

LIBRETTO

Symphony Village's Newsletter

January, 2007

Vol. II No.1

MISSION STATEMENT: To enhance the quality of life and promote a harmonious community through the timely publication of accurate information about residents, events, and activities in and around Symphony Village.



WELCOME NEW HOMEOWNERS!!

The following residents settled and/or moved into their new homes since our last publication:

John and Willie DiLaura
843 Harmony Way
443-262-8062
jwdilaura@yahoo.com

Brendon and Diane Lusby
105 Sonata Way
410-758-3324
dlusby@2na.zodiac.com

Pat and Bonnie Goss
146 Encore Court
443-262-9028
patgoss@goss-garage.com

Herman and Lynne Schieke
142 Encore Court
410-758-2157

Larry and Sally Eckstorm
815 HarmonyWay

Gail Jinar
825 Harmony Way

Welcome to each and everyone!

NB: Some of our new residents were not available to complete the application for the Directory but the information will be updated as soon as possible and will be available on the Web site.

Welcome Evening for New Residents



All new residents are invited to a "Welcome Evening on Wednesday, January 17th at 7:00 p.m. in the Clubhouse Grand Concert Room. This is an informal get-together to meet other new neighbors, have dessert and learn more about your new community. Please sign up in the Activities Book in the Clubhouse or call Ann Walsh, 443-262-9449 so we can plan appropriately.

NOTICE OF MEETINGS

From Officers of the Association

NOTICE is hereby given in accordance with Article 3.3 of the Bylaws that the Monthly Board Meeting of the Symphony Village HOA will be held in the Concert Hall of the Symphony Village Clubhouse on the 4th Thursday of each month from 1:00 – 3:00 p.m. The schedule follows:

January 25, 2007	July 26, 2007
February 22, 2007	August 23, 2007
March 22, 2007	September 27, 2007
April 26, 2007	October 25, 2007
May 24, 2007	November 29, 2007
June 28, 2007	December 27, 2007

Current Officers of the Association are:

Jon Bullock, President
Rosemary Davis, Vice President
Brian Creighton, Secretary/Treasurer
Arlyn Marshall, Member at Large
Jack Dedrick, Member at Large

FROM JAN'S DESK

Happy New Year!



I'd like to thank the outgoing committee members for a job well done and for the great foundation that you have left for the new members to model. I look forward to working with the new committees and helping in any way possible so that things run smoothly in Symphony Village and we hope involve new faces and new ideas.

The Weekly Update will be delivered “door to door” beginning Friday, January 12. Please refer to the Libretto for detailed information, and please feel free to call me at 410-758-8500 with questions.

PLAN AHEAD!!! *Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat*, a colorful masterpiece by the legendary Andrew Lloyd Webber & Tim Rice.

We are planning to attend the matinee on Wednesday, April 18, 2007, at 2 p.m. at the DuPont Theatre in Wilmington, Delaware. Mezzanine tickets are \$47.00. I am reserving 25 seats at this time. (Cost for a bus is additional and depends on the number of tickets we sell).

We have to pay for the tickets in advance--so please bring a check payable to SV @ Centreville HOA (or I have a stamp) when you sign up. Mike Rose, Valerie Siegel's nephew, is in the play. The show has been playing to sold out crowds everywhere.

PAST SOCIAL EVENTS

High Tea



On Sunday, Dec. 17, High Tea was held in the Clubhouse. The tables were decorated with lovely china teapots and tea was poured into china teacups. Savories and sweets were served. The savories were delicious turkey, ham and cheese, cucumber, and raspberry butter sandwiches. The sweets were cream puffs, brownies, lemon bars and, of course, scones served with cream and strawberry jam. Every wonderful morsel was delicious. It was served well with many tea refills. More than fifty people enjoyed this tea and had the chance to visit with friends both old and new. After the tea, we gathered to sing Christmas songs with Joan Hennessey playing the piano. We thank Jan VanRiper and Doris Pullman and all their helpers for the tasty tea.

New Year's Eve



The residents of Symphony Village enjoyed a gala evening New Year's Eve at the Clubhouse. There were hors d'oeuvres available when we arrived followed by sandwiches, wraps, and a variety of delicious desserts. A DJ provided music for everyone to dance to on the new large dance floor. Many practiced their new line dancing moves. Father Time left at midnight and Baby New Year (Jack Hennessey) arrived after midnight to everyone's delight. We toasted the New Year with champagne and dancing continued for another hour. Linda Farrar and her committee did an outstanding job. Thanks to the many volunteers who helped with setup, tend the bar, food preparation, and cleanup.

