

DUPONT CIRCLE VILLAGE

SHATTERING THE STEREOTYPE

ADAMS MORGAN • DUPONT CIRCLE • KALORAMA

66 In olden days a glimpse of stocking was looked on as something shocking but now, God knows, anything goes.

-Cole Porter

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Welcome New Members!

Walter Albano Donald and Louise Krumm Mary Lopez Suman Sorg Linda Suggs

A Business Built on Nickels! The Automat

utomats were self-service restaurants, noteworthy for their décor and social life, as well as for their inexpensive but tasty

By Eva M. Lucero, Executive Director food. The world's first automat was named Quisisana,

which opened in Berlin, Germany in 1895. Anyone growing up in New York or Philadelphia in the 1950s or 60s, will probably remember a popular restaurant chain—Horn & Hardart, the US version of the automat. The inside of a Horn & Hardart automat looked like a glamorous, ornate cafeteria with high-ceilings and high-windows—but instead of a human being handing you hot food

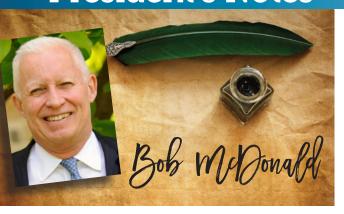
over a counter, you would push your tray up to a wall of little glass cubbies insert nickels and voilà, a delicious, inexpensive meal at your fingertips.

Joseph Horn and German-born, but New Orleans-raised Frank Hardart opened their first restaurant together in Philadelphia, on December 22, 1888. The small, 11-by-17-foot lunchroom had no tables, only a counter with 15 stools. By introducing Philadelphia to New Orleans-style coffee (blended with chicory), which Hardart promoted as their "gilt-edge" brew, they made their tiny luncheonette a local attraction. News of the coffee spread, and the business flourished. They

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President's Notes



A Season to Love

utumn is finally here. I love this season. The beauty of the changing colors of leaves makes me want to get back to watercolor painting. I love the cool, crisp air of an autumn day providing such a welcome relief from summer's heat which I tolerate less and less as I get older. Fall also means going back to school. As I have done for the last six years, I am registered for three courses at OLLI at American University: one on understanding families through plays, one on art in Milan and Lombardy, and one on discussing TED Talks—a course led by the Village's Caroline Mindel and Lynn Lewis.

The transition this year between summer and fall for me was the opportunity to spend 16 wonderful days in France. David and I spent four days in Normandy, followed by five days in Paris, then taking a week-long river cruise north and south from the amazing city of Lyon. A highlight of the entire trip was going to Mont-Saint-Michel – for when I was in college, I had a poster of Mont-Saint-Michel on my wall and dreamed of one day seeing the abbey on the mount surrounded by water. Checked it off the bucket list!

Our re-entry to DC and the fall season was complicated by both of us testing positive for COVID upon our return. Going into isolation when I wanted to get back to business was not my preference by any means. But gratefully our symptoms were minimal, and we have tested negative, getting us back on track. It was a reminder that COVID is still prevalent and can thwart the best practices

that we undertake. The experience made me grateful for the vaccines and the boosters. I want to point out that our next vaccination clinic will be held on Friday, October 7—for the flu shot, COVID boosters, and other vaccines. At this point, the schedule is almost completed filled, but you can call the office in case of an open slot or cancellation. And if you can't take advantage of the DCV clinic, I encourage you to get the booster and the flu shot soon through your physician or pharmacy.

In a special way this month, I want to extend my gratitude to the Membership and Activities Committee for the fall jumpstart they are providing the Village. They have responded to so many villagers asking for more opportunities to get together in person. The committee has coordinated the planning for 9 different social hours to take place in members' homes over the next month. There is also a special walking tour of Oak Hill Cemetery and a canal boat ride on the famous C&O Canal in Georgetown. There is an afternoon picnic at the Heurich House Garden. You can also join in and test your skills in the latest trend—pickleball. Later in the month, there will be a tour of women's organizations in the Dupont area with a luncheon at the Women's National Democratic Club. All of these are in addition to our regular offerings: mat and chair yoga, meditation, Feldenkrais, Coffee and Conversation, the Men's Book Group, the Mystery Book Group, Navigating the Path Ahead, and Live and Learn.

Fall has begun. Come join your fellow villagers in some of these wonderful offerings.



October Birthdays



Happy Birthday to all members born in October!

