOHN**  
**HISTORY, ART & MUSIC**

In 1967 John Rusche joined The Jam Handy Organization, which became the Bill Sandy Company. He is an Air Force veteran and attended Wayne State University on the Vietnam-Era G.I. Bill, earning BA and MBA degrees. He was Vice President of Media Production and, in 1991, was awarded the Citation for Outstanding Service to the Society of Motion Picture and Television Engineers. In the '90s he moved into standards-based process improvement consulting and program management.

**RUSS, CATHLEEN**  
**BOOKS**

Cathleen Russ, Director of the West Bloomfield Township Public Library, has spent a distinguished career in public library administration. In 2019 she was honored as Michigan Librarian of the Year. She has led The Readers for more than 20 years.

**TARRANT, DAVID**  
**HISTORY, ART & MUSIC**

David Tarrant was born and raised in Kansas, but has been a resident of Southeast Michigan since 1980. His primary career was at Ford Motor Company, primarily in commercial trucking. He now serves as Director of MORE, the Macomb Community College retiree outreach program. His higher education is in History of Technology and his expertise includes a deep knowledge of automotive, aviation, and military history. He is also a certified pilot, serving as president of the 50-member Eximious Flying Club.

**TOMASSI, DONNA**  
**WELLNESS**

Instructor Donna Tomassi has been an Ace-certified Group Fitness Professional since 2007. Donna is a Michigan Master Trainer for LaBlast Fitness format created by Louis Van Amstel from Dancing with the Stars.

# Sign Up For Classes Today!

Registration is now open and is encouraged to be completed at least two days before the class.

Registration is easy!

**3 OPTIONS TO REGISTER:**

1. Fill out the registration form and mail it to:  
The Village Club  
190 East Long Lake Road  
Bloomfield Hills, MI 48304
2. Register in person at the Club.
3. Register online (members only) at [thevillageclub.org](http://thevillageclub.org)
  - a. Login
  - b. Click on Club Calendar in the Quick Links box on the left
  - c. Locate your class on the calendar
  - d. Click on the class to activate registration. For questions or assistance, contact Jackie Mason, Accounts Payable & Classes, at [jackiem@thevillageclub.org](mailto:jackiem@thevillageclub.org) or 248-644-3450.

**PAYMENT AND REFUNDS:**

**Members:**

Members, their spouses, and reciprocal club members will be billed on their monthly statements after the class has begun.

**Nonmembers:**

Full payment is due at the time of registration, by check payable to The Village Club (preferred) or by major credit card. Please note that there is an additional 5% processing fee for credit card payment.

**Materials Fee:**

If a materials fee is charged, it is to be paid directly to the instructor at the first session, cash or check.

**Cancellation Policy:**

A full refund will be issued for any class cancelled by The Village Club. Registrants will be notified by phone and/or email if a class is cancelled.

**Withdrawal Policy:**

A request to withdraw from a class must be received in the office at least two days prior to the first class meeting in order to receive a full refund.

**DRESS CODE**

The manner of dress shall be governed by good taste in keeping with the character of the Club. Business casual attire is appropriate, as is tasteful denim and country club attire. Informal clothing, such as jogging suits, cargo pants, shorts, and printed tee shirts is not acceptable.

NOTE: Seating is not reserved. Please plan to arrive a little early if you have a group that would like to be seated together.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Last Name First Name

\_\_\_\_\_  
Street Address City State Zip Code

\_\_\_\_\_  
Home Telephone Number Cell Phone Number (Optional)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address Member Number

## CLASSES

Please indicate below the class numbers and classes that you are interested registering for.

Class Date \_\_\_\_\_ Class Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class Date \_\_\_\_\_ Class Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class Date \_\_\_\_\_ Class Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class Date \_\_\_\_\_ Class Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class Date \_\_\_\_\_ Class Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class Date \_\_\_\_\_ Class Name \_\_\_\_\_

Class Date \_\_\_\_\_ Class Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Barrier Free Environment:** The Village Club is dedicated to providing a positive experience for all members and guests. If you need special assistance entering, exiting, or moving throughout the Club, please visit or call the Reception Desk (248-644-3450).

**CLASSES CO-CHAIRS:**

Becky McLennan  
Nancy Troyer

**COMMITTEE MEMBERS:**

Cindy Carney  
Cindy Cirar  
Kay Duncan  
Marilynn Rusche  
Trish Stoltz  
Linda Wilson  
Laurie Haroutunian,  
Board Liaison  
Jackie Mason,  
Village Club Classes Liaison

## Upcoming Member Events

**October 9, 16, 23 &  
November 13**

**Eating for the Health of It**

*As part of our commitment to healthy eating, the Wellness Committee and Chef Nick will explore fermentation and menu item variety and how simple techniques can add flavor and healthy benefits to your cuisine.*

**October 9**

**Fall Fashion Show**

**November 6 & 7**

**Holiday Boutique**

**November 15**

**Monte Carlo Night**

**December 4**

**Holiday Tea**

**December 15 & 22**

**Santa Brunch**

*Interested in learning more about The Village Club?  
For more information call Kim Soncrainte 248-644-3450, Ext. 223 or  
email [membership@thevillageclub.org](mailto:membership@thevillageclub.org).*