Symphony Village Singles

On Wednesday, January 12, the Singles went for lunch at the Old Wharf restaurant in Chestertown. Everyone enjoyed the seafood and the view of the Chester River. We drove through the center of town rather than walking because of the cold weather. Our next outing will be on Wednesday, February 7. We will meet at the Clubhouse parking lot at 11:30 and drive to lunch at the Rustic Inn in Easton. After lunch we will view a 50's and 60's exhibit close by. We welcome anyone new to the community and hope everyone comes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

LIFE STYLES COMMITTEE

Calendar

- | | |
|------------|---|
| January 20 | Happy Hour |
| 26 | Movie Night – "Pirates of the Caribbean II" |
| 27 | Dining In |
| February 4 | Super Bowl Happy Hour – 6:00 p.m. |
| 5 | Lifestyles Meeting – 7:00 p.m. |
| 9 | Games Night |

Love is in the Air!!



Celebrate Valentine's Day at Symphony Village, Wednesday, February 14, 6:30 p.m. Dine on roast beef, Chicken Dijon, red bliss potatoes, seasoned rice, country-style green beans, tossed salad, rolls, cake and non-alcoholic beverage. BYOB or use Clubhouse bar. Dance to the music of a D.J. Tickets are \$28.00 per person. Come join the festivities. Sign up at the Clubhouse by February 7.

Book Clubs



We have two Book Clubs for residents in Symphony Village. The first has been in existence for two years and meets the 3rd Thursday of every month. All are welcome to join. Just read the book and come for discussion. The selection for January 18 is Neil Simon's *Rewrites, A Memoir*. The book for February is *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls.

The second Book Club, The Reading for Fun Book Club, meets the 3rd Tuesday of every month. The December selection was *Changing Habits* by Debbie Macomber. While it was more serious than some of our books, it was still very entertaining. In fact, Sister Mary Immaculata showed up and enlightened us about convent life. Guess who? Our hostess, JoAnn Milczakowski provided a delicious cake for dessert

For January, June Silverman chose *Marley and Me* by John Grogan. The story centers on a yellow Labrador retriever, and truly depicts the playful, if sometime unruly, behavior of that breed. It is about a six-hour read, but it is fun to read. Hope to see you on the 16th. Joan Studnicky has selected *The Camel Club* for our meeting on February 20th. We still have room for a few more members. Y'all come. Contact Jack Hennessey at 410-758-4872

Each month, one person volunteers to be the host. The host provides light refreshments and selects the book for that month. Come out and join the fun! All villagers are invited. Contacts are Jack Hennessey or Pat Kindle.

Dining Inn at Symphony Village



Dining Inn at Symphony will meet on Saturday, February 24th at 6:00 p.m. Anyone who would like to participate in this wonderful dining experience should sign up at the clubhouse and indicate whether you would prefer to be a guest or a host. The host home will have 6 people assigned to it (couples or singles) and they will bring the side dishes while the host will provide the main course and beverages. It is an easy way to entertain and a wonderful opportunity to get acquainted with your neighbors in a more intimate setting. This is not a gourmet group so don't worry about your cooking skills or entertaining lavishly. Just be willing to enjoy good company and a simple meal prepared by you and your neighbors. It is a lovely night out and you don't have to leave the village! The cut off date for signing up to participate will be February 15th. Give this new group a try—you will find it lots of fun!

Duckpin Bowling

Looking for something to do on a cold and dreary winter afternoon???? Come join several of your neighbors for a fierce competitive game of duckpin bowling every other Tuesday afternoon (our average is 70 per game!!! Ha! Ha!). It does not matter how long it has been (if ever) since you have bowled. Play for the unheard of price of only \$5.00 which includes 2 games of bowling, shoe rental, pizza and or hot dog, and a drink (socializing, fun and laughs included free of charge). Meet us on the clubhouse parking lot at 12:30 p.m. every other Tuesday beginning January 23, 2007. Contact Paul or Kay Blair if any question.

T'ai Chi Chuan



Are you considering starting an exercise program? Are you exercising now but would like to explore a way to enhance your existing routine? Do you have the desire to try something new; something that will challenge your mind as well as rejuvenate you body – all in the same workout? Why not try T'ai Chi!

