

Symphony Village's Newsletter

October 2014 Vol. IX - No. 10

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.



Charlie & Cathie Levay 134 Orchestra Place

Earl & Rosemary Marquette 102 Sonata Way Tom & Kathy McManus 137 Symphony Way

Michael & Joyce Ordun 133 Symphony Way

Quarterly HOA Board of Directors Meeting — Friday, October 24, 10 a.m.

MUSINGS FROM THE BOARD

Symphony Village Homeowners Budget Process

It is that time again to work on next year's budget (2015). Determining the amount of our HOA fees for Symphony Village is simple mathematics. (Total estimated operating expenses + Annual Reserve Contribution) / (Number of settled homes + estimated settlements over the next fiscal year) = HOA fees.

Once the draft budget is compiled, the Budget and Finance Committee reviews it and makes their recommendations to the HOA Board. The HOA Board reviews the draft and takes the Operations Committee's recommendations for their proposed projects and the Budget and Finance Committee's comments into consideration.

Once the HOA Board has come to an agreement on the draft budget, it is then required to be distributed to each homeowner at least thirty days prior to the Annual Meeting of the Homeowners Association, where the acceptance of the budget will be voted on by the Board. This is every resident's opportunity to make their comments and concerns known. If you have substantive comments about the budget, you should email them to Dennis well in advance of the Annual Meeting so they may be considered. Waiting until the meeting to make your issues known will not provide an opportunity to give them timely consideration.

Meet the Candidates Forum

A forum will be held November 12 at 9:30 a.m. and November 13 at 6:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse to meet the candidates running for the HOA Board of Directors.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

LIFESTYLE COMMITTEE – Donna Donaldson, Chair, and Carolyn Harty Vice-Chair

OK folks.....turn your clocks **BACK** an hour on Saturday night, November 1, to wake up on Sunday at the right time. But do not despair; it's only 67 days until the days start getting longer!!!!!

By the way, we are seeking signups beginning January 2015 for Guest Bartending and have included the new sign-up sheet in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse. This is a fantastic way to meet your neighbors. No experience is needed. Sign up in the Activities Book for a Friday or Saturday Happy Hour, include your phone number, and be ready to party!

We also encourage our residents, especially new ones, to sign up to host Happy Hour. What is really fun is thinking of a theme, like a Mexican night, or adding music, or planning a game like charades or trivia. Hosting involves arriving about 30 minutes early, helping to put out plates, napkins, and tableware, meeting and greeting people as they arrive, mingling with the other residents throughout the evening, cleaning off the tables, gathering up the trash, and making sure the floors look good. Members of the Lifestyle Committee are there to assist as needed.

Don't forget October 18 is **The Great Fall Garage/Yard Sale**. See details below. Cost is \$5 per house to cover advertising and balloons. The sale will begin at 8 a.m. Then DJ Bo is coming back that Saturday night for a **Motown Saturday Night Happy Hour**.

We are looking for a DJ for a country/western hoedown for the November Saturday Night Happy Hour. Any thoughts?

Signups are available for the **Radio City Christmas Spectacular**. We have a few seats left!!! Don't miss this one!!!! See details below.

Information about the Holiday Decorations and Potluck Supper is in a separate article in this *Libretto*. **SAVE THE DATES!!**

<u>Movie Night</u> – Friday, October 17, 7 p.m. Tom Hanks in the Disney movie *Saving Mr. Banks*, which is about the hoops and barricades that the writer of Mary Poppins (Emma Thompson) put Mr. Disney through, as well as her life lessons and the changes that were forged in her perspectives.

- GARAGE SALE Saturday, October 18. Sign up so that a balloon can be tied to your lamp post early Saturday morning. The sale begins at 8 a.m. (of course we all know that buyers hit the neighborhood early!). Residents of Centreville always look forward to our sale and the ads will run in all the papers during the week of October 12, including Sunday. Start making your For Sale list now (or a To Buy list!). Cost is \$5 per house to cover advertising and the balloons.
- <u>Happy Hour</u> Saturday, October 18, 6 p.m. Come join us. Donna Donaldson will be your guest bartender, and Bo will be spinning Motown and 60's hits for dancing! Bring a few dollars to donate to Hospice in Bo's name in lieu of any fee that he could charge. We will be passing a basket during the evening.
- Children's Hallowe'en Party Saturday, October 25 at 2 p.m.
- <u>Lifestyle Committee Meeting</u> Monday, **November 3**, 7 p.m. <u>All residents are welcome and encouraged to attend.</u> Everyone attending gets

a voice!

