

LIBRETTO

Symphony Village's Newsletter

December, 2008

Vol. III No.12

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.

New Homeowners

Symphony Village welcomes—OOPS!

Ira and **Judy** Ehrenfeld **** 255 Opera Court (sorry Judy)

Directory Updating: To update your entry in the Symphony Village Directory, contact John Schultz, 443-262-9181, schultz@schultzzy.org. Thank you for your help in keeping our Directory accurate.

Welcome Evening for New Residents

All new residents are invited to a “Welcome Evening” on Wednesday, January 28, at 7 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 Linda Blume at 410-758-3194 so we can plan appropriately. If you have been previously invited and were not able to come, please feel free to attend. Again, call Carol or sign up.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

PUBLICATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

January Libretto

In January Carol Hodges and George Drake will be away. As a result, it will be necessary for articles to be mailed to Brenda Kelly at stoltz1958.yahoo.com. All ads need to be given to George by January 6. Any questions on ads after that should go to Gil Hoffman gilhoffman@atlanticbb.net or John Schultz schultzzy@schultzzy.org.

LIFESTYLE UPDATE

Thank You



The Lifestyle Committee sends a big thank you to all who turned out with a delicious pot of soup (recipe for one of the soups is at the end of the *Libretto*) on the first day of December. It was good to be together to decorate our beautiful Clubhouse for the holiday season.

Happy Hour

Be sure to mark your calendar for the **biggest happy hour of the year**, which takes place on Saturday, December 20. Our dear friend Bo from Doc's Grill will entertain us with his good music. Get your dancing feet ready! Please bring an appetizer. Dessert will be provided. A donation of \$5 will be taken at the door to cover cleaning expenses and to make a donation to Bo's favorite charity.

New Year's Eve



The New Year's Eve party will begin at 8:30 p.m. on Wednesday, December 31. Once again there will be a DJ for listening and dancing. A light fare buffet and dessert will be provided along with a champagne toast at midnight.

The 2008 committee has enjoyed planning the year's social events. The 2009 committee will soon be organized for another year of good times. Continue to give them your support.



Who can I get to do some plumbing? *See pages 12 to 15!*

OUTREACH UPDATE

Outreach News and Notes

Planning is in high gear for the House Tour taking place on April 25. We can still use a few more helpers to assist with marketing and other chores. **Are YOU able to help?**

Our **next general meeting** is Tuesday, January 6, at 7 p.m. We hope to have a speaker from Chesterwye give a presentation at this time. Our **next House Tour Committee meeting** is Tuesday, January 13. New members are always welcome!

Everyone at Outreach is sending out warm wishes to all of our village friends for a festive and healthy holiday season! **E N J O Y !**

Outreach Program Helps Finance QAC Youth and Children Holiday Party

Queen Anne's County Council on Youth and Children is operated by the QAC Social Services.



They held a Holiday Party for about fifty needy families on December 12 at Queen Anne County High School. The families who were invited are those who receive some form of assistance from the QAC Health Department, QAC Social Services, or local churches. Santa was present and gave gifts to every child. There were games, crafts, and refreshments for all the families. The families really look forward to and enjoy this party.

Symphony Village Outreach Program is a proud financial sponsor of this event. The funds for these activities are available through your support of the Outreach Program's events. Thank you

for your generous participation in our 2008 fundraisers!!! You have made it possible for the Outreach Program to reach out to our fellow neighbors in Symphony Village and to make a substantial positive impact in the Centreville area.

Thank You From Jack Walsh And Family

“You have a caring community at Symphony Village, we would like you to have Ann’s luncheon here.” That message from Dorothy Hamm and Marlene Tennier solved a difficulty for me: where to have, on short notice, a luncheon for the guests who would attend my wife’s funeral. With merely one-day notice, a delicious and abundant lunch was prepared and served by Symphony Village residents at the Clubhouse.

I tried that day to thank the volunteers who donated food, served, or tended bar. I’m sure I missed some because they were numerous. So, I want to thank publicly all who contributed in any way. My family, friends, and I were impressed by such a gracious community accomplishment. I still receive compliments. It was a tribute to Ann whose life was nourished and, I’m sure, extended by living and volunteering at Symphony Village for 4 ½ years after her cancer diagnosis.

It was also a tribute to the residents. Generosity and hospitality radiated that day from each person working the luncheon. My cousin said, “How fortunate you are; I want to live at a place like this when I retire.” Yes, I am fortunate and grateful. I hope each of you is heartened, knowing that you are a member of a benevolent community.

