



# DUPONT CIRCLE VILLAGE

## SHATTERING THE STEREOTYPE

ADAMS MORGAN • DUPONT CIRCLE • KALORAMA

“Approach the New Year with resolve to find the opportunities hidden in each new day.”

— Michael Josephson

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### Welcome New Members!

Tia Duer  
Arlene Karesh

## The Mitten

**T**he Mitten is a charming Ukrainian folktale about a boy who loses one of his mittens in the snow. As the mitten lies abandoned, various woodland animals—each larger than the

By Eva M. Lucero,  
Executive Director

last—discover it and seek shelter inside to keep warm. Starting with a tiny mouse, the mitten eventually becomes home to a rabbit, a fox, a wolf, a bear, and even a boar. Despite their differences in size, species, and temperament, the animals squeeze into the mitten, creating a shared space that offers collective warmth and security.

At its heart, *The Mitten* offers more than just a whimsical story of animals seeking warmth; it carries a profound metaphor for our Village. The animals in the story embody the values of collaboration, resilience, and reciprocal care—principles that lie at the very foundation of our community. By coming together and making space for one another, they create a shared environment that fosters both wellbeing and connection.

*The Mitten* also illustrates several meaningful principles central to DCV's community spirit:

- **Inclusivity:** Like the animals who make room for each newcomer regardless of size or differences, we



strive to create a community where everyone belongs.

- **Interdependence:** The animals demonstrate how mutual reliance allows them to achieve something extraordinary—a theme that reflects the strength of our interconnected lives.
- **Creative Solutions:** The unlikely solution of fitting everyone into the mitten shows the power of imagination and flexibility in overcoming challenges.
- **Meaningful Connection:** The story highlights how shared experiences, even in unusual circumstances, can lead to deeper bonds.

As we look to the future, our Village intends to continue making room for everyone. By doing so, we honor the values of cooperation, compassion, and ingenuity that transform aging into not just a phase of life but a celebration of community and connection. Just as the animals in *The Mitten* found warmth and safety together, so too does our Village thrive when we embrace and support one another.

# President's Notes



David Schwarz

**A**s we start 2025, I am resolving to at least sometimes look away from the wider world and enjoy and celebrate what I have in our wonderful neighborhoods. In that spirit, I'd like to offer a tour of some of my favorite things in the area of our Dupont Circle Village. I don't know if I count as a foodie, but I like to eat, so that's what I'll focus on at least for now.

So, two of my Adams Morgan favorites are at two ends of the same block: Perry's and Lapis. Perry's has been a neighborhood Japanese restaurant for ages, but it's still fresh and interesting. They do a great happy hour at the bar every evening, and it can certainly be dinner. Almost always on that menu is Japanese fried chicken; if you like Popeye's you'll love their version. Lapis is Afghan and serves large portions of dumplings, grilled meats, and various stews in a very festive atmosphere. Moving down 18th Street, there's Sharbat, the Azerbaijan bakery and café. They have amazing multi-layered cream and honey cakes, plus quite an assortment of sweet and savory middle eastern pastries. I think they also do breakfasts, but I've never tried that. Close by, in a basement, is Sakuramen, an intimate little ramen place that can be a lovely way to warm up on a cold day.

Continuing on 18th to Florida, there's The Imperial, which has good oysters and Beef Wellington, and is open late. Around the corner is El Tamarindo, there at least since the early 80s, and the place for pupusas and taquitos and other Salvadoran treats. Close-by is also Lauriol Plaza, another neighborhood fixture, serving

good, solid Cuban and Mexican dishes and those dangerous bowls of corn chips (which go well with the pitchers of multicolored frozen margaritas). I sometimes eat there with a Cuban friend, who loves their Masitas de Puerco (I do, too).

