

*"I guess it's kind of a religion with me. Participation. That's what's going to save the human race."*

Pete Seeger (1919 - 2014)

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## NEW MEMBERS

A warm welcome to newest members:

**Lindsey Holaday**  
**Diane Schilke**  
**Don Symmes**

## President's Letter

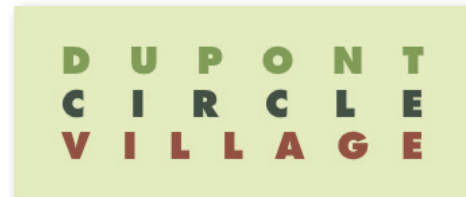
---Iris Molotsky

Every once in a while, something very special and unexpected happens in the Village. The recent reaction to Pete Seeger's death is one of these times. The news about Pete, an iconic figure for many of us for decades, brought an outpouring of memories on the listserv. The descriptions of the ways he touched our lives were moving and reminded me anew of what unites us as a community. A group of Villagers, led by **Gillian Lindt, Kathy Cardille, Susan Meehan, Ann von der Lippe, Frank Della Pena, Dorothy Marshak and Peg Simpson**, spontaneously formed a committee (how very 1960's-like) to plan a tribute. As I am writing this, the February 15th tribute hasn't happened yet, but I'm sure it will be a memorable DCV occasion.

Spring approaches (don't pay attention to Punxsutawney Phil). We're hard at work to make the Fourth Annual Silent Auction a sublime experience. Once again, we have some enticing items: a week in a Paris apartment, a beautiful antique French pewter pitcher, a distinctive Russian crystal glass in a decorative holder, a pair of exotic, Moroccan-style lanterns and much more.

Always wanted to dine and chat with a celebrity? The Celeb Salons can fulfill your desire! **Peg Simpson** and her dedicated team, **Georgette Sobel** and **Jane Pierson**, are lining up an array of impressive folks this year. Find out some of their names and more information about the Salon in Peg's article in this issue.

We're collecting items for the auction. You have been so generous in the past; I hope we haven't depleted your stock of wonderful treasures. Please take another look in your tucked-away storage boxes that could be



FROM  
THE  
President



brimming with vintage items from your great-aunt. Please also ask your favorite businesses to donate services and objects to the auction or become an auction sponsor. I'm directing a special plea to our many new members, who are undoubtedly a rich source for delights. Donation and sponsor forms are on the DCV Website, [www.dupontcirclevillage.org](http://www.dupontcirclevillage.org).

The Age-Friendly Business Initiative continues to gather momentum. On February 12, **Pender McCarter**, Project Director, **Bernice Hutchinson**, Executive Director, and I will have presented our report, "Age-Friendly Business Practices: Findings, Conclusions, Recommendations, Resources," to a group of prominent business leaders. The meeting, convened by **Gail Kohn**, Coordinator of DC's Age-Friendly Initiative, and **Keith Sellars**, president of the Washington DC Economic Partnership, will bring together representatives from the DC Chamber of Commerce, the Greater Washington Hispanic Chamber of Commerce, PNC Bank, Pepco and Walmart. The DCV initiative will be presented as the pilot project for a citywide effort to create awareness of the needs of customers who live and shop throughout DC's neighborhoods. ■

## Celeb Salons are Back!

---Peggy Simpson

Heads up! We're lining up some super headliners for the second annual Celeb Salon fundraisers. We invented Celeb Salons a year ago as a fun way to raise money by recruiting interesting high-profile people to mix and mingle with Villagers and their friends. The Salon seats went for \$75, with \$50 of that a tax deduction.

Dinner hosts paid for the food and drink, taking a tax deduction for the costs. There were a few, full-fledged, sit-down dinners, but many others featured heavy appetizers and jug wine.

*continued on page 2*



## MONTHLY Calendar

### *Soup Salon*

**Sunday, February 16**

**6:00-8:00 pm**

Eve Tetaz, fellow Villager, will talk about her career as an author; teacher in France, Iran, Ghana, Thailand and Washington, DC, as well as the newest focus of her life as a peace and justice activist. Home of Janet and Norman Brown, 1746 Q Street, NW. RSVP to Linda Harsh, 202/234-2567 or lindajkh@mac.com.

### *Dining in Dupont*

**Tuesday, February 18**

**6:00 pm**

Dinner at Marrakech, 2147 P Street, NW. Enjoy the wonderful refined cuisine of Morocco with its Berber, Moorish and Arab influences. Cost: \$25. RSVP Kathy Cardille at kcardille@gmail.com. Attendance will be limited to 20 Villagers.

### *Live & Learn - These Feet Were Made for Walking*

**Monday, February 24**

**3:30-5:00 pm**

Heurich House Museum, 1307 New Hampshire Ave., NW. What are the most common foot problems for seniors? What can be done to keep our feet in good working order? Dr. Michael S. Stempel, DPM, will answer these and other questions. Dr. Stempel's many qualifications include being the Director of the Division of Podiatry, Departments of Medicine and Surgery at George Washington University Medical Center; and President of the DC Podiatric Medical Association. RSVP Linda Harsh at lindajkh@mac.com or 202/234-2567. Talk is free for Village members, \$10 for others. Facility is wheelchair accessible.