A Tribute to Ann Walsh



The current and former staffs of the *Libretto* would like to honor Ann's memory with grateful recognition for her service as the first editor of the Newsletter. She set a high bar, indeed. In her gentle, kind, knowledgeable and firm way, she led us to create a vehicle that we believe serves our community well. We are thankful for her leadership, talent, and grace. We are including an item in this month's *Libretto* which Ann submitted as a “Volunteer in Action” in June 2006. We feel this captures all that was Ann.

Volunteers in Action by Ann Walsh

During the last few years of my nursing career I always said, “When I retire I am going to work with Hospice.” This goal, I’m sure, originated when my family experienced the wonderful care of Hospice volunteers at the time of my father’s death. Witnessing the birth of a child is a joy like no other, truly God’s miracle, and everyone wants to be part of that experience. Well, at the other end of life’s continuum, be it long or short, being with someone as they are waiting God’s final call is an experience not so much like the joy of a birth but truly an experience of God’s presence, a peaceful surrender by most present.

Being a volunteer for Hospice does not require a nursing background. When I receive a call to visit a patient, I never know just what my visit will be like, but there is always the opportunity to do small things for another, such as holding a hand, sometimes shedding a tear as a patient ponders the “why,” listening as they tell their stories, reading or saying a prayer, offering your heart as

you search with them the meaning of life, their suffering, their pain, giving ice chips to parched lips, fluffing their pillow, playing music, maybe even lighting their cigarette, telling them they are loved or being a presence to them. These things, although seem small, are the opportunities to share one's self with another.

Being a volunteer relieves the family member who is caring for the patient while he or she runs to the store, takes a child to gymnastics practice, or just to get out and cut the lawn; then again, it may involve being supportive to family's members during the last 24-48 hours of their loved one's life, as volunteers keep vigil day and night. Hospice Staff provides excellent volunteer training each spring and fall – training not only to be a volunteer but a training that causes one to reflect on one's own thoughts of dying and the whole meaning of life. Indeed....The Hospice volunteer experience has been for me the realization of the Biblical quote: "There is a season for everything.... A time for giving birth, a time for dying, ...a time of healing.... a time for tears... for laughter... for mourning.... a time for keeping silent... a time for loving...a time of peace." (Ecclesiastes 3:1-8).



Who can I use for my dentist? *See pages 12 to15!*

SYMPHONY SNEAKERS UPDATE

2008 Highlights

2008 has been an exciting year for Sneakers, including book giveaways, chess night support, scholarships, Christmas present and food distribution, filling special requests from the local schools, and, of course, our annual silent auction. It is great to be part of an organization that brings joy to others in our town. One resident recently shared with us that a local business owner, upon learning that the customer lived in Symphony Village, complimented our residents on all the good work that was being done in the Centreville schools by the Symphony Village community. In this season of giving and good cheer, what better compliment than to realize that the efforts of our neighbors are appreciated by the town. We are sure that 2009 will be very busy, as well, so we encourage all residents of Symphony Village to be active in Sneakers. We have finalized the results of our Silent Auction, and, in case you did not know, thanks to your generosity, the net proceeds were \$9,681.

December 2008

December, so far, has been a busy month as all of the items on the Santa Tree were selected and the gifts came back beautifully wrapped. These packages have been delivered to the schools, where they will be distributed to the families we "adopted" this year, along with purchased food products, as well as canned goods collected by the students, helping make the holidays a little brighter for these families. Sneakers workers sorted the canned goods (including discarding outdated products). We also held our holiday book giveaway and have purchased more books for future book distributions. Please watch for notices to sign up for the winter dates. Our next

three giveaways are scheduled as follows: January 29-30 – Muffins For Moms; February 19-20 – Donuts For Dads; and March 5 – Dr. Seuss all school book giveaway.

Future Activities

In addition to the book giveaways at Kennard, we have been requested to support a Math Extravaganza at Centreville Elementary in January. The school would like assistance in distributing refreshments. Finally, it will soon be time to begin the process of providing college scholarships to deserving high school graduating seniors.

Thank You

We want to thank all residents for their hard work and dedication in making this year such a success. We are looking forward to next year with the desire that we can continue the support we provide to the local schools and students and hope that we can, where possible, expand our assistance.