- <u>Lunch Bunch</u> Thursday, **November 6**, at 12:30 p.m. at Hunters Oak Tavern. Hunter's Oak is located at 500 Amberly Farm Lane, Queenstown. If you need a ride, please call Bea Trotta at 410-758-0332 or Marge Strano at 410-758-2511. A sign-up sheet is in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse. We look forward to seeing you there.
- <u>Happy Hour</u> Friday, **November 7**, 6 p.m. finds Ron Dillon in the guest bartender spot, serving up fun and libations!
- <u>Happy Hour</u> Saturday, **November 15**, 6 p.m. This is one of those really weird months that the 3rd Saturday falls just one week after the 1st Friday.
- Radio City Christmas Spectacular Friday,
 December 12, \$150 per person. Cost includes
 bagel breakfast, orchestra seating, bus
 transportation, and all taxes and driver tip. Dinner
 is on your own. Departure time: 7:15 a.m. from
 the Clubhouse and will return at 9:15 p.m. Sign
 up: in the Activities Book. Signups are also



available for anyone who would like to take the bus trip, but does not wish to attend the show. Cost for the bus ride only is \$65/person, and you are on your own in NYC but of course required to be back to the bus for the return trip.

• <u>SAVE THE DATE</u> – Saturday, **December 20**, marks the day for our annual Holiday Happy Hour. Plans are in the making. Watch this space, as well as Blast, Google Groups, and Facebook for more information. Want to help with the planning? Come to our meeting November 3.

OUTREACH – Bea Trotta, President

Bingo Winner



Rebecca CLAY was the first jackpot winner (with a \$350 purse) at the Friday night bingo game sponsored by Outreach. Rebecca is the granddaughter of Ron and Gail BROWN and is a sophomore at Queen Anne's County High School.

Sixth Annual Food Drive to Begin Soon!



Reminder: Start Planning for Your Food Drive Contribution!

Your SV Outreach will be collecting food for our sixth annual delivery to QAC Social Services. <u>The drive will take place from November 12-16</u> with delivery on November 17 (in time for Thanksgiving distribution).

<u>Select a convenient "drop-off" house from the following list for your food donation.</u> The house you select does NOT have to be on your street.

Sue & Dave Peterson	635 Harmony	Jim & Carlene Cooke	225 Opera
Linda Blume	224 Orchestra	Mary & Bob Ciesielski	227 Concerto
Larry & Carol Hodges	141 Encore	Scott & Rosemary Page	227 Harmony
Jack & Joan Hennessey	146 Sonata	Lloyd & Betty McAtee	321 Overture
Willie & John DiLaura	843 Harmony	Teri & Jerry Nudo	106 Harmony

As in the past, we are looking for the usual things: canned soups, vegetables, and fruits; pasta and pasta sauce; peanut butter and jelly; mayonnaise, tuna fish, cereals, and any other nonperishable food stuffs that you would like to donate. *Please, no outdated items from your pantry! If possible, place your items in a box rather than a grocery sack or bag (this makes delivery so much easier).*

Our goal this year is 2014 units of food (or more!).... one more than last year. The need is great, but so is the feeling of doing this good deed! Any questions? Please contact Loretta Quigley at lorettaquigley@yahoo.com or 410-758-6775.

Hand-Crafted Items Sought



We have some amazingly talented residents here in SV. Did you know that Outreach raffles donated handiwork as a fundraiser at many of its events, such as the Card Party, the Artisan's Fair, and the Ladies Spring Tea? We would love to feature <u>your</u> creations as these raffle items. A tax donation letter will be provided. The next big Outreach fundraiser will be the January Card Party, where the beneficiary will be Rebuilding Together Queen Anne's County. If you would like to donate something for the raffle, please contact Cindy Backer, 443-262-8727.

Thank you for your continuing generosity. Outreach couldn't do all that it does within the QAC community without your support.

Holiday House Tour Returns



In December 2012, Symphony Village was full of the holiday spirit when Outreach sponsored a Holiday House Tour. Eleven homeowners opened their homes to share their Christmas decorations, train gardens, and amazing collections with other residents.

We are hoping to repeat this festive event on the evening of Sunday, December 14, and are seeking homeowners who would like to participate. If you are interested in participating or have any questions,

please contact Willie DiLaura (443-262-8062) or Carlene Cooke (443-262-8146).

Save the Date!!