Jane Hauser, Nancy Hartsock, Georgette Sobel, Sondra Cohen Alaire Rieffel, Geri Nielsen, Joyce O'Brien, Dianna Eshman, Don Symmes, Courtney Rogers, Jerry Sandridge, John Richardson, Lisa Duperier, Shubh Schiesser, Dennis Houlihan, Judith Lambart, Hamda O'Brien, Lex Rieffel, Mimi Higgins, Kathleen Miller, and Ann von der Lippe

Monthly Calendar

Currently, most activities are being offered online, by way of Zoom, although some are now being held face-to-face. Anyone attending an indoor event must be masked, whether or not they are fully vaccinated.

We do ask you to register online at www. dupontcirclevillage.net and select "Calendar," find the event, and register. If you can't join an online event or figure out how to register, please email or call Ann Talty at admin@dupontcirclevillage.net or (202) 436-5252.

Pickleball Instruction and Volleying!

Monday, October 3, 10:00–11:00 am Location: Mitchell Park Courts, 1801 23rd St NW RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Join us as Ed Reardon takes us through the basics of this popular sport. DCV has a couple of rackets, but bring your own if you have one.

Historic Oak Hill Cemetery Walking Tour

Thursday, October 6, 10:00-noon

Location: meet inside Main Cemetery Gate, 3001 R St NW

Limit: 20 people

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Tour led by Craig Howell, DC tour guide and member of DCV. Founded by Washington banker/philanthropist/art patron William W. Corcoran in 1849, Oak Hill Cemetery is one of the District's oldest, most historic and scenic graveyards. Oak Hill has been the final resting place for many of Washington's most distinguished citizens, including: early Washington Mayor Peter Van Ness; Dr. Joseph Henry, first Secretary of the Smithsonian; Joseph Willard; William W. Corcoran; Dean Acheson; Russell Train, founder of the World Wildlife Fund; Katherine Graham, and Benjamin Bradlee, Washington Post. NOTE: This walking tour would be unusually challenging for anyone with mobility issues. Many paths and roads are rough and uneven, slopes we'll have to climb are often steep, and the length of our itinerary is well over a mile. Appropriate footwear is in order.

Vaccination Clinic

Friday, October 7, 1:00-5:00 pm

Location: DCV Office, enter at 2111 Decatur Pl NW

No more openings

Picnic at Heurich House Garden

Tuesday, October 11, 12 pm-2 pm Location: 1307 New Hampshire Ave NW Watch for details in Friday e-blasts.



Navigating the Path Ahead

Tuesday, October 11, 3:30-4:30 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Our lives are a journey. As we make our way on our path, we find others to walk with us. As they share our journey, they support and challenge us. At times, some leave us. And then, others join us. We learn from them and share our experiences. Over time, this new monthly Village discussion group will be covering topics such as: living alone; receiving a new diagnosis; wondering what's next; do I need to make accommodations in my home; dealing with loss; where can I find new experiences; what can bring me joy; how can I reignite the passion in my life.

Home Social Hours

Wednesday, October 12

Location: various—Pennsylvania Avenue; S Street;

Wyoming Avenue

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Members are hosting live social hours in 3 locations, varying times. Please go online to the DCV Calendar for more details.

Sunday Soup Salon

Sunday, October 16, 5:00-6:30 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Have you ever stood among the trees, listening to their leaves rustle, and wondered whether they communicate with one another? Not as wild a thought as you might believe, says forest ecology professor Suzanne Simard, who studies how trees connect through belowground networks that facilitate underground inter-tree communication and interaction. Her findings: these complex, symbiotic networks in our forests mimic our own neural and social networks. We'll air her TedTalk "How trees talk to each other," at our Soup Salon on Sunday, October 16. Our second talk, "Why Indigenous forest guardianship is crucial to climate action," showcases Nonette Royo, human rights and environment lawyer. Royo explains her organization's work with

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Monthly Calendar

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Indigenous peoples and communities to advance their land rights...sharing and connecting local knowledge and wisdom with the broader world to support sustainable development while improving human rights and mitigating impacts of climate change.

Men's Book Group

Monday, October 17, 11:00 am

Location: DCV Office

RSVP: Bob Hirsch, (202) 483-7981 or

rmhirsch49@yahoo.com

The book for October is *In the Heart of the Sea: The Tragedy of the Whaleship Essex* by Nathaniel Philbrick.