Next Meeting

Our next Sneakers meeting will be Monday, December 15, at 6:30 p.m. in the Clubhouse. We are always looking for more help. Please come to a meeting. Everyone is welcome.

Our January meeting will be Wednesday, January 14, at 6:30 p.m.



Who can I get to do my **taxes**? *See pages 12 to15!*

SYMPHONY SSINGLES

On November 15 a small group of singles went to Doc's for dinner. Following the meal we joined a group from Symphony Village at Church Hill Theatre to see a wonderful production of *Our Town*. We all commented on how we enjoyed the play.

On December 9 the SSingles went to the Killarney Restaurant for an Irish lunch and to Homestead Gardens to see the beautiful Christmas displays and to shop for the season. A good time was had by all.

There will be a **brunch** on January 25 at 1 p.m. at the Clubhouse. Join friends and neighbors for light fare and good conversation. All singles are invited to join us. Sign up in the Activities Book by January 20.



Who can I get to install my new HDTV and audio system? *See ads on pages 12 to15!*

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



WHO'S WHO IN SYMPHONY VILLAGE?!



When you meet someone for the first time, do you have difficulty remembering the name that goes with the face, or vice-versa? Have you ever met someone at the Clubhouse, and forgotten his or her name by the time you see the person again -- or, worse yet, by the time it takes to walk to your car?

WELL, HELP IS ON THE WAY!

The Publication and Communication Committee will create a photo directory on the Symphony HOA website. We will start with pictures from the cruise and the recent Happy Hour, and add photos that will be taken during the 2008 holiday celebrations. While you're enjoying the festivities, don't be surprised if someone walks up to you and says, "Smile for the Symphony Photo Directory!"

If you (and your mate) already have an electronic version of your favorite photo that you would like to have in the directory, please send it via email to Charlene Smallwood Brown, at gsmallw594@aol.com. Include "Symphony Photo" in the subject line of your email, and your name(s) in the message. If you have only a hardcopy photo, and you do not have a scanner, please contact Gil Hoffman at 410-758-3519 (or via email at gilhoffman@atlanticbb.net to make arrangements to have it scanned into the system.

In January 2009, we will begin populating the Symphony Photo Directory at a secure location on our website, and we will continue with iterative updates as we receive photos of all willing residents.

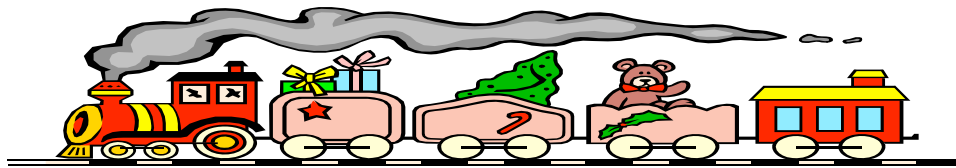
Resident Referral Program

Congratulations! We are proud to announce that Pat and Jack Tominovich of Orchestra Place are the winners of a \$100 Gift Certificate to the Kent Manor Inn for participating in the resident referral contest. Caruso Homes and the Symphony Village team would like to thank all who participated in our resident referral program. The resident who sends the most referrals between December 11 and January 10 will receive a \$100 gift certificate to Annie's Paramount Steak and Seafood House. If you have any questions, or need more referral cards, please stop by the Sales Center. Good Luck!

Thanks From Jan Van Riper

I'd like to thank all of Symphony Village for the wonderful party that you gave for me on Friday, December 5. I really enjoyed being able to just "party" with all of you. I'd like to thank you for the fabulous gifts and for the gift certificates. I had a great time shopping on Saturday. Please accept this message as my "thank you" through the *Libretto* for fear that I might miss someone.

As I mentioned to some of you at the party, I am at The River Plantation (Hunters Oak) and I hope you will come over sometime and visit me. My phone number is: 410-827-7029 ext. 309. I wish you all a Happy Holiday and Happy New Year.



CHRISTMAS TRAIN LAYOUT

Hear Ye, Hear Ye Calling all kids 1 to 102 years old. Again this year, you are welcomed to come and enjoy a Christmas Train Layout at Paul & Kay Blair's home at 133 Encore Court (410-758-2119) and at Larry & Betty Gingerich's home at 355 Overture Way (410-758-3102). Open house will be each Saturday and Sunday from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. through January 4 (If this time does not work for visiting family, please phone and we will try to accommodate your needs.) Santa's helper (aka Kay) will have cookie treats for all good girls and boys.