Thursday, January 29

The Sixth Annual Symphony Village Card and Game Party (To benefit Rebuilding Together)

9:30 a.m. – 3 p.m. SV Clubhouse

PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS - Carol Hodges, Chair

Advertisers

The income from the advertisers almost offsets the expense of publishing the *Libretto*. When you have great service from someone, encourage them to advertise. You can print out the <u>rates to advertise</u> from the Website.

Welcome Chairman

There is a need for a new Welcome Chairman. This person would visit new residents and acquaint them with all of the important things they need to know. It would also be necessary to keep a record of new residents.

Next Meeting

The next Publications and Communications Committee meeting will be held on Monday, November 3, at 2 p.m. All residents are welcome to attend.



SNEAKERS – Linda Farrar, President

10th Annual Sneakers Silent Auction

You will soon receive your invitation to the Symphony Sneakers Silent Auction to be held on November 1, from 6 to 9 p.m. The donation will be \$10 per person, and will include wine and heavy hors d'oeuvres, as well as a fun-filled evening with an interesting assortment of gift baskets, raffle items, and gift certificates. Please sign up in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse by October 24 if you are planning to attend.

If you bring return address labels to the Auction, it will expedite filling out your raffle tickets.

We are continuing to collect packing/stuffing materials to be used for the Auction baskets. These items can be dropped off at Amy Marotta's home at 301 Overture Way until October 24. We look forward to your joining us.

Kennard and Centreville School Book Giveaways

A book giveaway will be held at Centreville Elementary School on October 15. Pastries for Parents will be held at Kennard Elementary School on October 23 and 24. Sign-up sheets are in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse.

Any SV resident interested in participating in the school book giveaways must attend a brief orientation session conducted by a school representative at the Clubhouse on Tuesday, October 14, at 9 a.m. A sign-up sheet is in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse.

Next Meeting

Our next Sneakers meeting will be held on Wednesday, October 15, at 3 p.m. in the Clubhouse.

New members are always welcome.

TRIVIA

- **1.** What is Halloween a contraction for?
- **2.** What does the word Halloween mean?
- **3.** Who was the manager of the last Baltimore Orioles team to win the World Series?
- **4.** When did Christopher Columbus arrive in the Americas?
- **5.** When did Columbus Day become a federal holiday?

SINGLES FALL COOKOUT - Pauline Dulin



SV Singles will hold a Fall Cookout on **Sunday, October 19**, 2-5 p.m., at the Picnic Pavilion. Hot dogs and hamburgers will be provided. Please bring a covered dish to share if you like, but bringing something is not mandatory. We'll move inside in case of inclement weather.

We will hold a brief meeting to discuss ways to move forward with the Singles group. A designated monthly Singles event evening is proposed (on the second Thursday of each month). We would take turns planning and carrying out an activity.

For the cookout, volunteers are needed to be servers, and a grill master is also needed. Please sign up in the Activities Book if you will attend the event. To volunteer to help or for more information or if you can't get to the Clubhouse to sign up for the cookout, call me at 410-310-0817.

HALLOWE'EN FUN



The Grandchildren's Hallowe'en Party will be **Saturday**, **October 25**, from 2 – 4 p.m. at the Clubhouse for grandchildren ages 11 and under. There will be crafts, games, pictures, snacks, and a costume parade complete with

'trick or treating.' Sign-up sheets are in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse. **Sign-up deadline is Monday, October 20.** Cost is \$6 per child, and a grandparent must accompany the child/children. Any questions, please call Carlene Cooke, 443-262-8146, or Linda Farrar, 410-758-8744. Also, we need volunteers to help man the crafts and games. If you can help or if you have teenage grandchildren who would like to help (as part of their community service projects), please let Carlene or Linda know. It is a fun way to spend a few hours!!





DINING IN – Nancy Pashby

Hope you will come to this month's Dining In at the home of Nancy Pashby. We enjoy dinner and conversation in our homes. This is an opportunity for all of us, including new neighbors and singles, to mingle and enjoy both seeing old friends and making new ones. Dining In is a great time to share experiences about living in our active, friendly community.

The sign-up sheet is in the Clubhouse under Dining In. This month I will provide pot roast with vegetables and roasted onions. I will call you on the evening of October 22 to ask you to provide a bottle of wine or a side dish. Please call me if you have dietary preferences. It will be easy to accommodate your requests.

We hope you will enjoy this setting and come back to join us on a regular basis. Questions? Contact Nancy at 443-262-8757.

