

THE INDIANAPOLIS LITERARY CLUB

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THE SECRETARY'S LETTER

Greetings to all members of the Indianapolis Literary Club and welcome to the 147th year of literary activities. The Secretary hopes that all have had a healthy and enjoyable summer. Most important, however, it is a pleasure to announce that “the Club will become formal” in-person at Park Tudor School for our first meeting of the year – the first in-person gathering since fall 2021.

The Indianapolis Literary Club begins the new year at **8:00 p.m. on Monday 3rd October 2022** with the Club's traditional “Ladies' Night” in The Wood Room of the Upper School at Park Tudor. This will be the first Ladies' Night since the beginning of the 2019 Club year. Bring your ladies or guests to this opening meeting and come early for a time of coffee and conversation.

At the opening exercises of the Club, new Club President John “Jack” Cooney will greet members and guests and offer some comments about the upcoming year. He will then introduce the evening's essayist Stephen E. Towne who will then read his essay “Platform Cards.”

The use of literature is to afford us a platform whence we may command a view of our present life, a purchase by which we may move it....we see literatures best from the midst of wild nature, or from the din of affairs, or from a high religion. The field cannot be well seen from within the field.

American essayist, philosopher, and poet Ralph Waldo Emerson (1803-1882)

In mid-June, the Club's Executive Committee gathered at the home of Treasurer Richard Wiehe to discuss the upcoming Club year.

- The committee reviewed our 2021-2022 meetings conducted via Zoom and concluded that all had gone well and, in fact, attracted some of the largest attendance in years. The committee recommended that the Club continue offering the Zoom option for the new year in order to reach members who may be unable to attend in person.
- The Treasurer reported the Club remained in good financial condition and that expenditures for the previous year were lower since we did not have any special events. He did not recommend any increase in dues.
- The committee also discussed how to deal with members who fail to attend and pay their dues.
- The Webmaster received approval to redesign the Club's webpage. Watch for future announcements regarding this development.

The 2022-2023 Club *Yearbook and Schedule of Exercises* – which you should have received by mail -- includes the schedule of meetings, a list of officers and directory of members.

If there are any errors, please send an email or note to the Secretary so he can correct the information in future Secretary's Letters.

The Indianapolis Literary Club is one of a few remaining all-male literary clubs in the nation. For over 140 years, ILC has offered its members meetings of high literary quality and opportunities for fellowship and enriching conversation throughout the year. Please renew your membership **now** by sending your **dues payment of \$60** (checks are to be made out to the *Indianapolis Literary Club*) to:

Richard E. Wiehe, Treasurer
2435 Glenhill Drive
Indianapolis, IN 46240

You may also bring your dues to Club meetings. Prompt payment of annual dues is deeply appreciated and will save the Treasurer the time and expense of sending reminder notices to you. If you do not wish to renew your membership, please contact the Secretary immediately and we will remove your name from the membership roster.

The Secretary thanks all members who offered proposals to read for the new year. As a result, the year's schedule promises to be another intellectually stimulating one. Make sure that you mark your calendars for **all** of the meetings. Consider inviting a friend or colleague to be your guest and introduce them to the Club. Also, visit the Club website – www.literaryclub.org -- for past essays and membership applications and watch for the Secretary's Letter for Club updates.

The first meeting of the Indianapolis Literary Club's 2022-2023 year will be **Monday 3 October 2022 at 8:00 p.m.** in The Wood Room of the Upper School at Park Tudor. Clowes Commons at which time essayist Stephen E. Towne will present his essay "Platform Cards." Will the essayist discuss the informational signage often found at train stations? Might the essay address activities by political parties to craft their party platforms? The Secretary has no clue so you will need to attend the Club's first meeting to find out. Hope to see you there!!

*You are not just voting for an individual, in my judgment, you are voting for an agenda.
You are voting for a platform. You are voting for a political philosophy.*
Former US Secretary of State and General Colin L. Powell (1939-2021)

The Secretary