So, now we are in Dupont Circle, where I have lately come to appreciate another local institution, La Tomate. It offers pleasant dining rooms (where you can actually hold a conversation), good service, interesting menus, and they have one of my favorite desserts: crostata di mele. Just across Connecticut, on R, is Teatism, which serves fresh, Asian-inspired dishes for breakfast and lunch. Their cookies are pretty good, too. And, speaking of good cookies, and bread and pastries, in the Phillips Collection is the Bread Furst Café. You don't have to buy a ticket to the museum to eat there, and they have amazing salads and sandwiches. (And one of the many perks of a Phillips membership is that you get a 10% discount.) Down by the Circle, there's The Pembroke, a comfortable, classy hotel restaurant with a good chef and an interesting menu, and, over on P, a newcomer, Amparo Fondita, with creative, modern Mexican dishes.

Heading back to 18th Street, Anju is a deservedly popular Korean restaurant (too popular—it's often impossible to reserve a table). And, on to 17th Street, there's Annie's, a friendly, homey, comfort-food sort of place where I find myself eating almost every week. Around the corner, is Hank's, the oyster bar, which has a way with deep frying—probably the best onion rings and fish and chips I can remember having. 17th Street also

has two of my favorite coffee bars: 350 at R and Java House. 350 makes awesome coffee and they also bake their own cakes and pastries—really good scones and banana bread. Java House coffee is OK, but the place has a great neighborhood vibe, an extensive menu of good sandwiches and the like, and is open until 7 every evening. Of course, among our coffee house/bakeries, the shining star is Un Je Ne Sais Quoi, just south of the Circle on Connecticut. Their pastries are to die for (and, probably, from); their coffee is great; and I am told they have wonderful hot chocolate.

Moving, finally, to the Village's edge, 14th Street also has some culinary treasures, including the two one-star Michelin establishments: Bresca and Rooster and Owl. Neither is cheap, but they both offer adventurous and creative menus, and I've never had anything less than an excellent meal at either. (For a mortgage-the-house splurge, Bresca also contains Jont, one of only two Michelin two-star recipients in the city. I haven't tried it.) But, back to more moderate prices, I love the Vietnamese Doi Moi, with its mix of street food and more serious fare—like deep fried whole fish. I also love Pearl Dive, across the street from the (way-too-noisy) Le Diplomate. Pearl Dive has a great oyster happy hour every Monday. They also serve excellent Cajun and southern dishes (another good place to get fried chicken!). There's also a good, new Chinese dumpling place below Rhode Island, Soupy Dumplings and Boba, with service provided by a friendly robot. And, finally, around the corner on P, is Stoney's, a sports bar joint that serves great hot sandwiches, including one of the best grilled cheese and bacon sandwiches in the city.

Well, that's my list. If you have favorites I've missed (and I'm sure you do), I'd certainly like to hear about them. Wishing all of you the best of everything in the new year!



# Meaghan McMahon and Lee Reed In Their Own Words

It is a pleasure to serve DCV members as the social worker in partnership with Lee, our Health Care Navigator.

I attended the University of Michigan School of Social Work as part of the Geriatric Scholar program and in 2011 earned my Master of Social Work degree. Since December 2023, I have been a Licensed Graduate Social Worker in Washington, D.C.

In my role, I help connect DCV members with important resources to help them age in place successfully. Topics include:

- How to complete a Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) application
- Caregiving for individuals living with Alzheimer's disease and related dementias
- Support for Solo Aged, those living on their own without a spouse or children

As a Gerontologist, I have been working through this new concept of Registered Nurse Healthcare Navigator

since March of 2023. As a graduate of the Aging & Health Master's Program from Georgetown University, I have utilized both my academic and practical experiences.

In my role, I simply assist Villagers to traverse through our complicated Healthcare System. For example:

- Medication Management and Reconciliation
- With you at the helm, help with pre & post hospitalization concerns incl. appropriate rehabilitation communities, and local programs.
- Accompany villagers on physician/specialist appointments

It is very rewarding working with our social worker, Meaghan to come up with innovative solutions to help villagers to age in the environment of their choice – most often their own homes.

To be connected with Lee and Meaghan for support, please contact Eva M. Lucero directly.