BIRD CLUB-Linda Blume



Did everyone enjoy the female and first-year ruby-throated hummingbirds' extended stay this fall? I had my feeder out much later than usual because there was still competition going on for the food source, and I really do enjoy the aerial antics. I've read that it isn't necessary to take feeders down to "force" the birds on their migration

- they will leave when nighttime temperatures approach freezing. Late in the season, any hummers at your feeder are probably on their migration from farther north and not the same birds you've seen all summer.

Imagine my surprise to open my front door one morning in late September and see a female wild turkey in my front yard! Just the one. I know sightings are common in yards backing to the woods, but my house is smack in the middle of SV. She flew up when I came out, flew down the street a few houses, and then flew up and over a house on the other side of the street. Wow. What will be next?





I've planned the Fall Picnic for **Thursday, October 23, noon**, at the Picnic Pavilion. All residents interested in birding are invited. I'll provide picnic food - all you need to bring is yourself. Please let me know by phone (410-758-3194), email, or by signing up in the Activities Book if you will attend.

If you would like to be added to my Bird Club email group, just let me know.



HOLIDAY DECORATING – Joyce Ryan



The Holiday decorating committee is preparing for the 2014 holiday season. Since last year's "*Night of Lights*" was so well received by all, we will be following the same format this year.

Decorating of the Clubhouse will be done on Saturday, November 8, at 10 a.m. and Sunday, November 9, at 1 p.m. (if necessary). We invite anyone who would like to help to sign up in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse.

The illumination and pot luck soup supper will be held Tuesday,

December 2. More information will follow.

GAZEBO GARDEN CLUB & VICTORY GARDEN – Jack Hennessey

Unless we can get a few more volunteers, this will be the last report for the Gazebo Garden. In that case, we will turn the garden over to the Caruso team for care and maintenance. If you care to help, please call Jack at 410-758-4872. If the cavalry arrives, we will continue to maintain the Gazebo Garden. Incidentally, we did get two great new volunteers.

The purple martin house at the gazebo has been cleaned and winterized. The other four martin houses were turned over to the care of local residents. These houses should also be cleaned and winterized. In early November, we will decorate the gazebo for Christmas. Again, we will be looking for volunteers.

The Victory Garden has been essentially closed out. In early October, Jack did harvest one three-and-one-half pound zucchini, which has been turned into six loaves of zucchini bread plus ultimately, six zucchini crab cakes. Yum! Yum! We are still getting yellow squash and cherry tomatoes. Amazing! The pavilion garden did yield a few small sweet potatoes. This garden was cleaned up on October 10, after the Octoberfest in the Pavilion.

If any new residents would like a small vegetable garden plot for next year, give Jack a call. We have room for three more gardeners. Dave Peterson will be doing a fall tilling, followed by a spring tilling in early April. See you in the spring!

READING FOR FUN BOOK CLUB - Jack Hennessey



On September 16 the Book Club met in the Clubhouse to review the novel *A Star for Mrs. Blake*, written by April Smith and recommended by Dorthea Turek. The story is based on a diary kept by Lt. Hammond. The basis for the story is a law passed by Congress in 1929 to fund travel for mothers of fallen soldiers in WWI to visit their sons' graves at the Argonne Cemetery in France, all expenses paid. The experience of eight of these women is vividly written. The adventures include a death, a scandal, and a secret revealed. On a scale of 1 to 10, the book received a rating of 7.7. A delicious dessert was provided by Dorthea.

The book for our October 21 meeting is *The Reader*, by Bernhard Schlink. More than 500,000 copies of this book were sold in Germany, where the story is set. Mary Jo Keefe recommended this book, which includes many sexual escapades. A movie, including many vivid sexual scenes, was made of this book. Kate Winslet won an Academy Award for her acting in the movie. Sound interesting? All residents are invited to attend our monthly Book Club meetings, to participate in discussions, and to enjoy the desserts!

BEGINNING BRIDGE

Beginning and refresher bridge lessons will be held on Wednesday, October 22, at 7 p.m.at the Clubhouse. Tom Love has agreed to teach. At least 6 card players are needed to hold the class. Please sign up in the Activities Book. For questions, call Tom at 410-758-3224.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

THANK YOU

Don and Nancie Cameron thank you for all your cards and good wishes during Don's aortic valve replacement surgery on September 10. His recovery has been phenomenal! We are so blessed to be living in such a loving and caring community.