CelebSalon:

Marcia Coyle and the Supreme Court

Wednesday, October 19, 6:00-7:00 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register Online or contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252 or admin@dupontcirclevillage.net

DCV's CelebSalon committee will kick off its fall offerings on Oct. 19 with a seasoned Supreme Court watcher, Marcia Coyle of the National Law Journal. You've probably seen her on PBS's NewsHour, where she's a regular analyst of the Supreme Court, its justices and its rulings.

This Celeb Salon is an opportunity to delve into the monumental decisions coming out of the court in recent years and to ask an expert: What happens next, after the landmark ruling overturning Roe v Wade, the overturning of a 108-year-old New York gun-safety law, and hints from some justices that they'd like to take on LGBTQ issues and even contraception next? How does she assess the political ramifications of recent rulings for future court actions? How does she size up the significant ideological shifts on the court, including how they affect the personal relations between justices as well as public opinion of the Court?

Canal Boat Tour

Thursday, October 20, 11:45–1:00 Location: Canal Lock 3, between

Thomas Jefferson & 30th St-enter at 30th St

Limit: 10 members Cost: Free to you

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Treat yourself to learning fascinating stories of Georgetown history while gently traversing the C&O Canal in the resotred canal boat. Following the tour, consider joining other Villagers for lunch at one of the



restaurants on the wharf, less than 2 blocks away. When you register, you will see links to information about parking and accessibility.

Movie Group

Wednesday, October 26

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

The movie being discussed: t/b/a

CelebSalon: Valerie Greenberg

Wednesday, October 26, 6:00-7:00 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Valerie Greenberg (daughter of DCV member Anna Greenberg) is an entertainment and lifestyle trends journalist, TV co-host, and female entrepreneur. Look for more details in Friday e-blasts.

Home Social Hours

Thursday, October 27 Location: various—

Seaton Street; S Street; 19th Street NW RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Members are hosting live social hours in 3 locations, varying times. Please go online to the DCV Calendar for more details.

Tour of Women's Organizations in Dupont area, and Lunch at WNDC

Friday, October 28, 10:45 am

Location: WNDC Whittemore House, 1526 New

Hampshire Ave NW Limit: 15 people

Tour is free, optional lunch is \$25

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Join the WNDC Educational Foundation President, Pamela Johnson, on a Walking Tour of eight Women's Organizations in Dupont Circle. The tour will start at 11:00 am. Please arrive by 10:45 for the tour, which is approximately one mile in one hour.

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Monthly Calendar

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Explore Dupont Circle's rich history and see how eight national women's organizations established deep roots in buildings of timeless elegance. The Walking Tour proceeds along tree-lined avenues in a neighborhood filled with examples of historic architecture and points of interest.

Lunch will be served after the Tour at the Whittemore House (Woman's National Democratic Club) at approximately 12:30 pm. It will be on the patio if weather permits.

Mystery Book Group

Friday, October 28, 3:30-4:30 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

The book for discussion: *Clark and Division* by Naomi

Hirahara.

Live and Learn: Coping with Hearing Loss

Monday, October 31, 3:30-5:00 pm

Location: Hybrid—in person at DCV Office (limit 20 people), enter at 2111 Decatur Pl NW or by Zoom (unlimited). Choose at time of registration RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Are you experiencing hearing loss? Find out the best options for help and strategies to cope with it at this month's Live and Learn Session, "What did you say? Coping with Hearing Loss", presented by Russell Misheloff and Lon Rosenman, of the Hearing Loss Association of America. There is space for 20 people in person.

Online Meditation with Christina

Mondays & Thursdays, 9:00-9:30 am

NOTE: October dates are only 10/3, 10/27, 10/31

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Accessible Mat Yoga

Mondays, 3:30-4:30 pm

Note: 2nd week of October is on Thursday,

10/13 at 2:00 pm Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Chair Yoga

Tuesdays, 10:30-11:30 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office



Feldenkrais Method—Awareness Through Movement—Chair Lessons

Wednesdays, October 12, 19, 11:00-noon

Location: In Person, DCV Office—enter at 2111 Decatur Pl NW

By Zoom if you have mobility issues requiring you

to do this remotely

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Feldenkrais classes—Awareness Through Movement (ATM)—use verbally guided movement explorations comprised of novel combinations of movements and awareness that improve your overall abilities. These classes use slow, mindful movements to achieve powerful effects in terms of strength, flexibility, and holistic integration of body and mind. Unique to the Feldenkrais Method is that these lessons tie directly into functional movements of daily life, such as walking efficiently, safely lifting objects and improving one's dynamic posture and comfort while sitting or standing.