T'ai Chi Chuan is an ancient Chinese exercise that promotes physical and mental harmony through slow rhythmic movements which emphasize relaxation, balance and coordination. Although T'ai Chi originated as a self-defense technique, it has been practiced in China for centuries as an art form, a religious ritual, a relaxation technique, and an excellent exercise for people of all ages.

T'ai Chi is often referred to as moving meditation because of the slow relaxed movements, the mental concentration and the balanced shifting of the body necessary to perform the various positions. This moving meditation involves dozens of fluid, graceful, dance-like postures resembling martial art in slow motion. The low impact harmonious movement of T'ai Chi strengthens your muscles, improves your balance and flexibility, and reduces everyday stress.

T'ai Chi also emphasizes movement of an individual's "CHI" or internal energy. The Chinese believe that in cultivating a person's CHI their existing ills may be cured and the chances of developing new ailments may be prevented, just by maintaining a healthy body and mind. By adding T'ai Chi to your present activities you can improve your feeling of well-being. As an added benefit, T'ai Chi is believed to have a positive effect on reducing arthritis pain and has been proven to lower high blood pressure.

T'ai Chi requires no special equipment or location and should be practiced in loose fitting clothing for maximum relaxation.

A new class will be starting on January 16, 2007 at 10:00 a.m. in the gym. The first class is free and open to all. If you have any questions call the instructor, Jordan Tuller at 410-604-3232.

SYMPHONY SNEAKERS UPDATE

December was a very busy month for our Sneakers Program. Many thanks to everyone for their help.

Santa Tree

The response to our Santa Tree was overwhelming. We were able to supply a great Christmas for four families, including 11 children. Each child received a bicycle, a skateboard, or a major toy they wished for as well as clothes and food for the holidays. At the last minute, a few of the Kennard Elementary School's "Adopt-A-Bear" wishes were not provided so we were able to supplement them.

Volunteers Worked

Volunteers were very busy the week before Christmas as we wrapped and sorted our gifts as well as many of the Adopt-A-Bear gifts at Kennard Elementary School. In addition, we separated and boxed food items for over 50 families.

On the Thursday before Christmas, we hosted the all-school book giveaway at Kennard. We received many thanks, especially from one class whose students wrote individual thank you notes. It is at times like this when you realize that not only are we appreciated, but that we are really making a difference in these students' reading lives.

Fuel Checks

One of our support activities is paying the fuel bills for families who do not have sufficient funds. Fuel checks for two families have been sent and additional payments will be made in the coming months.

Next Sneakers Meeting

Our February meeting has been cancelled. Our next Sneakers meeting will be Thursday, March 8, 2007, at 7:00 PM. Please note, once again, that everyone in Symphony Village is welcome to join us and encouraged to participate.

OUTREACH PROGRAM UPDATE

We wish to thank Lynda Teague for attending our monthly meeting and speaking about the how the Department of Social Services and QAC Council on Youth and Children aid the disadvantaged families in our area. They strive to help families in desperate situations become stabilized and maintain their family unit. The next step is to assist and counsel the families to be independent using several different agencies. They accomplish a great deal on an extremely limited budget. Currently, they need a freezer for a pantry housed at their offices across from the Food Lion Shopping Center. If anyone would like to donate a used or new freezer or help in any way, please call Lynda at 443-262-9053.

Hospice of QAC will hold their annual Gala on Friday, February 9, at Hunter's Oak Heathland Manor House. Guests will be able to dance to the swing tunes of "BC's Big Rhythm Sound" and enjoy samples of signature dishes from many of the county's most exclusive restaurants. Tickets are \$150 per person and proceeds from the celebration support the programs at Hospice. For reservations, contact Deborah Davis at 410-643-6609. Hospice Lottery Calendars are available at \$25 for those of you who would like to take a chance on some cash prizes and help fund a good cause. Each day they will offer a jackpot matching the Maryland State "Pick 3" to a number on the calendars. To get in on the fun, call 410-643-6609.

The Chesterwye Center is a private nonprofit organization providing day, vocational & residential services to adults with developmental disabilities. They currently provide six homes for 23 individuals and support for 65 individuals in their day program, which offers jobs and training. On Sunday, 1/28/07, a Longaberger Basket Bingo will be held at the American Legion on Route 8 in Stevensville

starting at 1:00 p.m. Food will be offered starting at 11:00 a.m. Proceeds of the bingo will be used to purchase kitchen equipment for a new building at Chesterwye. Please come if you love bingo, Longaberger Baskets or just want to have fun and help this wonderful organization. For more information or donations call Bobby Ann Nash at 410-643-5196.