### *The In Series - Cole Porter Project*

**Sunday, March 2, 2014, 3:00 pm**

Source Theater, 1835 14th Street, NW. Take "a trip to the moon on gossamer wings" and revisit the work of the American Master who defined the soul of a generation and personified American "cool." Nine singers and a mini-jazz combo will perform 36 of Cole Porter's sophisticated songs. Cost of \$31.50 includes a senior discount and an additional 10% off arranged by

*continued on next page*

### *Celeb Salons, continued from page one*

The focus was on stimulating conversation rather than gourmet food, although sometimes that happened, too.

The 2013 Celeb Salons succeeded big time. Because the Village did not subsidize the Celeb Salons, we realized almost 100 percent of the proceeds, clearing \$8,000. Our only costs were the spectacular placards by graphic designer **Jim Kingsley**, who will do them again this year.

For 2014, we are keeping the basic framework. We are recruiting additional hosts, this time including people who can seat 8-10 people. Last year, we sponsored 10 Salons; this year, we may add a few more. The Salons will be held between April and the end of June, weekends and weekdays. Seat sales will begin with the on-line Auction and will continue at the Silent Auction itself.

We've already had great success in lining up spectacular Celebs. As of February 7, we have:

\*\*NPR political analyst **Cokie Roberts** and her reporter husband **Steve Roberts**

\*\*Former Colorado senator **Tim Wirth**, who just retired from the UN Association  
\*\* **Camay Calloway Murphy**, daughter of famed bandleader **Cab Calloway**, and her son **Christopher Brooks**, who now leads the band

\*\***Sara Horowitz**, founder of the national Freelancers Union and MacArthur "genius award" winner

\*\***Stephen Grant**, who has written a new book on the Folger family, founders of the Folger Shakespeare Theatre

We hope you will sign up for these intimate salons — and invite your friends, as well — to have a great time while raising money for the Village.

Celeb Salon committee members are **Georgette Sobel, Jane Pierson, Bernice Hutchinson, Garry Hutchinson** and yours truly, **Peg**. If you would like to help with hosting or cooking, let us know! ■

## A Journey to Freedom

---**Bernice Hutchinson**,  
Executive Director

For those of you who know me, you know that I am not level when it comes to talking about **Harriet Tubman**. It is a one-sided love story that spans decades. Now, I am foggy when it comes to remembering the first time I heard her name or read her story. But, I can tell you this, it was a love connection. Once I discovered her, there was no turning back. My elementary-school sock puppet, junior-high-school diorama, high-school history term paper, and college primary-document research projects all paid homage to her. I even subtly influenced my own daughter, Allie, to devote some of her school projects to this remarkable warrior.

Most of my childhood summers were spent on the Eastern Shore of Maryland with my family. Our homestead was within miles of her birthplace. It was

always exciting to dream that perhaps I was occupying the same walking and breathing spaces as my heroine.

Recently, I discovered that a 125-mile driving tour highlighting more than 30 sites has been developed in honor of Harriet Tubman. The Harriet Tubman Underground Railroad Byway is considered a national treasure and is designated one of our nation's most significant byways for its historic and cultural value. This stretch of highway takes you to the Dorchester County marker, where Tubman was born into slavery, as well as the 2013 national monument erected to honor the Underground Railroad conductor.

A wonderful guide, maps and audio tape can be had at the start of this remarkable journey. You can find them, all free, by logging onto [HarrietTubmanByway.org](http://HarrietTubmanByway.org). By the way, can you guess where I'll be spending my time this summer? I'll likely take passengers. So consider stealing away with me. Happy Black History Month, and wishing you my best. ■

*Calendar, continued from page 2*

Villager Meera Wolfe. A minimum of eight attendees is required to get this discounted rate. RSVP Kathy Cardille at [kcardille@gmail.com](mailto:kcardille@gmail.com).

**Yousuf Karsh Exhibit (Part 1)  
National Portrait Gallery  
Tuesday, March 11, 2014  
11:30-12:30 pm**

Docent Liane Lunden will guide this tour of more than 100 portraits created by renowned photographer Yousuf Karsh. The exhibit features iconic photographs of distinguished Americans in business, medicine, entertainment, politics and the arts, including Georgia O'Keeffe, Jonas Salk, Marian Anderson and Eleanor Roosevelt. RSVP Kathy Cardille at [kcardille@gmail.com](mailto:kcardille@gmail.com).

**ScanSnap Follow-Up Session with Allie Rumanos, ScanSnap Representative  
Wednesday, March 12  
12:00 pm**

DCV Office, 2121 Decatur Place, NW. Learn more about this nifty device that can scan hundreds of pages into your computer in a matter of minutes. RSVP Kathy Cardille at [kcardille@gmail.com](mailto:kcardille@gmail.com).

**Back to Methuselah by GB Shaw  
Sunday, March 16  
Matinee Performance**

Washington Stage Guild. Villagers will receive a discounted rate of \$20 for the matinee and post-performance discussion. Send \$20, made out to Footlights, and mail to Robin Larkin, 5800 Nicholson Lane, #107, Rockville, MD 20852. Robin's e-mail is [robinlarkin@comcast.net](mailto:robinlarkin@comcast.net).

