



Lake Barcroft Village, Inc.

• Neighbors Helping Neighbors •

## *The Villager*

Volume 1, Issue 2

August, 2015

### **VILLAGE ANNOUNCES NEW DUES PAYMENT POLICY**

In a pilot program that started in June, new members enrolling in the Village in 2015 will be able to pay their dues in two payments by check or credit card. All members will have these options starting when their renewal date comes up.

### **Associate Membership**

At the September 21 meeting, a plan for Associate Membership in the Village will be presented to the membership. Before that meeting the plan will be sent to all members for their review. The meeting will be an open forum to discuss various aspects of the plan, including membership fees and Board membership for associate members. On a date to be determined after the meeting is held, all Village members will be asked to vote on the new category of membership in the organization.

### **Village Saves the Day**

Services the Village offers have been invaluable to our members. Some of these services are provided by volunteers from within our community, some from individuals and companies in the neighborhood.

Bill Wasylyk was having trouble lighting the pilot light on his water heater. "The first name that

popped into my head was Cindy," Bill explained. He called Cindy Waters who noted the information and called Bill back half an hour later with the name of a preferred provider. Bill phoned the plumber who came right over and in five minutes fixed the problem. Bill was surprised that the provider wouldn't take any money for helping—so Bill gave him one of his paintings instead.

Millie Schreiber was having trouble with her e-mail account. Cindy Waters sent out a call for assistance; Richard Morton fixed the problem in short order.

Bob Schreiber said, "The computer help I've received in my house has been a great boon to me. When something goes wrong and I don't know what to do, the Village has thrown me a life line on several occasions. This is literally a lifeline, because we are so terribly dependent on e-mail, access to our medical portals, financial information, etc., etc."

Bob has been helped by volunteer Bill Frogale who visits his mother, Lucy Wade, who lives in Lake Barcroft. On Bill's last visit he even solved a problem by moving Bob's computer and printer for him.

## Villagers Step Forward



**Richard Morton** tutors English language learners in a program of the Campagna Center called Building Better Futures (BBF); he also tutors a first grader at

John Adams Elementary School and teaches English to an adult learner from Afghanistan through a program of the Literacy Council of Northern Virginia. Richard was inspired to become a tutor when he realized that many Culmore residents, lacking English proficiency, have difficulty gaining employment.

When the Village began Richard developed the Village database in Access, adapting one given to us from another village, Alexandria at Home. Richard continues to maintain and customize the database to meet Village needs.



**Dottie Bennett** is the co-chair of Sunflower Bakery and Café in Gaithersburg and Rockville, Maryland; the mission of the bakery

and café is to prepare developmentally and cognitively impaired young adults (ages 18-27) for the bakery trades. Dottie mentors young entrepreneurs and is currently working with a man who started a design workshop, a woman who would like to hone her leadership skills, and a woman who started NOVA Tribe, a Jewish social network. Dottie also chairs governance at Signature Theatre in Shirlington.



**Sunny Greene**, a Green Spring Master Gardener since 2003, co-chairs the committee for the Saturday Help Desk at Green Spring Gardens and interviews prospective master gardener candidates. As a board member of the Friends of Green Spring (FROGS), she is involved in fund-

raising and events supporting Green Spring Gardens, such as the annual spring and fall Garden Days. Sunny also co-edits the quarterly “Gardenline” which highlights Green Spring and general garden information. She volunteers in the gardens themselves under the direction of one of the horticulturists.

## Visiting “Marie”: A Reminiscence

*by Moya Atkinson*

Although my friendship with Marie (not her real name) lasted only three years, it was very precious to me. Our friendship started as a gesture of good will on both our parts: on Marie's, as the mostly homebound Lake Barcroft resident, who was interested in regular visits; I, as the new Lake Barcroft Village coordinator, who hoped to provide a service that would link Marie to our new “community.”

Being first-generation immigrants with German backgrounds, we started to converse in German – but rather soon felt more comfortable speaking English. It was fascinating to hear about her childhood and adventures growing into adulthood during and after World War II.

We talked about a lot of things. She tolerated and mostly agreed with my radical views; we talked about our families, our travels, our love of music, in her case, not just classical, but also jolly German Christmas and folk dance music. She even told me a couple of Christmases ago that she danced to the folk music by herself, which I found amazing and touching.

Although Marie was in her early nineties when we first met, she hadn't lost her acuity. She was well informed, had definite opinions and would stay up at night to listen to Charlie Rose. Marie kept in touch with her family and friends in thoughtful ways. She loved giving them meaningful gifts, and she regularly wrote letters to her friends in

## Visiting “Marie”: A Reminiscence (c’t’d from page 2)

Germany as well as in the U.S. Another LBV resident took turns visiting; she helped find carpenters and other service providers, and purchased and wrapped gifts that Marie had researched and ordered.

I am philosophical about Marie's recent death, but there is an ache which the loss of a loved one leaves, and I carry that ache, as well as treasured memories from the short time that I knew her. A special highlight was when she said to me with a trace of wonder, not long before she died, "We're friends."

## LBV June Quarterly Meeting

*by Judy Hilton*



Carl Neuberg presenting the budget



L to R: George Waters; Congressman Tom Davis (R-VA) signing his book; George Erikson

Former congressman and one time LB neighbor Tom Davis (R) spoke at the the Lake Barcroft Village quarterly meeting on June 17 about the book *The Partisan Divide: Congress in Crisis* which he co-authored with former Congressman Martin Frost (D). Rep. Davis documented his discussion with

graphs and charts based on polling data, showing that our politics have become extremely partisan over time. People no longer vote for the candidate as they once did, but now vote exclusively for the political party. Voting in 80% of the districts in this country is essentially meaningless because of gerrymandering, ensuring that the entrenched party will receive a majority. The only real choice in these districts today is at the primary level.

## Third Annual Summer Social Coming this Month

The third annual Summer Social, "Mediterranean Magic," for Village members and guests will be hosted by Susan and Dennis Crawford on Saturday, August 29, 2015, from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m.

There will be two musical acts: the musical trio French Coast Café, with Carole Bausell, Larry Golfer and Duane Siler, and an after-dinner sing-along with Ron and Wanda Martinson.

The dinner will feature Mediterranean cuisine; Village members are asked to RSVP by August 13 to Barbara Rothman, (703) 354-2697 or by e-mail to Cathy Williams, [cathlenewilliams@cox.net](mailto:cathlenewilliams@cox.net)

## Quarterly Meeting in September

**Monday, September 21 – 6:30 p.m.:** LBV Quarterly Meeting; Mason District Government Center; 6507 Columbia Pike.

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