Our next meeting will be Wednesday, February 7th at 7:00 p.m. in the Club House. We will be discussing plans for the House Tour 2007, so please come and bring your ideas.

Outreach to Department of Social Services

Lynda Teague, Symphony Village resident who is interning at the Department of Social Services (DSS), met with the SV Outreach Committee on January 9, 2007, to inform the committee about the needs of the local DSS in the areas of support for child welfare and underprivileged elderly citizens. The DSS is a Maryland State Agency. The local office in Centreville services the residents of Queen Anne's County.

Nancy Roe, who works for QA County and maintains an office at the DSS, is the contact person for donations. Nancy often works to alleviate crisis situations for local residents. For this reason monetary donations would be greatly appreciated since financial resources provide the most expedient means to meet the needs of families in crisis. Donations can also be made in the form of gift cards for groceries, gas, and department stores like Kmart or Wal-Mart. The DSS is also appreciative of donations of paper products (e.g., paper towels, toilet paper), toiletries, diapers and baby formula. The agency is not currently equipped to accept any perishable items, but items such as boxed milk and canned meats will help to keep the agency food pantry stocked.

The DSS, and Nancy Roe specifically, are associated with The Queen Anne's County Council for Children and Youth, Inc. The council was established in 1978 to serve children up to age 21 and their families. The purposes of the Council is to identify educational, health, and social needs of children and their families, to assist in the organization of community resources, and to be an advocate for children and their families.

This council accepts donations that will be used to serve Queen Anne's County. The council is an IRS-registered 501-3C non-profit organization. Tax-deductible private monetary donations can be made to Queen Anne's County for Children and Youth, P.O. Box 281, Centreville, MD, 21617. Donations can also be channeled through the SV Outreach Committee. Donations of gift cards, food, diapers, baby formula, etc. can be taken to the DSS, 125 Comet Drive, Centerville, MD, or may be dropped off to Lynda Teague, 181 Symphony Way, telephone: 443-262-9053.

House Tour



Mark your calendars for April 28th, the day of the Symphony Village House Tour sponsored by the Outreach Committee. It is the House Tour which makes most of our charitable donations and activities financially possible. Last year's House Tour was a huge success and we had a great time working together to create this wonderful event. We are looking for anyone who is interested in helping on the House Tour Committee and homeowners who would be

willing to show their home. This year we are providing booties for our guests to wear as they tour the homes in an effort to limit wear and tear on our floors and carpets. Don't think your home has to be ready for *House Beautiful* to show it. People who opened their homes last year thoroughly enjoyed the experience and all the praise heaped upon them. Joyce Ryan is the Chairperson and if you would like to show your home or work on a committee, please call at 410-758-2136, or Beth Dewhirst at 410-758-0944. We look forward to hearing from you.

Caregivers Support Group

The Outreach Committee is in the process of establishing a Caregivers' Support Group within Symphony Village. We recognize that there are many of us who are responsible for the care of a family member or who will be faced with the care of a family member in the near future. We envision this group as a forum for sharing our experiences, concerns and the knowledge we have gained from being caregivers. We also plan to invite speakers who will enlighten us on various topics, whether it is the emotional aspects of placing one's parent in a nursing home or the legal responsibilities that need to be addressed. There are many resources available and we hope this group will be a support to those who are given the responsibility of caring for someone.

We are fortunate to have Judy Hamm living in Symphony Village. Judy has volunteered to be the mentor for the group. She comes to us with 20 years of experience--first as a long-term care nurse and then as a nursing home director. She has a real passion for caring for the elderly and their families as they work together in making difficult choices about a loved one's care. Our first meeting will be Monday, January 29, at 10:00 a.m. at the home of Dorothy Hamm: 231 Concerto Ave. If you have been given the responsibility of caring for someone, we welcome you to this group where you will find support as well as warm friendships as we travel this road together. If you have any questions feel free to call Beth Dewhirst: 410-758-0944.

Neighbor to Neighbor

Carole Goodrich has graciously volunteered to be our Recording Secretary. The next meeting of Neighbor to Neighbor is Tuesday, January 23, at 7:00 p.m. in the Symphony Room. All are invited to attend.

ADVERTISING IN THE LIBRETTO!

With the January issue, the Publication and Communication Committee have started a page of ADS that we hope will become two pages soon. See last page of newsletter.

You can place an ad by using your business card which should be scanner ready.