**Writers' Coffee  
Thursday, March 20, 11:00 am**  
Glenn's Garden Market, 20th and S Streets, NW. Come see what the "Spark" is all about. Talk about ideas, completed pieces and publication in a friendly environment.

**Spring into Auction  
Friday, March 28, 6:30-9:30 pm**  
The 4th Annual Silent Auction will be at the Woman's National Democratic Club, 1526 New Hampshire Ave, NW. To contribute items, please contact Iris Molotsky at [iris.molotsky@gmail.com](mailto:iris.molotsky@gmail.com), Marilyn Newton at [marilynsnewton@comcast.net](mailto:marilynsnewton@comcast.net) or Kathy Cardille at [kcardille@gmail.com](mailto:kcardille@gmail.com). ■

## Village Moves Ahead at Retreat

---Iris Molotsky

In early January, the Board engaged in an intense all-day discussion, this time focused on something beyond the day-to-day running of the organization. We thought through our expectations and goals for the future of our Village. Facilitated by **Bob Stump**, a professional with long nonprofit experience, we began by reviewing our previous five-year strategic plan. It was gratifying to realize that we had met important goals in membership, financial sustainability, recognition and marketing and obtaining permanent office space. However, we scheduled the retreat not to congratulate ourselves but because we recognize that our organization is growing. Maturity brings new needs and expectations. With that knowledge, we focused with renewed energy on where we want to be in the next three to five years and planned how to achieve these goals.

The session turned out to be better than even the most optimistic Board members anticipated. This is, in great part, because we have a Board that is in agreement on the fundamental issues of leadership, finances, fundraising and membership. We began by defining the key roles and responsibilities of the Board, the Executive Director and volunteers in each of these areas. We looked at what actions we need to continue, what we need to curtail and what we need to initiate. Then we explored ways to make these happen through organizational modifications. Finally, we developed a list of immediate actions that would lead us forward.

Toward this end, we broke into small groups. Each group was assigned a goal and asked to identify its key elements and develop a timetable for action. The groups reported back to the larger group, gathered additional ideas and, at the end of the exercise, were given responsibility for creating their portion of the final Strategic Plan for 2014-2016.

Our immediate goals are to:

- **Build Financial Sustainability** by strengthening existing measures for fundraising targets and donor appeals;
- **Grow Membership** by building recruitment activities and sustaining effective

membership programs;

- **Rethink Organizational Structure** by strengthening staff and volunteer structures to support strategic goals;
- **Maintain and Expand Programs**, especially in meeting the needs of those who have challenges;
- **Continue Efforts to Gain Village Recognition** locally and nationally, including expanded marketing activities.

A good day's work resulting in an effective strategic plan for 2014-16 is no small achievement. But beyond having another document to post on our website, what does this mean?

It means that we know we are facing the future with consensus about who we are, what we need to do and how to get there. It means the Board, Executive Director and key committee chairs--membership, financial, governance and activities--are working together to provide the leadership to make our Village succeed. We are excited to have a plan that enables members and volunteers, with their range of talents and experience, to play an even greater role in helping us meet our goals.

For me, the best thing to come from this retreat is the sense of what we have accomplished so far as a Village and the certainty that we are moving ahead with purpose and determination. I am exceedingly grateful for the significant skills, knowledge and compassion that DCV's members and volunteers have generously shared over the past five years. I also firmly believe that the coming year will be one of renewed commitment and many achievements. So, as president, I invite each of you to help us continue to create the maturing Village we all envision.

In the coming months, we will come to you with specific plans for programs, fundraising and volunteer opportunities. I look forward to joining you in meeting our challenges and celebrating our successes. ■



L-R: Bernice Hutchinson, Linda Harsh, Curt Farrar, Nancy Hartsock, Iris Molotsky, Bob Stump (facilitator) and back of head is Brad Edwards

# New Directions in Home Health Care

As hospital stays have become shorter, rehabilitation centers and home health care in particular have become increasingly important in the provision of post-hospital health care management, especially for seniors. **Maura Barillaro, RN**, who is Director of Nursing at Home Care Assistance (HCA), ably helped Villagers navigate this complex terrain at the January 27 **Live and Learn** and graciously answered Villagers' questions at the end of the seminar.

Barillaro first explained that there are two kinds of home health care: medical and non-medical.

**Medical** is skilled physical, occupational or speech therapy, as well as visiting nurse services, such as drawing blood, for individuals with more acute needs. Medicare, Medicaid or private health insurance generally pays for about 80% of doctor-prescribed medical home care for a set amount of time.

**Non-medical** is what HCA provides people who need in-home assistance with activities of daily living, such as bathing, dressing, laundry or meal preparation. Visits typically last one hour or less per day, 2-4 days a week. Non-medical may or may not be covered by Medicaid, Medicare or private insurance. It may be partially covered for a set period of time if it is prescribed by a doctor. Those who hold a Long Term Care Insurance policy may be eligible for home-care coverage, depending on the design of the policy.