Recycling the Recycle Plea in Symphony Village!



Infinity Recycling would like more of the Symphony Village residents to participate in the recycling program. It is a nonprofit organization. They recycle corrugated cardboard, newspapers, magazines, cans, plastic, glass, etc. Please give them a call at 410-778-5949 or email centreville_ship@verizon.net to let them know you are interested in participating. They will drop off containers with instructions.

CLUBS AND CLASSES

Free Zumba Demonstrations December 16 and 18

Caryn Martin will be doing two free Zumba "Gold" demonstrations next week! Zumba Gold is specifically designed for active older adults and the less fit exerciser.

Session 1: Tuesday December 16 from 6 to 6:45 p.m.

Session 2: Thursday December 18 from 10 to 10:45 a.m.



What is Zumba?

Zumba eliminates the work of working out by combining amazing, irresistible Latin and international music with dynamic, yet simple exercise moves, using their unique intermittent training format. It's a Latin-dance inspired phenomenon that is sweeping

the world into fitness. While Zumba embraces all the fundamental principles of fitness, the extraordinary secret behind Zumba is how Zumba magically motivates the body to efficiently burn calories, effectively tone all muscle groups, incorporate full range of motion, and improve the cardiovascular system. Fun and music are the two special motivational ingredients. Utilizing the natural beat, tempo, and music transitions, the Zumba dances seamlessly flow from one toning, strengthening, or cardio move into the next. Participants are constantly engaged and entertained with the variety of rhythms including salsa, merengue, samba, belly dancing, cumbia, flamenco, reggaeton, and more! Even those with two left feet are successful in a Zumba class because of the natural flow of the simple steps that radiate through the body in synch with the music.

Please sign up in the Activities Book and join Caryn on December 16 or 18. (Caryn's contact phone number is 301-254-5300.)

The "Gazebo Gang" Symphony Village Garden Club

The weather has slowed most activity in the garden club. However, on Sunday, December 7, several brave souls faced the wind and planted 80 tulip bulbs. Larry Hodges made short work of drilling the holes with his drill bit. The old clay soil was discarded. Shirley Clark followed behind, putting special tulip fertilizer in each hole. Carol Hodges and Duke Clark carefully placed tulip bulbs in each hole. Jack Hennessey and Larry followed them filling the holes with good topsoil and tamping them down. You will have to wait until next spring to see what special tulips were planted. Come see the Christmas tree in the gazebo. We



will have caroling one evening when it is not too cold. Watch for our notice. Hopefully, we will tour the village. Get your voices tuned up

The Reading For Fun Book Club

The book club met on November 18 at the Clubhouse to discuss the book of the month, *The Story of Edgar Sawtelle*, selected by Joan Hennessey. Most dog lovers enjoyed the book, although opinions varied. The rating by Book Browse was 4.8, on a scale of 1 to 5. The rating by club members was 3.76. Most people were disappointed in the ending of the story. Joan provided a delicious peanut butter pie and coffee for dessert. The selection for December is *The Shack*, by William Paul Young. We will meet at the Clubhouse on December 16 to discuss this selection. The discussion of this novel should be very interesting! The plot is certainly clever. The recommended book for January is *The Home At Sugar Beach* by Helene Cooper. All residents are invited to join in the discussion and enjoy coffee and dessert! Y'all come!

Exploring Maryland Heritage Group

The Maryland Heritage Group got off to a fabulous start in November! There were thirty residents who came to the talk on "Kent Island: The First Landing" by Nancy Cook, from the Kent Island Heritage Society. Thank you for making that evening such a success.

Now we offer you another opportunity to learn more about the Eastern Shore. On Wednesday, January 28, 2009, we will be taking a field trip to the Chesapeake Exploration Center at Kent Narrows with optional lunch to follow at Fisherman's Inn. An overview of the history of the building will be given and a tour of the museum. There are also things to see on the grounds of this facility including a skipjack.

We hope to see all of you who came in November and please bring a neighbor with you. This promises to be a fun and informative event. We will meet at the Clubhouse at 9:45 to car pool and arrive at the center about 10:15 and lunch will be about 12:15. Please sign up in the book at the Clubhouse and check the column "yes" or "no" for lunch. We will be making reservations at the restaurant so we need to have a count. Thank you and see you then.