## 15-Minute Meal



## Middle Eastern-Style Grilled Chicken Kabobs

### Directions

1. In a medium bowl, combine the yogurt, olive oil, paprika, cumin, cinnamon, red pepper flakes, lemon zest, lemon juice, salt, pepper and garlic.
2. Line a baking sheet with aluminum foil for easy clean up. Thread the chicken onto metal skewers, folding if the pieces are long and thin, alternating with the red onions. Be sure not to cram the skewers. (Note: You'll need between 6-8 skewers.) Place the kabobs on the prepared baking sheet. Brush the marinade all over the meat, coating well. Cover and refrigerate for at least eight hours or overnight.
3. Preheat the grill to medium-high heat. To grease the grill, lightly dip a wad of paper towels in vegetable oil and, using tongs, carefully rub over the grates several times until glossy and coated. Grill the chicken kabobs until golden brown and cooked through, turning the skewers occasionally, 13 to 15 minutes. (The yogurt marinade makes these kabobs prone to sticking to the grill grates; if necessary, use a metal BBQ spatula to scrape underneath the kabobs and release them.) Transfer the kabobs to a platter and serve.

### Ingredients

- 1 cup plain whole milk Greek yogurt
- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 2 teaspoons of paprika
- ½ teaspoon cumin
- ⅛ teaspoon cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon crushed red pepper flakes (reduce to ½ teaspoon for less heat)
- Zest from one lemon
- 2 tablespoons freshly squeezed lemon juice, from one lemon
- 1¾ teaspoons salt
- ½ teaspoon freshly ground black pepper
- 5 garlic cloves, minced
- 2½ to 3 pounds boneless skinless chicken thighs, trimmed of excess fat and cut into 1½-inch pieces



# January Calendar

Visit the DCV website [calendar](#) to find further information for each event listed below.

**REGISTER** online, or at [admin@dupontcirclevillage.net](mailto:admin@dupontcirclevillage.net), or contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252

## Home Social Hour — Wiebenson (Rescheduled)

Monday, January 6, 2025, 5:00 pm — 6:30 pm

Location: Abigail Weibenson's Home

Limit: 10

Register by January 3 online

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252 or

[admin@dupontcirclevillage.net](mailto:admin@dupontcirclevillage.net)

## LGBTQ Friends Group Gathering — Game Night (All are welcome to attend)

Wednesday, January 8, 2025, 4:30 pm — 6:00 pm

Location: Board Room

1737 Connecticut Avenue, NW

Limit: 25

Register online by January 7 or

Contact: Frank Walter at [fwalterdc@gmail.com](mailto:fwalterdc@gmail.com)

## Happy Hour — The Step-Child Harold

Wednesday, January 8, 2025, 5:00 PM until 7:00 PM

Location: 1610 20th Street, NW

Limit: 20

Register online by January 6 online

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252 or

[admin@dupontcirclevillage.net](mailto:admin@dupontcirclevillage.net)

## Tour — Hirshhorn: Osgemeos and Basquiat/Banksy Exhibits

Thursday, January 9, 2025, 1:30 pm — 3:00 pm

Location: Smithsonian Institution

Independence Ave SW & 7th Street SW

Limit: 16

Register online by January 8 online

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252

or [admin@dupontcirclevillage.net](mailto:admin@dupontcirclevillage.net)

## Film Noir Movie Screening and Discussion

Saturday, January 11, 2025, 2:00 pm — 4:00 pm

Location: DCV Office

2121 Decatur Pl, NW #5

Limit: 10

Register online by January 10th online

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252 or

[admin@dupontcirclevillage.net](mailto:admin@dupontcirclevillage.net)



## Who Cares: The Caregiver Interview Project, a theater production by Voices Festival Productions

Sunday, January 19, 2025, 3:00 pm — 5:00 pm

Location: Universalist National Memorial Church

Limit: 10

Register online by January 14 or

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252 or

[admin@dupontcirclevillage.net](mailto:admin@dupontcirclevillage.net)