Along with shorter hospital stays, recidivism rates are a key factor in determining hospital discharge plans. If a discharged patient is sent back to the hospital within 30 days, the hospital must cover the cost of additional hospitalization. This has become an incentive for hospitals to send patients to rehabilitation facilities for therapy until they can go home.

A new and increasingly common development is to send patients to an observation room where they are observed and treated instead of being formally admitted to the hospital. If such patients are re-admitted after discharge, hospitals are not required to pay for them. But this means that Medi-

care would not pay for rehab because the patient was never admitted to the hospital in the first place. It is therefore extremely important to find out if a patient has been admitted to the hospital or placed in an observation room instead.

As these developments indicate, the health-care system has become so complicated that the need for a medical advocate is critical. Patients must realize that they do have options, but they need to know in advance what those are.

## Home-Care Options

- **Family** (e.g., an adult child, sibling, aunt/uncle, etc.).
- **Private care** in home tends to be cheaper than going through an agency. However, patients may incur costs for liability insurance, for finding a substitute when the private caregiver must be away and for handling taxes.
- **Villages** are a great option for certain kinds of non-medical care.
- **Agencies** provide medical or non-medical care on a temporary or permanent basis and ensure that all home caregivers are screened. A key benefit of agencies is that care is overseen by an RN, who assesses the patient's condition, tailors a care plan to those needs and recommends when doctor/hospital intervention is indicated. Agency caregivers include health aides and more highly trained certified nurses' aides.
- **Hospice care** is for people who no longer want active treatment for their disease, either because they are dying or prefer only palliative care. Medicare covers hospice care for a certain amount of time. If a patient's condition stabilizes under palliative care, the patient is discharged from hospice and Medicare is discontinued.

**Q:** Is there a specific profession that helps patients sort out their rights?

**A:** Yes, professional medical advocates and geriatric-care managers. Both are expensive options that are not covered by insurance. The National Geriatric Care Association can make recommendations.

**Q:** Are there home-care benefits for veterans?

**A:** Yes, including for their spouses, but

income level and assets are factored into eligibility. There are companies that help you navigate the maze of veteran benefits

**Q:** Are there ways that the Village can help with the home health-care process?

**A:** Medical advocacy would be a great thing for DCV to do. A medical advocate can help by attending doctor appointments or helping to navigate the medical system from hospital admission to home care or serving as the eyes and ears for members who are shut in. These would require training. Perhaps the process can start with a member who is a nurse and familiar with the system.

Capitol Hill Village (CHV) has an informal arrangement with HCA. CHV typically has 6-12 members using HCA services each month. HCA coordinates monthly with CHV on patients' needs, and together they decide what services will be provided by each organization. CHV has about 350 members and four full-time paid staff, including social workers.

**Q:** How are home health-care services priced?

**A:** According to a 2012 MetLife study, in 2012 the average hourly cost for non-medical home care in this area was \$22. HCA charges \$24/hour and discounts their rate for Villages by 10%, which comes to \$21.60, including the RN service. There is a four-hour minimum cost per day or per visit. The charge for 24-hour live-in care, which involves two caregivers splitting the week, is \$260 per day or \$216 for Villages. The agency takes part of a caregiver's hourly rate to cover worker benefits and overhead costs.

**Q:** Is HCA local or national?

**A:** HCA was opened by DCV member **Ken Hansen** in 2003. Now a corporation, it has several franchises throughout the country.

**Q:** Are there any examples of DC funds being used for home care?

**A:** The Office of Aging provides direct assistance to people to enable them to stay in their homes. There is also a nursing-home transition program. ■ SL & BR

## Out & About with DCV

**Van Gogh Exhibit.** On January 15, Villagers were treated to an insightful view of the Van Gogh "Repetitions" exhibit at the Phillips Collection. The exhibit probed the surface of many of the artist's best-known works to discover how and why he created numerous versions of some of his paintings, including *The Bedroom at Arles*, *The Large Plane Trees*, and *The Road Menders*. Docent **Linda Leinberger** gave us an inside look at the exhibit from genesis to opening and, as one participant noted, ultimately guided us to "a far deeper and more nuanced understanding of human nature in general and Van Gogh's life, art, psyche in particular."

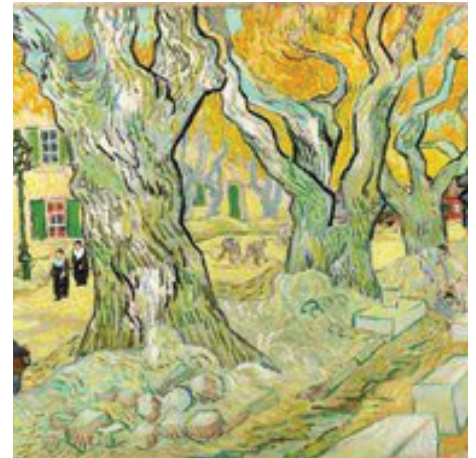


Bené Durant, Kathy Cardille and Dorothy Marshak

**Dining in Dupont.** January 28 found Villagers experiencing a welcome reprieve from the cold by lunching at Taqueria Nacional. The hot Mexican fare, as well as some "cooler" options, at this casual eatery provided a perfect backdrop for lively conversation. The food by Chef **Ann Cashion** was excellent, and Manager **Dot Steck** was a gracious and accommodating host.