Coffee and Conversation

Thursdays, 10:00-11:00

Location: Emissary Café, 2032 P St NW RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

Mahjongg

Thursdays, 2:00-4:00 pm

Location: hosted live by Margot Polivy

RSVP: Bobbi Milman, rmilman@comcast.net or

(202) 667-0245

Knitting Group

Every other Thursday, 4:00 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Sheila Lopez at sheilablopez@gmail.com

What is Your Favorite Season?



used to have both favorite and hated seasons. These days, I am much more able to see shades of grey, so I now have preferred seasons, each with a plus or minus.

By Ann Talty

Autumn has always
been a preferred season for me
because the heat and humidity of
summer is now past, and nothing
beats the first crisp breaths of air that
autumn provides. People who knew
me before I lived in air-conditioned
homes were always startled at the
total personality change I underwent
when autumn occurred. I went from
being hot and cranky with no energy, to much more pleasant, full of
energy, fun to be with person.

There are some things on the minus side, though—the daylight grows shorter, I must start wearing more layers and even coats. Some people get rather depressed as flora dies off, and favorite activities are pushed to the following summer.

Winter-I'm never hot! I cook again. It's time for soups and other comfort food. Great weather for knitting and snuggling. Nothing beats sitting safely inside and watching the first snow come down—it always seems magical to me. Once upon at time when I was young and living in a group home that usually had dogs as well, I would love romping in the snow with the dogs. Even shoveling snow had its points—housemates and neighbors digging out and getting to know one another in the process. A definite plus side for me now that I'm in a condo is that I don't have to do the shoveling!

On the minus side—too many dark hours for me. When I went to college in Wisconsin, deep depression would set in. I now have a sunbox to help, but not interested in living that far north again. Now that I am a senior, I find that I have more aches and pains when I'm cold if I'm not careful.

I'm also more afraid of slipping and falling in the ice and snow, or even driving at all with all the other idiots on the road.

Spring—My absolute favorite! Now that I'm no longer depressed all winter, I always make it a point to thoroughly notice and enjoy everything coming back to life, all the beautiful colors that start to pop, the lengthening days of light, and friends willing to go out again. I usually can't get enough of being outside.

Minus side for others—allergies. I'm okay as long as I stay away from lilies or forsythia. I imagine those who hate the cold are looking forward to the warm days of summer. I try to forget that the heat is coming.

Summer—a time for outdoor activities, and for me, swimming—the

one sport that does not make me sweat and feel sick from overheating. Less prep time to be ready to go out, no coats to keep track of. Vacation time. People out and about. Lots and lots of daylight. All those wonderful summer fruits!

On the minus side—heat and humidity. Heat headaches. Overheating. Lack of energy. Air conditioning has helped me—I used to just feel sick all summer. Now I can feel human, at least while I am inside.

Fall/Autumn—and we come full circle. In a job I had for a long time, October meant lots of evening meetings and having to work on weekends. One of the best things about this job at the Village is that I can go out and enjoy the beauty of fall foliage!

A Grand Goodbye to Ginny Mondale (1925–2022)

even children? Are you Catholic?" Ginny's response,..."No, just careless."

Sorry to see you go, Ginny, but it was grand to have known you. I first met Ginny some 10+ years ago when Brad Edwards and I were

By Lucia Edmonds

teaching a falls prevention

class for Dupont Circle Village. The class was two-hours a week for eight weeks and Ginny and her husband, Pete Mondale, attended every session. I loved knowing Ginny, always pleasant, always funny, never complaining. When I was approaching my 90th birthday and feeling none too good about it, I called Ginny because I wanted someone with whom I could commiserate but instead of. "Ain't it a



shame," what I got was, "Oh, you'll have so much fun. You'll get flowers and cards and...just wait until you're 95, that will be even better." Ginny was a joy and I'm happy to have known her.

The Automat

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incorporated as the Horn & Hardart Baking Company in 1898.

Horn and Hardart were obsessed with the quality and the variety of their foods. The fare—creamed spinach, macaroni and cheese, baked beans, a wide variety of meats and sandwiches, pastries and desserts—was not considered fast food, and the owners and managers exerted obsessive quality control and included daily tastings at the central bakery depicted in old photos as serious and exacting. They were equally obsessed with the physical experience of grand-style design; Horn, seeing a gargoyle on a fountain in Italy, borrowed its design for the metal spigots that dispensed coffee.