## Sunday Soup Salon — Mindel and Lewis

Sunday, January 26, 2025, 5:30 pm — 7:00 pm

Location: Home of Lynne Lewis and Caroline Mindel

Limit: 16

Register online by January 23rd

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252 or or [admin@dupontcirclevillage.net](mailto:admin@dupontcirclevillage.net)

## Home Social Hour — Turnbull

Wednesday, January 29, 2025, 5:00 pm — 6:30 pm

Location: Nancy Turnbull's Home

Limit: 8

Register online by January 26

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252 or

[admin@dupontcirclevillage.net](mailto:admin@dupontcirclevillage.net)

## Tour — SNMAA:

### The Benin Bronzes & other Origin Tales

Wednesday, January 29, 2025, 2:00 pm — 3:00 pm

Location: Smithsonian National Museum of African Art

950 Independence Ave, SW

Register online by January 28th

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252 or

[admin@dupontcirclevillage.net](mailto:admin@dupontcirclevillage.net)

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# January Calendar

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## MONTHLY EVENTS

### Men's Book Group

Monday, January 6, 2025, 11:00 am

Location: 2121 Decatur Place NW

Limit: 10

Register online or contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252

### Navigating the Path Ahead

Tuesday, January 14, 2025, 3:30 pm — 4:30 pm

Location: Virtual

No Limit

Register online or contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252

### Live and Learn: The Complexity of Memory Loss: Alzheimer's vs. Dementia vs. Lewy Body Dementia

Monday, January 27, 2025, 3:30 pm — 5:00 pm

Location: Hybrid

DCV Office — 2111 Decatur Pl NW

Limit: 12 guests in person

Register by January 24 online

Contact DCV Office at (202) 436-5252 or

admin@dupontcirclevillage.net

### Mystery Book Group

Friday, January 31, 2025, 3:30 pm — 4:30 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office at

(202) 436-5252 or admin@dupontcirclevillage.net

## RECURRING EVENTS

### Tai Chi for Arthritis and Fall Prevention

Tuesdays, 2:00 pm and 3:30 pm

Location: DCV Office

Limit: 8

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

### Online Meditation

Mondays and Thursdays, 9:00 am — 9:30 am

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

### Chair Yoga

Tuesdays, 10:30 am — 11:30 am

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

### Accessible Mat Yoga

Mondays, 3:30 pm — 4:30 pm

Location: Virtual

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

### Coffee and Conversation

Thursdays, 10:00 am — 11:00 am

Location: Annie's Paramount Steak House

1609 17th Street, NW

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

### Bridge Group

Thursdays, 1:30 pm — 3:30 pm

Location: DCV Office — enter at 2111 Decatur Pl NW

RSVP: Register online or contact DCV Office

### Mahjongg

Thursdays, 2:00 pm — 4:00 pm

Location: hosted live by Roberta Milman

RSVP: Bobbi Milman, rmilman@comcast.net

or (202) 667-0245

### Knitting Group

Every Thursday, 4:00 pm

Location: Hybrid or in the DCV office

RSVP: Sheila Lopez at sheilablopez@gmail.com

### Dupont Circle Walking Group

Every Monday, Wednesday, Friday at 8:00 am  
(Summer/Fall hours)

Location: Meet at the fountain in Dupont Circle

### Adams Morgan Walking Group

Every Tuesday, Thursday at 8:00 am

Meet at northwest corner of Kalorama and Columbia  
that borders Kalorama Park



# Meet Maurice Sarano & Veronique Roger

By Tom Carmody

Maurice and Veronique are fairly new additions to the Dupont Village, having joined in the spring of 2024. They first learned of the Village while standing in the ticket line at the Jewish Community Center on 16th Street. As they waited for their turn to purchase tickets, they struck up a conversation with a person standing next to them. One of the topics discussed was the Village. Veronique thought it an interesting initiative, went home, Googled it and decided she and Maurice should join.

In the short time they have belonged to the Village, Maurice and Veronique have enjoyed meeting other members and joining Villagers for outings around DC. Veronique also comments she appreciates the back and forth on the listserv regarding recommendations for local services, finding both a new dry cleaner and a great physical therapist along the way. They also enjoyed hosting a "home social hour" in the summer 2024.