**NPR Tour.** Docent **Barbara Price** led our DCV group through a fascinating tour of NPR's new, state-of-the-art, national headquarters building on February 4. Since incorporation as a non-profit in 1970, NPR has evolved from a radio broadcaster into the nation's largest media network, with 975 stations, 18 international and 16 domestic bureaus. Ninety-five percent of the US population is within listening area of a station carrying NPR programming. Known for its many environmental innovations, the new facility, housing over 800 employees, has earned an LEED Gold certification from the U.S. Green Building Council.

Our group was treated to a view of the green roof



and the satellites that constitute the core of the vast broadcasting system. We were also given access to the "heart" of the building: the open, two-story newsroom and broadcast studios where NPR news, programming and digital staff follow and produce stories. Of particular note were the "heart's" excellent acoustical systems. We also got to observe the office of the Public Radio Satellite System, which distributes programming around the country, a function once accomplished by sending tapes through the US mail service. Several Villagers commented that the tour was "extremely impressive." One member declared herself "blown away" by the experience – but was quickly found! ■ SL & BR



Studios of NPR

## Vetting DCV Drivers: Why Now and Why Bother?

---Iris Molotsky

Beginning in January, the Village started asking all volunteers who provide transportation for members to undergo a license check. Drivers are asked to provide their driver's license number, expiration date, auto insurance information, car make and license plate number. The vetting is done by IntelliCorp, the same organization that conducts our volunteer background checks.

Although this will affect only a small number of our volunteers, it is an important step in protecting both our drivers and passengers—and it is extremely important that the Village show due diligence

for insurance purposes. It speaks to the skills of our drivers that we have not had real problems so far, but prudence and fiscal responsibility require more than counting on good luck.

So, we are asking all volunteers who drive members to fill out a permission form that will allow us to conduct a background license check. Although it may seem yet another inconvenience or invasion of privacy, it truly is essential, and we would appreciate your cooperation. This is one of the most needed services we provide, and we want to ensure we continue to offer it safely with adequate protection for all. ■



## The Next Level of Volunteerism

---Garry Hutchinson, Volunteer Coordinator

As we move forward into 2014, several initiatives of the DCV volunteer program will deepen and expand not only the quality of the work of our volunteers but also of the volunteers themselves. Surveys have gone out to vet the background of our drivers, to determine the areas where volunteers believe they would most benefit from formal training and to set up a volunteer orientation that will increase their investment in Dupont Circle Village through an introduction to its board members, staff and organizational mission.

From their inception, Villages have focused on determining what members want that will enrich their lives and increase their independence. DCV's volunteer program is similarly focused on determining what will enrich the experience of volunteers and make them more proficient service providers. Volunteers are at the core of the Village experience, and a great deal of their efforts facilitate members' pursuit of recreation and fitness and fulfill their need for transportation, reassurance, companion-

ship and healthcare. Volunteers are part of the matrix that leads a majority of Village members nationwide to assert that their quality of life has improved because of their local Village. While Village members tend to know that they are better off because of the Village, volunteers may not have as strong a connection with the Village phenomenon to know what impact their efforts have on these organizations and members.

To strengthen the connection of our volunteers with DCV and to improve their volunteer experience, we are emphasizing the need for all volunteers (DCV members and non-members) to complete the survey on volunteer training. In addition, I am asking that all volunteers (member and non-member) be more diligent in reporting all of their volunteer hours at the end of each month. It is wonderful that our volunteers do so much more than is reported to the Volunteer Coordinator; but this under-reporting leaves holes in the picture of what DCV members need most in the

way of services and what our volunteers would benefit most from in the way of training. As each month has passed, DCV has developed a clearer idea of how many volunteers it needs to support its members and the nature of the skills such volunteers need.

On January 9th, the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development held a conference entitled "Aging in Place," which reported on the many positive national developments in housing and the associated "aging in place" phenomenon. **Judith Willett**, Director of the Village to Village Network and co-founder of the original Village (Beacon Hill), said that "aging in general is an opportunity rather than a problem ... [it is] a goal for our villages, generally, and for us, individually." I believe that this is such an opportune moment for DCV, that as we mature we will accept the challenge of our own success and growth and become more organized, structured and formal in our approach to recruiting, developing, using and retaining our volunteers. ■

## Pender M. McCarter: A Many-Textured Man

When Hero the Robot testified before Congress on behalf of funding for engineering research and development in the early 1980's – the first, and probably the last, robot to do so – it was a media coup that reverberated around the world. The proverbial ghost in the machine? **Pender McCarter**, whose ability to grasp complex technology policy issues and make them accessible to the public earned him, among many other honors, two first-place Golden World Awards from the International Public Relations Association and election to lead the Public Relations Society of America's College of Fellows.

Although Pender knew early on that he wanted to work in public relations in DC, the road to that goal was not straightforward. After graduating from Duke University and attending Navy Officer Candidate School, Pender found himself facing military draft. Teaching mostly disadvantaged youngsters in rural southern Maryland seemed a more fulfilling alternative. "Growing up in North Miami," Pender observed, "I certainly experienced people with different backgrounds from my own. But teaching 7th- and 8th-grade history and government to kids who ran the gamut from African-Americans to Navy dependents to long-settled oyster-fishing families was a remarkable and rewarding experience of diversity. I learned a lot about teaching and small-town life from 1969 to 1974 and made many enduring friendships."