Legacy Institute for the Environment

Three local environmental concerns--The Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center (CBEC), Adkins Arboretum, and Pickering Creek Audubon Center-- have partnered to offer an exciting learning and volunteer opportunity to adults age 50+ who have a particular interest in environmental stewardship, education, conservation, restoration, and research. For the sixth year, they will host the "Legacy Institute on the Environment" - a program of instructional sessions, hands-on field experiences, and volunteer service. Environmental experts from key organizations will guide and facilitate the learning experiences. Among past cooperating organizations and agencies are the Chesapeake Bay Foundation, Chesapeake Bay Trust, NOAA, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, Environmental Protection Agency, and others. This free program takes place in March and April 2009. If you are interested in learning more about the Institute, please look for information on the CBEC website, www.BayRestoration.org or contact Patty Campbell. Ph: 410-604-1661, E-mail: pcamp@BayRestoration.org <mailto:pcamp@BayRestoration.org>.



Who can I get to deliver my prescription? *See pages 12 to 15!*

OF LOCAL INTEREST

Lights on the Bay



Lights on the Bay, the Anne Arundel Medical Center's popular holiday light show at Sandy Point State Park, will continue through January 4, 2009. Operating from 5-10 p.m. nightly, the show features more than 70 illuminated and animated displays along the shores of the Chesapeake Bay. This year's celebration features three lighted tunnels, a

colonial village modeled after historic Annapolis, and a display of midshipmen tossing their hats in the air. Proceeds benefit the Anne Arundel Medical Center Foundation and tickets can be purchased at the park gate for \$14 per car, \$28 per minibus or trolley, and \$50 per coach bus. For more information, call 443-481-3161.

Christmas Garden of Trains

The Cambridge Rescue and Fire Company presents a holiday-themed train display from **December 1 to December 31**. Call 410-228-1670 for information.

Black and White Exhibition

Visit an unusual exhibition taking place from **December 4 to December 27** at the Chestertown Arts League (312 Cannon Street). Featured are pen and ink as well as pencil drawings, etchings, woodcuts, photography, and other mediums, all executed in black and white. Call 410-778-5789 for information.

Enchanted Campground

Take a ride through festive twinkling lights around Martinak State Park from **December 15 to December 31**, 6-9 p.m. A box will be available for monetary donations, which will go to Hospice of Caroline County. See www.dnr.state.md.us/publiclands/eastern/martinak.html for more information.

Nature Tales for Tots

The Ward Museum of Wildfowl Art in Salisbury presents “Nature Tales for Tots: Hibernation” on **December 17**, 10-11 a.m. For information, call 410-742-4988.

SPECIAL REMINDERS

- Clubhouse Phone Number (Dennis and Laura)—410-758-8500
- Laura Wright’s email--symphonyclub@atlanticbbn.net
- Dennis Sesplankis’ email--dsesplankis@legumnorman.com
- Warranty Office—301-261-0277 ext. 135, Katherine Zell
- George Bachman—301-261-0277 ext.211; email--gbachman@carusohomes.com
- Recycling--410-778-5949



**The *Libretto* Staff Wishes All Our Symphony Village
Friends and Neighbors
A Happy and Joyous Holiday Season**

Recipe of the Month

Pasta Fagioli

from the kitchen of Jan DiCarlantonio



4 tablespoons olive oil
3 cloves of garlic, minced
2 shallots, diced
1 small onion, chopped
2 carrots, chopped

2 stalks of celery, diced
1 lb. bulk sausage or ground beef
4 cans diced Italian tomatoes (S&W)
3 cans of small white beans (S&W)
1 can chicken broth

Italian Seasonings

1 tablespoon oregano
1 tablespoon Italian mixture
2 teaspoons thyme

2 teaspoons basil
1 teaspoon rosemary
1 bay leaf

2-1/2 cups small pasta, cooked (ditalini)
Grated Romano/Parmesan cheese

Heat oil in a Dutch oven or deep pan. Sauté onion, shallots, celery and garlic. Add carrots and sauté. Add sausage to pan and brown. Chop tomatoes in blender by pulsing on and off. Add to mixture in pan. Add seasonings. Cook for 1 hour. Add beans and chicken broth. Add cooked pasta. Serve with grated cheese.

Serve with warm Italian bread. Dip in olive oil with drizzles of balsamic vinegar swirled in.

Do not add all of the cooked pasta; keep some to add to the soup the next time it is reheated. If all of the pasta is added in the beginning, the second time it is heated, the pasta swells too much.

Makes about 6 cups.



Where can I get medical equipment? *See pages 12 to 15!*



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