**Carol Galaty** has been an early "Village connection" as she was assigned to Maurice and Veronique as a mentor. The connection has proven excellent with Carol and her husband Ken joined with Maurice and Veronique for dinners and theatre around DC and sharing stories of living in Europe.

Maurice and Veronique are originally from Paris with a 30-year stint in Minnesota in between France and DC. They raised two boys in Minnesota, one now working as a lawyer in New York and the other, a software engineer, in Minneapolis.

Both trained as cardiologists in France. Veronique currently works at the National Institutes of Health as a researcher while Maurice manages a start up company specializing in medical devices with frequent travel back to Minneapolis.

While life in a small town in Minnesota worked very well to raise 2 boys, their move to DC in the middle of the pandemic in 2021 served nicely to land them in another urban center, not unlike Paris. Previously, as Veronique had made several trips to DC, the move was not too difficult. In DC, they enjoy the museums, performance theatre and concerts around town with the Kennedy Center a particularly favorite place. Veronique describes their life in DC like "two kids in a candy store" with a steady stream of



interesting things to do. DC works well for them with its international population, full of world travelers.

Maurice and Veronique are looking forward to the holiday season with both their boys visiting. Veronique will take a break from her research to shift to some excellent French cooking of some great meals for her family as they enjoy their holidays together.

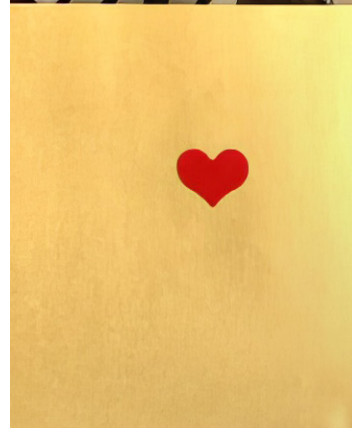


## January Birthdays



### Happy Birthday to all members born in January.

Burke Dillon Ed Elkins, Susan Hattan, Michael Kain, Creighton Phelps, Bob von der Lippe, Tom Spinelli, Patricia Black, Michael Hoffman, Kathy Spiegel, Carol Farrand, William Riley, Rod Myers, Bob McDonald, Linda Suggs, Penelope Williams, Katie McDonald, Anna Simon, Michael Whelan, Harriet Fields, Bella Rosenberg, Frances Oakley, David Insinga, Marcy Logan, Anne Groer, Oshara Waago, Martha Rosacker, Holly Salamido, Walter Albano, Chris Hannah and Carol Morgan.





# Out and About



## December Birthdays

**Ann Talty** and **Deirdre O'Neill** enjoy delicious cake and goodies at **Sheila Lopez's** home for their birthday celebration.



▲ **Jim Chamberlin** snapped the famous Christmas Tree in front of the Floriana restaurant on 17th street.



▲ **Sarah Burger** snapped this photo of **Gretchen Ellsworth** and **Bob Hirsh**. Sarah is a member of Gretchen's DCV care group.



▲ **Ann McFarren** and **Bill Roberts** hosted Villagers and neighbors for Christmas Eve dinner. **Charletta Cowling, Sheila Lopez, Kim Larmee, Bill Roberts, Grace Timborelle, Charlotte Holloman** and **Sarah Burger**.



▲ Villagers endured a five+ mile walk to view DC Christmas trees in their full glory. Starting at Union Station the walk continued on to the Ellipse then back to Dupont Circle.



# Out and About



▲ A group of 11 DCVers' gathered at **Carol Galaty** and **Ken Shuck**'s dinner table for a warm, happy potluck Thanksgiving meal. Each person in turn recounted what they were thankful for in the past year. To no one's surprise, Dupont Circle Village was at the top of many lists! Guests departed toting bags of uneaten food and, while the turkey was no longer stuffed, everyone at the dinner was. In the photo, going clockwise and starting front and center: **Dan Leathers**, **Lisa Duperier**, **Jim Chamberlin**, **Olga Hudecek**, **Helene Diener**, **Amelia Shachoy**, **Ken Shuck**, **Sarah Burger**, **Frances Oakley** and **Patty Zweibel**.