Pender came to DC or Baltimore as often as he could for cultural pleasures not available in rural Maryland. One such trip with friends proved life altering, in every sense of the phrase. In 1972, he was in a near fatal car crash that led to a long hospital stay in DC. Experiencing a "non-abstract sense of mortality," Pender resolved to get back on the path of realizing his dream of working in public relations and living in DC.

During one of his summers off teaching, Pender had conducted research on computers and professionalism for a federation of computer societies. With the knowledge and connections gained through that and other immersions in the world of technology, Pender landed a job working in Annandale, VA, at a computer newsletter organization. It was still the early, heady days of computers, and Pender remains astonished and grateful that he got to "rub elbows with pioneers of the Internet."

By 1975, he had founded his own computer newsletter, the first on electronic banking. This brought a collateral benefit: frequent visits to Capitol Hill to cover congressional hearings and, with that, fulfillment of his longstanding interest in being directly involved in political issues and journalism.

In 1981, the highly prestigious Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), the world's largest professional association for the advancement of technology, offered Pender a job in its DC office, IEEE's public affairs arm. He spent 31 years at IEEE, retiring as IEEE-USA PR director with a raft of achievements. "It was a wonderful organization to work for," reflected Pender. "I could practice PR in an area I felt comfortable in and cared about, addressing issues such as space R&D, electronics in medical care, computer crime, privacy and patents." And finally, he could live right in DC!

Pender is most proud of his persistent work promoting technological literacy, engineering diversity and public understanding of engineering, none of them easy sells in the earlier days of his career. As he had hoped, Hero the Robot smashed some early barriers in this regard. So did, and does, PBS's Design Squad Nation, a program that highlights girls and women working on innovation projects – with IEEE funding and sponsorship "engineered" by Pender.

Outside of work, Pender was doing his part to help gay people claim their full place in society. He takes particular pride in applying his PR skills to help create the first Duke University LGBT alumni organization in Washington, the seed that spawned Duke's now national LGBT alumni network.

This is just the second year of Pender's full retirement, and he credits becoming a Village member and volunteer with many of its satisfactions. "I didn't think I needed new activities and friends because I was already fortunate to have many. But DCV has expanded my horizons and deepened my sense of being part of a community. I've never felt as connected."

A soft-spoken gentleman rising to the top in the brash world of PR, an introvert who enjoys being with and learning about people here and abroad, a lover of the arts with expertise in technology policy – Pender can only be said to be a many-textured man. ■  
BR



## Robbie Burns Supper: A Feast for All Senses

In his well-known ode now used to herald the New Year, the iconic Scottish poet **Robert Burns** queried, "Should auld acquaintance be forgot, and days of auld lang syne?" Certainly not if DC Villagers have anything to say about it.

Burns died in 1796, but his spirit, wit and love of life were eminently evident among the revelers who gathered on January 26th to commemorate the 255th anniversary of his birth. **Carol Galaty** and **Ken Shuck** graciously shared the warmth of their home and hearth to host the celebration. Villagers shared songs, poems, stories by and about Burns and even some original verses by **Don Jones** and **Lee Buddendeck**, all of which gave us a clear sense of Burns's intellect and humor -- not to mention his appreciation of the "gentler" sex. **Susan Meehan** filled us in on the life and times of the poet, noting that he is "remembered as much today for his innate sensitivity to the downtrodden and his impatience with the politically powerful as he is for his vivid powers of description."

Plaids were plentiful, and a delectable array of traditional favorites of Scotch Broth, haggis, tatties, neeps, as well as roast beef, scones, shortbread and birthday cake were the fare of the evening. And, of course, the scotch, single malt and blended, made a rousing contribution to the revelry! **Abigail Wiebenson** and **Steve Grant** treated us to their renditions of "Flower of Scotland" and "Flow Gently Sweet Afton." **Nicholas Kittrie** reminded us of Burns's humanity by calling our attention to the Scottish blessing on how to achieve peace in the world. **Tom Murray** led us in several rounds of song, concluding the evening with "Auld Lang Syne." Finally, **Kathy Cardille** presented us with lovely scotch plaid scarves she had made especially for the occasion. No doubt you will be seeing them all around town, especially if the polar vortex hangs around for much longer. ■ SL



Tom Murray is cutting the haggis; Georgette Sobel is reciting Burns's Address to the Haggis

### ANNOUNCING A NEW FEATURE: THE ONE-SENTENCE REVIEW

Having become keenly aware of Villagers' eagerness to express their views, we thought you might enjoy having a regular or irregular -- it'll be up to you -- feature that would be an outlet for your opinions and a challenge to your powers of creative brevity. So, we are asking readers to submit a one-sentence review of a book, article, movie, play, restaurant, or something else suitable.

As an example, we came across this review of an old movie based on a book by Christopher Isherwood. The film was "I Am a Camera," and the review was "NO LEICA!" Your review can certainly be more than two words, but no more than one sentence please.

