



**1884**

March 10, 2026

Members of the Morristown Club;

Thanks to each of you, The Morristown Club is entering its 142<sup>nd</sup> year. Your Board of Trustees and staff continue their thoughtful management of the club for the next generation of members.

While it was necessary to increase the annual dues and put in place a “deficit assessment” as the result of the fact that our dues revenue did not meet our increasing expenses, I am pleased to report that we have lost only one nonresident member.

In 2025, thanks to four of our Board members, we completed a modest transformation of the seating area in the garden, the Sun Porch and the Library in order to make the latter two our primary dining areas. The response to this has been encouraging as we seen in an increase in member usage of the restaurant. Going forward, we plan to utilize the former main dining room as an event space for both member and non-member programs as that is very profitable business for us. Further, this allows us to provide dinner service to the membership when there is an event in the other room which was not possible before. The only exception to this being when the club is taken over in entirety which may happen, however, we are attempting to hold those functions on Tuesday or Wednesday evenings. To date, the club has hosted 2 wedding receptions in January, and we have six rehearsal dinners scheduled at various time throughout the year in addition to several bridal showers and other events.

At this point in time, our Board Committees have been formed, and each has met. For instance, the Program Committee has scheduled a lunch on March 26 with Joel Farkas, a local historian who will speak on “Women in the time of The American Revolution. Joel will return on April 23<sup>rd</sup> again at lunch to speak on “George Washington and Morristown”. Additionally in early May, we will host and art exhibition and sale of the works of four veterans, one of whom will speak on how art helped him cope with PTSD.



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I previously mentioned that we lost one member as the result of the increased cost of membership, however, to date we have accepted three new resident members and will vote on a fourth at the March Board meeting. A member of one of our reciprocal clubs recently told me that “The Morristown Club is one of the world’s best kept secrets” which is great, but we need to let the secret out. The membership committee is planning on holding three Open Houses during the year and we opened the club to members and prospective members on March 14<sup>th</sup> prior to the St. Patrick’s Day parade.

The Communications Committee is working on a four-sided brochure on the club to be placed in the Bar and the Front Hall which hopefully let’s that secret out. Communications will also help Kristine upgrade the monthly calendar and outreach to the membership in terms of coming events.

Human Resources has been updating the job descriptions for both the general manager and the house/dining room manager with the latter taking on greater responsibility for the restaurant/bar/kitchen, private parties and the main floor in general. This should free up Kristine and allow her to focus on new projects as directed by the Board. At the same time at the behest of our Treasurer, Brain Engler who is our house/ /dining room manager is continuing to look at initiatives to drive down food costs in addition to utilizing our staff more efficiently.

While these are just a few of the items being worked on at this time, I can truthfully say that I am optimistic about where things stand going into 2026. There is a lot of work to do to get us where we would all like the club to be and it may take some time to see the benefits, but I do believe that our 142<sup>nd</sup> year will be a good one.

Ian B. MacCallum, Jr.

President