▲ **Susan Hattan** and **Steve Kittrell** spent Thanksgiving with most of Susan's family in Kansas City.

On Christmas Day, much of the Monday-Wednesday-Friday walking group—**Dennis Houlihan**, **Cynthia Williams**, **Nancy Turnbull**, **Peggy Long**, and **Judith Neibrief** — followed **Paul Argabright**'s lead on a holiday decorations walk that included the Christmas tree in the Willard Hotel lobby



▲ **Charlotte Holloman** was visiting a friend at Forest Hills and ran into DCV social worker, **Meaghan McMahon**.





# Out and About



▲ **Kathy Price** and **Jock Covey** were in Paris for the opening weekend of Notre Dame and the Paris Opera's *Rigoletto*. They also visited Jock's best friend, who founded Médecins Sans Frontières, and explored the Musée Rodin and the Musée d'Orsay. After Paris, they traveled to the outskirts of London to visit sailing friends, and then on to Brussels to celebrate Kathy's grandson, Attilio's 2nd birthday.



▲ Members on a tour of the House of the Temple, the headquarters for the U.S. Scottish Rite of Freemasonry



▲ **The DCV Presidents**  
by Eva M. Lucero

I have been fortunate to work under the guidance of remarkable leaders. Each one has been my "boss," with the exception of **Peg Simpson**. Their leadership has shaped and inspired me over the years, and what a joy it was to connect with these friends during the holidays! **Ann McFarren** (2020–2021), **Peg Simpson** (2010–2012), **Bob McDonald** (2022–2023), **David Schwarz** (2024–present), **Steve Kittrell** (2017–2019) and **Lois Berlin** (2015–2016)

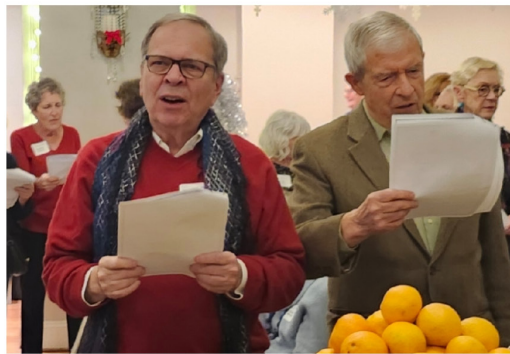


▲ Villagers were invited to attend a Ukrainian concert in the neighborhood. Marta Krechkovsky and Iryna Krechkosky (Violins), Maria Semes (viola) and Joseph Gotoff (Cello). They played String Quartet in D minor by Ukrainian, Mykola Lysenko (1842–1912), String Quartet No. 8, Dimitri Shostakovich (1906–1975) and a charming extra. Warm wonderful evening supporting Ukraine and Counterpoint Concerts.



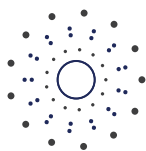


# Out and About



◀ DCV wrapped up the year with a festive celebration! Over 85 members gathered at the Chastleton Ballroom in December for the Holiday Party. The evening was filled with delicious food, drinks, and giveaways, but the true highlight was the spirited sing-along. The room came alive as everyone joined in, spreading joy and holiday cheer!

**DCV Commitment to Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion:** Dupont Circle Village (DCV) is committed to being a diverse, equitable and inclusive organization. We condemn all forms of discrimination in our society. We aim to make our organization one that is open and welcoming to all. We recognize that the human experience comes in all colors, shapes, abilities, economic circumstances, ages, backgrounds, gender expressions and identities, and sexual orientations. We strive to celebrate these differences and recognize how they benefit our community. To this end, we will do what is necessary for us to grow as a community and as individuals who respect and care for one another.



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Eva M. Lucero  
*executive director*

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Sherri Monson, *copy editor*

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