Please send your entries in an email addressed to both editors with One-Sentence Review in the subject line by March 1. Don't forget to tell us what you're reviewing and who you are. We'll try to use as many each month as space allows but cannot guarantee publication. SL & BR

sheila.lopez@verizon.net and  
bellarosenberg@verizon.net

### THE JOYS OF DUES AND MEMBERSHIP

One of the benefits of the Village is its "rolling enrollment." Open enrollment allows your annual dues cycle to begin when you join the Village, regardless of the time of the calendar year. I send you a "dues are due" letter and an invoice a month before your annual membership expires. If you are unsure of your renewal date, please send me an email or phone me. Thanks to all for your support, and a special thanks to the many who have paid their dues in a timely manner.

**Alaire Rieffel**  
alaire.rieffel@gmail.com; 202-387-2311

## January Soup Salon: Bylines and Bygones

The record crowd of Villagers drawn to the January 19 Soup Salon to hear journalist and DCV president emerita **Peggy Simpson's** on-the-ground story of President Kennedy's assassination had their cake and richly edifying icing, too, when she also served up an account of early 1960s Dallas society, the changing condition of women in journalism, Poland's transition to capitalism and other tales of grit and pluck, including Peggy's own.

Held at Peg's art- and crafts-filled home, a visual testimony to her fascinating career and travels, the Soup Salon was organized and executed by Linda Harsh and a small army of other Villagers. **Bettina Del Sesto, Gillian Lindt, Ginny Mondale and Anne von der Lippe** cooked an assortment of delicious and nutritious soups, while Joan Ludlow provided tasty bread to sop up the last drop.

In her introductory remarks, Linda characterized Peg as "an energizer bunny" and "a person who won't take no for an answer." Peg's presentation quickly corroborated those observations. Growing up in Texas, she remembers always wanting to report on politics and work in DC, despite the absence of any female role models to follow. "It never occurred to me that women couldn't do everything." As she discovered, most men during that time thought otherwise.

Peg landed a job with the Associated Press (AP) in Dallas in 1962. A year later, she was on the scene monitoring President Kennedy's motorcade through the city, but had no inkling of the shooting until she returned to the AP bureau. She raced to the Texas Book Depository, strategically placed herself next to the police and phoned in the news they were getting to the AP. Her bureau chief then sent her to the city jail, and Peg was there when Lee Harvey Oswald was brought through the corridor.



Two days later, Peg was again assigned to the jail, and Oswald was again paraded through the corridor – this time taking a fatal bullet fired by Jack Ruby. Chaos ensued, Peggy recalled, but she fought the crowd to get to a phone – at that time reporters' only tool for breaking news – and called in the story. What made this astonishing shooting even more so, Peggy noted, was the fact that Ruby was a locally well-known, affable bar owner.

Shortly thereafter, Peg was asked to check out a CBS story that a Dallas preacher – her own, as it turned out – had publicly said that the climate of hate that percolated unchallenged in the city was partly to blame for the assassination. He quoted a third-grade teacher who said her students had cheered when the assassination was announced in school, and Peg tracked down a teacher friend who said the same had happened in her class. When she gave examples of the city's "genteel" and overt forms of intolerance, such as the National Indignation Society, a 24/7 radio broadcaster of racism and conspiracy theories, the room chilled.

Peg's goal of being in DC covering politics was realized in 1968 when the AP transferred her. She covered five southwestern states in Congress and also pioneered a beat on the national women's political movement. But when Peggy joined the gender-and-race lawsuit against the AP, it did not exactly endear her to her bosses. She left the organization in 1979.

Years later, while a Journalist-in-Residence at Indiana University (IU), Peggy seized an opportunity to cover Poland's transition from a Soviet to a market economy in the 1990s. During her 10 years in Poland, she reported

on that transition for 15 different freelance outlets and also taught at Warsaw University. She also managed to endure living in grim, Soviet-style housing, study Polish and earn an MA in the Polish economy from IU.

Peggy described the situation in Poland as "chaotic and confusing – ideal for a reporter." She transported Villagers to a place and time when inflation ran 800%, the industrial base was in shambles, guaranteed "jobs" vanished and a people who'd been accustomed to everyone earning more or less the same measly salary now had to get used to some earning more and others less or not at all. Yet, Peggy noted, Poland made the transition far better than many other former Soviet satellites. Despite their hardships, the Poles "really saw that they were gaining something – their freedom," Peggy observed.

Although Villagers had a hard time tearing themselves away from the fascinating discussion with Peggy, their transition out of Peggy's home was certainly smoother than that made by the Polish economy! ■ BR



**Villagers at the DCV Exercise Class at Washington Sports Club are keeping not only their bodies fit but also their brains.**

## ScanSnap

Would you like to shed pounds and streamline your files at the same time? Sound like an impossible task? Not if the pounds to be shed are paper, and you have access to a nifty device known as ScanSnap.

Manufactured by Fujitsu, ScanSnap enables you to scan reams of paper into computer files (PDF/JPEG) quickly and effortlessly, thereby reducing paper clutter and storage space requirements. Several hundred pages can be scanned in a matter of minutes. On January 13, DC Villagers were treated to a demonstration by **Kathy Cardille** and **Harvey Friedman**. Kathy had made extensive use of ScanSnap to produce two volumes of family histories, including letters, photographs and other mementos.