Before McDonald's, Horn & Hardart was the largest restaurant chain in America and one of the largest by volume in the world even though it had locations in only two cities. It was hard for New Yorkers and Philadelphians to imagine that Horn & Hardart could ever disappear because it had become such an institution. What happened to the automat was white flight and mass migration to the suburbs. Americans had new homes, new cars and new lifestyles, which changed how people ate. It was also trendy for women to be stay-at-home moms, taking care of new homes, using their new kitchens, taking care of the family—and that meant less eating out.

The automat lasted the better part of a century, which is incredible for any business. The last New York Horn & Hardart Automat (on the southeast corner of 42nd Street and Third Avenue) finally closed in 1991. "People aren't looking for an all-robot kind of experience," says Gwyneth Borden, the executive director of the Golden Gate Restaurant Association. "When they walk in, they want it to be easy and convenient—and...if they have an issue, [they want] to be able to communicate to someone who can take care of them." She says that 2015 was the first year in the United States

when people spent more money on dining out than on groceries.

The Automat has been memorialized in pop culture. The New York Public Library hosted an exhibit that looked back at more than a century of New York lunches with an emphasis on the Automat. The Smithsonian's National Museum of American History displayed in its cafe an ornate 35-foot Automat, complete with mirrors, marble and marquetry, from Philadelphia's 1902 Horn & Hardart store. Recently, Lisa Hurwitz, created a New Restaurant Documentary 'The Automat' which offers a taste of urban history and is available for viewing on Amazon.

15-Minute Meal

devoted follower to the *Eat Voraciously* daily email from the *Washington Post*, I am always on the look-out for quick, tasty recipes that have an interesting twist. Here's one for you to try. Let me know if you do; send a photo along with your review. You can easily downsize this recipe. As always, play with it. Substitute what you don't have or leave it out. You're the boss!

Abigail (abigailwiebenson@gmail.com)

Walnut Tacos

6 servings/makes 12 tacos

For the filling: In a food processor, combine the walnuts, lime juice, cilantro, water, cumin, chili powder, salt and black pepper and pulse until the nuts are reduced to pebble-size, about 1 minute; don't over-process. Taste, and season with more salt, if desired. If you don't have a blender or food processor, no problem: mix the ingredients by hand in small bowl.

- 2 cups coarsely chopped raw walnuts
- 2 tablespoons fresh lime juice (or lemon)
- 1 tablespoon finely chopped fresh cilantro (or parsley, or leave out)
- 1 tablespoon water
- ■11/2 teaspoons ground cumin
- ■1 teaspoon chili powder
- 1/4 teaspoon chipotle chile powder (or cayenne pepper)
- 1/2 teaspoon fine salt, or more as needed
- 1/4 teaspoon freshly ground black pepper

While you warm a dozen 6-inch corn tortillas, chop up and combine in a bowl:

- ■1 cup chopped fresh tomato
- 1 cup thinly sliced red cabbage (or shredded lettuce)
- Flesh of 2 medium avocados, sliced
- 1/2 cup of salsa verde
- 1/2 cup Greek-style yogurt (or sour cream)

Assemble the tacos: Divide the corn tortillas among serving plates. Spoon about 2 tablespoons of the filling on each tortilla, then add some tomato, a few slivers of cabbage or lettuce, a couple slices of avocado, a spoonful of salsa verde, a dollop of yogurt or sour cream and some cilantro. Decorate with more cilantro (or parsley) and a wedge of lime (or lemon). Enjoy with your favorite beverage.







Jim Chamberlin is out and about in the Dupont Circle neighborhood reminding us of the beauty of our neighborhood.







Abigail Wiebenson recently visited Santa Fe, NM. She attended a wedding and enjoyed walks along the old and quirky parts of the city.

September Birthdays



Carol Galaty and Ken Shuck hosted the members celebrating September birthdays. Dorothy Marschak, Joe Auslander, Sarah Burger and Pender McCarter.





40 members attended **Joan** Treichel's book party in September. Her non-fiction book Warding off Evildoers was published in July. The book is an exposé of those who commit evil and represents a vivid piece of forensic psychology that explores the creation, intent, and operations of the criminal mind.





Geri McCann snapped this shot of the front of the British Embassy on Mass Ave soon after Queen Elizabeth's death.





