

Staff spotlight: Teresa Miller

By Becky Smith

Teresa Miller has been with the Engineers Club for five years, and although we've all talked with her and we all recognize her, here are a few fun facts you may not know . . .

Teresa grew up in the Dayton area and graduated from Beavercreek High School. Teresa had never worked as a server before applying for this position at the Engineers Club: "I know it's hard to believe, but I had never been a waitress before!" Previous to acquiring this job, she worked as a receptionist at a Ford dealership in Miamisburg.

"I had never noticed the Club, or even knew that it existed before applying," and now "I see the Engineer's Club members as my second family." When asked to tell something the members may not know about her she commented, "Everyone knows me like a book—half the members even know my home phone number."

Even Teresa's daughters, Alana, McKinsey and Sara, have become familiar faces around the Club. Teresa feels like the familial feeling is reciprocated; for example, Bill Vaughn was generous enough to give McKinsey a pink mountain bike after she had her two previous bikes stolen.

Teresa loves that she has been able to work with Sertoma and Ambucs steadily since her hire. She herself is now a member of both groups and attends their functions outside the Club.

When Teresa is not at work, she enjoys relaxing

and spending time with her family. She never misses an NFL game, and you can always count on her to be rooting for her favorite team, the Cleveland Browns. In football's off-season she takes on the job of being a NBA fan.

Thank you, Teresa, for all your hard work and dedication to the Club. We all appreciate it!



Teresa with her daughters (left to right) Sara, McKinsey and Alana

An interview with Pam Miller Howard



Pam Miller Howard

BECKY SMITH: *How did you come across the Club?*

That's real easy. **Bill Vaughn** invited my husband and me to dinner one night and it was like, let's just do this. It's been great for me.

• *What do you consider as one of the major draws of the Club for you personally?*

Mrs. Zoe Dell Nutter and her association with the Club was a main draw in my becoming a member. She was absolutely revolutionary, I think, as an example of a career woman. She was one of the first stewardesses; she had her pilot's license; she was a model—she was one of the most photographed women in America at one time. . . You may not know this, but most of the animal heads that are currently in the English Room—she and her late husband shot those.

• *How do you see the Club in relation to Dayton?*

It's an important treasure to the Dayton community on a number of levels. First, historically, because of all the association with all the past engineers and inventors. Really, so much of what is important to Dayton history is tied to invention. Second, architecturally. It is a set piece to Monument Avenue, to the river, and it has been since they broke ground in 1917. Thirdly, the Club has educational outreach.

• *How have you been able to utilize the Club?*

It's really a beautiful place to do my real estate closings. The clients feel special, like they are taken care of; it's private, very discreet. And then to be able to tell clients that they're going to be signing papers on the table bequeathed by the Leland family, surrounded by all the bookcases and books that they all touched, to tell people that they are literally trodding the floors used by such predecessors as Deeds and Kettering—it has a history and sense of place. It sets the stage for their

owning their house, which is going to be their own sense of place, so I love the Club for that.

• *Your husband Morgan is a cameraman for WHIO-TV; has he been able to use the Club for work as well?*

My husband is in commercial production. He did use the Engineers Club once for the shoot of a commercial.

• *What other organizations are you involved in?*

I am involved in a number of other different volunteer activities such as Preservation Dayton, which has found the Club a great venue, because we can support the Club by coming here and either eating or doing whatever we do here; we're in the surroundings that are all about what our mission is—to preserve Dayton. And I always take the out-of-town clients to lunch here. Always.

• *Because they're always impressed?*

It gives them a real sense of Dayton. It makes them feel important. And I take them on a little tour. It makes the history of the community they're going to be calling their home much more real. The Club's location also makes an easy start to give my clients a great little tour of Dayton. You can take them over to the Dayton Art Institute, then to the Schuster Performing Arts Center. Let's face it: the city building isn't anything now, so we don't really have an anchor. So the Engineers Club, I think, has become an identity anchor for the city right now.

Although I specialize in historic homes, houses of architecture are of real importance to me and I include the Club in that category. The Engineers Club feels like an extension of your home, especially when you think about all that is done for the holidays around here, Thanksgiving, Christmas. It can be very businesslike, but there is also a real welcoming attitude both with the staff, the other members, and the extended family atmosphere. Many of the members have really intense and wonderful friendships with each other.