Thanks to discussion with Fujitsu about the good work of the Village, we will be proud owners of a donated ScanSnap that will be housed in the Village office. It is an easily portable device that is about the size of a toaster. You will be able to check it out for a specified period of time so that it can be used in your home, or you may use it in the office if you prefer. The features of ScanSnap include:

- Scan wirelessly to PC, Mac, iOS or Android mobile devices.
- Feed up to 50 pages automatically.
- Copy in one- or two-sided formats.
- Save color photos.
- Save individual pieces as separate files or combine several pieces into one file.
- Turn static text into editable text.
- Rotate text or photos.
- Scan oversize, undersize or non-uniform pages (newspaper articles).
- Search PDF files with one button.

Come to the follow-up session that will be given by ScanSnap representative **Allie Rumanos** at the Village office on March 12 at noon, and learn to make this easy technology your own. ■ SL



Standing is Kathy Cardille. Left to right: Judith Werdel, Sheila Lopez, Judith Krueger, Joan Ludlow

## The Keegan Theatre: A Neighborhood Jewel

Over the past 13 years, the **Keegan Theatre** has become an important and valued contributor to Dupont Circle's cultural community. Through drama, comedy and music, their gifted actors and directors have brought us outstanding American and Irish plays that explore the human condition. Since moving to Dupont Circle, they have also become a beacon for community arts, offering spaces for events and educational programs for all ages. Keegan is a DCV enthusiast, offering members reduced rate tickets, and a participant in many community activities, including the 17th Street Festival, the Dupont Circle Festival, Dupont Circle Main Street and the Dupont Circle House Tour. They are committed to the development of the community by aggressively searching for and nurturing new local talent.

Their current production of Gore Vidal's *The Best Man* has received wide audience acclaim and has been extended through February 23rd. Upcoming productions for this season include the musical *Hair*, *Things You Shouldn't Say Past Midnight* by Peter Ackerman and *A Midsummer Night's Riot* by Rosemary Jenkinson.

Keegan is currently engaged in a capital campaign to enable them to provide the Dupont Circle community with a building that will better serve the needs of their audiences, the neighborhood and the artists who create their shows. While maintaining its current intimacy, the new building will house a new elevator; comfortable seats, upgraded lighting, sound and temperature systems and additional classroom, rehearsal and community space. All three stories of the building will be ADA-accessible.

If you are interested in contributing to this vibrant community resource, suggestions for how to do so are on Keegan's website at [keeganthatre.com](http://keeganthatre.com). ■ SL



Architectural Rendition of the new Keegan Theatre on Church St., NW



---Judy Silberman,  
Yoga Master



Here's a tip for practicing balance poses safely. Stand in a doorway!

Find a doorway in your house that is big enough for you to move your legs and arms, but snug enough to grab onto if you become unsteady. First, stand in Mountain Pose: feet hip-width apart, knees soft, belly button veering back, shoulders back and down, arms at your sides, head slightly back so that ears are over shoulders. To feel secure, rock side to side a few times, feeling the sides of the doorway with your upper arms. Feel the doorway with your hands raised to shoulder level.

Next, lower your arms. Then, find a place to stare at three to four feet in front of you. Lift your left foot an inch, and try to hold it up for the count of five. Rest. Repeat raising the right foot.

Keep your breath even, and try to relax. Aim for a count of 10. Be creative as you try other simple balance positions, such as lifting the knee up in front or lifting a foot up a few inches behind you. ■



---Judy duBerrier

*Hollow House Soup & Bread Cookbook*, just for the occasion. And now everyone else can enjoy this great soup. Thanks Don!

#### Scotch Broth Soup (serves 8)

1/2 cup dried green peas  
about 1 1/4 lbs. lamb (stew meat or shoulder chops)  
6 cups low sodium chicken broth (recommended: Herb Ox granules)  
salt & pepper to taste  
1/2 cup pearl barley

Those who attended the Robbie Burns Tribute at **Carol Galaty's** house were treated to a very special Scotch Broth soup, courtesy of Villager **Don Jones**. He adapted this recipe from the *Dairy*

2 carrots, peeled and sliced  
2 large onions, chopped  
4 leeks, white and light green parts, washed well and sliced  
3 small turnips, rinsed and diced  
1/3 lb. kale, washed and chopped  
1/4 cup finely chopped parsley

Soak peas overnight in water. Place meat in large heavy pot along with the stock and salt/pepper. Bring to a boil, then skim off any foam that rises to the surface. Add the barley and drained peas, turn heat to low. Let mixture simmer approximately 2 hours or until meat is tender. Remove meat from pot. Skim surplus fat from soup. Add all the vegetables and parsley to the pot. Adjust seasoning. Simmer soup, covered, about an hour or until veggies are soft. Meanwhile, pick meat from the bones. Dice or shred it, then add back to the pot the last 5 minutes to warm. Serves 8 with crusty bread and salad. ■

Comments/Questions: [judydubrier@verizon.net](mailto:judydubrier@verizon.net). 202-328-9123.

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



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