Despite tendinitis, with **Carol Galaty** being barely able to walk any distance, and **Ken Shuck** have been having terrific family visits and even got to see the aspens turning to gold. This photo is in the mountains above Denver with their, Drew, their daughter-in-law, Gwen, granddaughter, Julia, and Daisy! Cars and supportive family, even an airport wheelchair can be a real blessing!









Villager Lynn Lewis recently explored some of France's most beautiful villages and the countryside in Brittany and Burgundy with her sister. Resting against a 4,500-year-old menhir (standing stone) lends perspective to one's life: the world's largest collection of Neolithic sites like this were erected by Brittany's pre-Celtic people. Fantasy filled the cobblestone streets of medieval Rochefort-en-terre during le Marche Fantastique, artists and artisans who enacted characters real and imagined...from the Dark Knight to elves and fairies, jugglers to fire-eaters to ogres...singing, dancing, sword fighting, and more, mingling with amused (and bemused) locals and tourists. The Church of Notre Dame of Dijon, considered a masterpiece of 13th C Gothic architecture, contains both the statue of Notre Dame de Bon-Espoir (formerly called the black Madonna) and two decorations symbolizing Dijon, one being the owl (passers-by like me rub its stomach for good luck; note the patina). Cobbled streets lined with half-timbered houses built on archways make the Medieval village of Noyers feel like a real-life history book. (Pic: Noyers, square)



and tips of playing it successfully.













What a wonderful way to end the summer and reunite with old/new friends. DCV hosted its annual Ice Cream Social at the end of August and the turnout was fantastic.



Once again, our relationship with Giant Pharmacy was beneficial for our members! DCV held its first of two fall vaccination clinics in September.



A dozen members attended a Fall social hour hosted by **Abigail Wiebenson**. Including Anna and her daughter Valerie. **Deidre O'Neill**, **David Schwarz**, **Olga Hudacek**, **Sheila Lopez**, **Carmela Vetri**, **Monica Heppel**, **Jean Mudrick**, **Karen St John** and **Bryan Doyle**



Susa and s at th Chim State Caro



David Insinga and Bob McDonald's recent trip to France included visits to Mont-Saint-Michel in Normandy, the Pont du Gard, the ancient Roman aqueduct bridge and viewing the current restoration efforts at Notre Dame Cathedral in Paris.



Susan Hattan and Steve Kittrell at the falls at Chimney Rock State Park (North Carolina) on a trip to see Steve's sister.

DCV VOLUNTEER PROFILE

Meet Volunteer Jeanne Welsh

eanne Welsh is nothing if not active in her community, she said in an interview earlier this month. Welsh, a DCV volunteer since 2019, grew up in a suburb of New York City, and later attended Gettysburg College, a small liberal arts school in Pennsylvania, where she majored in French (she can speak it, but she's "rusty").

When she moved to the "big city" of Washington D.C. in 1997, she fell in love with it, she said. There was so much to do, such as attend book signings, and parades and plays and so many ways for her to get involved and meet people.

Meeting different types of people has always been very rewarding, she says. That's what keeps her coming back to Dupont Circle Village.

"There's always such interesting

people here. I love that," she says. "It's free and easy. And it's also just nice to walk down the road and be like 'oh, hi! to someone you know".

Welsh works as a Gift Registrar for the Smithsonian Institution. In her free time, she's a member of her building's condo board and a long-time volunteer at the Shakespeare Theater Company. She's the youngest of four children (two sisters, one brother), all of whom are very close. She says growing up in a relatively big household may have shaped her desire to be involved with people.

"Growing up it was brothers and sisters helping each other. Now it's also neighbors helping neighbors," she said.

Welsh first heard of Dupont Circle Village when a friend began volunteering at Northwest Neighbors



Village. She told Welsh about how much she enjoyed volunteering, and Welsh thought she should volunteer at whichever

village was closer to her.

Living in Adams Morgan, Dupont Circle Village was her closest choice. She started volunteering by doing administrative tasks, but has since done everything from making regular phone calls, to reading books and playing Scrabble with members. She tries to volunteer whenever she has free time.

"It's amazing that 30 minutes of your time can make such a big difference in someone's life," she said. And I know it also has a real impact on mine."

The Dupont Circle Village is a non-profit volunteer organization that connects neighbors to services and educational, cultural/social and health and wellness activites. Please consider a donation now or remember us in your will.



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