As stated in previous issues of the Libretto, both monthly and extended contracts are available. The price per unit (approximately 2" X 3.5" to accommodate most business size cards) is as follows:

\$20.00/month for residents - \$25.00/month for nonresidents
Please note this would be for a one time ad in the Libretto

A 3-month contract: \$50.00 for residents - \$65.00 for nonresidents

A 6-month contract: \$85.00 for residents - \$115.00 for nonresidents

A 1 year contract: \$150.00 for residents - \$200.00 for nonresidents

**FROM THE KITCHEN OF....
Jan DiCarlantonio**

Corn Casserole

Ingredients:

2 eggs, beaten	1-1/2 cups shredded cheddar cheese
3 (15 oz.) cans cream-style corn	½ cup chopped onion
1 (8 oz.) container sour cream	1 (4 oz.) can diced green chilies
¼ cup butter, melted	1 (8.5 oz.) pkg. dry corn muffin mix
3 (15.25 oz.) cans whole kernel corn, drained	

Directions:

1. Preheat oven to 350 degrees F (175 degrees C). Grease a large disposable aluminum casserole pan or a large Pyrex casserole.
2. In a large mixing bowl, combine eggs, cream style corn, sour cream and melted butter. Stir in whole kernel corn, cheese, onion and chilies. Stir in the corn muffin mix until just moistened.
3. Bake in a preheated oven 350 degrees F (175 degrees C) oven for 75 minutes, or until an inserted knife comes out clean and the top is golden. Let stand 5 minutes before serving.

Serves at least 20.

Note: I used ¾ of a bag of Penguin cornbread muffin mix which I purchased at Costco and makes the BEST corn muffins.

FEATURE ARTICLE OF THE MONTH

Meet Your Neighbor, Jack Hennessy

By now, many of you have seen the article in the *Meet Your Neighbor* Column in the Queen Anne Update. If you haven't, allow me to introduce Symphony Village's own resident author, Jack Hennessy. Jack has written a delightful Christmas story, *The Tree with No Lights*, published by Amazon Publishing just in time for the holidays. It is a heart-warming story intended to teach children about birds. It is the tale of Johnny Wood, who wants to enter the tree in his front yard in Pineville's annual Christmas tree contest. But Johnny cannot afford to buy decorations. Johnny has faithfully fed his bird friends all

winter long, and they give him a wonderful surprise when the contest judges pass his house on Christmas Eve. *The Tree with No Lights* is illustrated by Laura Hemsley, a local artist, and is available for purchase at Amazon.com. Jack will also be happy to personally autograph your copy

Joan Hennessy, Jack's wife, who loves birds, was the inspiration for the book, and Jack has dedicated it to his 12 grandchildren and great grandchild. He has been doing local readings of his book, and has even composed a song that he sings to the children. Jack admits he has had no formal musical training, but Joan has put the notes down on paper.

Jack was born and raised in New Jersey and came to the Eastern Shore because he and his family loved boating and crabbing. They first settled on the Wye River and later moved to Symphony Village. Jack is chairman of the Reading for Fun book club here, where he has appeared at meetings in costumes that pertain to the stories the group is reading. Some of you may also recognize him as Father Time and the Spirit of the New Year at our New Year's Eve party.

Jack has earned one degree in physics for St. Joseph's University in Pennsylvania, and worked as a rocket scientist and in nuclear science. He has always continued his education and has earned degrees in economics, law, theater and accounting, and is currently studying Spanish, and taking lessons in woodcarving. He also is active in theater production, and is chairman of the Symphony Village Garden Club. In fact, his next book, called *The March of the Flowers*, is a story with a song that will teach children about annuals, perennials, bulbs and other flowers. He says he wants to influence children about nature at a young age, instead of technology being their major influence.

As if all this is not enough, Jack is also chairman of the Queen Anne's County Red Cross Blood Drive in Stevensville on February 3 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. He has personally donated 30 *gallons* of blood to the Red Cross, and wants to remind all of his neighbors to donate if at all possible.

Thank You from Bill and Joyce Edmonston

We wish to thank all of our fellow Villagers who came to the December 15 Happy Hour/Anniversary Party hosted by Bill and me.

You made the event both memorable and fun and we very much appreciate all of your participation and good wishes. We are indeed very blessed to be living in this Village among such special people as all of you and we can now start to work on our next 50 years together.

In addition we greatly appreciate Nick and Bel Barbalace who faithfully stocked the bar and took care of the champagne toast to celebrate this special event.

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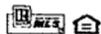
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