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Monday-Friday 8-6 Saturday 8-2 Sunday Closed



4th Annual Centreville Day



Centreville Day will be held on **Saturday, October 25**, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m., in downtown Centreville on Lawyer's Row and the Courthouse Green. Centreville Day is designed to bring families together to enjoy a variety of activities and to celebrate the picturesque aspects of Centreville's downtown. Admission is free. The day will feature an interactive Kids Zone, a texting competition, a cookie contest, announcement of winners of the scarecrow decorating contest, a moon bounce, face painting, an historical scavenger hunt, and other games and activities. Food will be

available for sale. The rain date is October 26.

Corsica Watershed Awareness Day - Brenda Kelly-Stoltz

The Corsica Watershed Awareness Day at Bloomfield Farm in Centreville was advertised in the September *Libretto*; if you missed going, you missed a delightful and informative event. Everything was FREE—pony rides, petting zoo, pumpkin and face painting, fun games with fun prizes, hay rides, train exhibits, pond fishing, and more. The environmental exhibits were very informative and included many interesting and fun activity magazines for children and adults to take home. Our own Amy and

Royce Holm were there handing out police badges to young citizens fascinated by the uniforms and police car. There was also a shed full of a variety of potted TREES indigenous to this area that were free to anyone who signed up for them—one tree per family.

Oh, and did I mention they were raffling off a kayak (complete with life vest and paddle)? Yes, I won the raffle, and that's me trying out my new toy. Corsica River here I come!!



New SV Project: Labels and Box Tops for Education



<u>Labels for Education</u> and <u>Box Tops for Education</u> are programs where families and members of the community work together to "Earn Free Stuff" and "Cold Hard Cash" for local schools. In Labels for Education, by collecting UPCs and beverage/sauce caps from over 2,500 participating products, a school earns points that can be redeemed for arts, athletics, and academic merchandise. The <u>Labels for Education Merchandise Catalog</u> shows all the free items that a school may choose

from to redeem Labels for Education points. In The Box Tops for Education program, each clipped box top is worth 10ϕ , and a check is sent to the school twice a year for the school to spend at its discretion. Symphony Village is now participating in these programs.

Two boxes have been placed in the lobby of the Clubhouse. The larger one, labeled "**Box Tops**," is for box tops from participating products. For a complete list of the products in the Box Tops program, go to Box Tops Downloads and press "Participating Products."

The smaller box, labeled "**Labels**," is for labels and beverage/sauce caps from participating products in the Labels for Education program. For a complete list of these products, go to <u>Participating Products</u>. (Be sure to include the UPC code when you clip.)



There is also a hard copy list of products participating in both programs in the "Box Tops" box at the Clubhouse.

Labels and box tops collected in Symphony Village will be donated to Centreville Elementary School. The school coordinator is so excited to have SV join their parent base in this project – all to benefit the children. So please look for the logo of one of these programs before you toss that container into the trash, clip it when you find it (or just bring it for beverage/sauce caps), and deposit it in one of the boxes at the Clubhouse the next time you're there. The SV Coordinator is Charlene Smallwood Brown should you have any questions--410-758-6930. Thank you for your participation!





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American Legion Jeff Davis Post 18 News

SV residents are cordially invited to participate in the following events:

• Friday Night Dinners:

Friday, October 17: Marine Corps League's Meat Loaf Dinner, \$12, 5:30 p.m. **Friday, October 24**: American Legion Riders' "A Taste of Italy Spaghetti Dinner," \$10, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, October 31: Oyster Dinner, \$15, 5:30 p.m.

Friday, November 7: TBA Friday, November 14: TBA

• Ravens Football:

Sunday, October 19: Ravens vs. Falcons, 1 p.m. **Sunday, October 26**: Ravens vs. Bengals, 1 p.m.

• War of 1812 Ceremony: **Saturday, October 25**: 10:30 a.m.

For more information on any events, call the Post at 410-758-3584 or go to Jeff Davis Post 18.

"Adopt a Shelf"



One of the many volunteer opportunities at the QAC Public Library in Centreville is "Adopt a Shelf." A volunteer signs up to maintain one shelf (or more) of books at the library. Volunteers are currently especially needed in the children's section. This isn't shelving returned books, but rather making sure the books are in the correct alphabetic or numeric order, checking for any damaged books that need to go to the repair shop, and putting aside any books

that <u>should</u> be at the Kent Island branch so that they may be sent there. You may maintain "your" shelf at your convenience whenever the library is open. There are no time requirements – snow birds may volunteer when they are in town. High school students can earn the Community Service hours that they need and then stop (of course they can continue as well!). For more information on "Adopt a Shelf" or to volunteer, contact Althea Stubbs, Circulation Manager, 410-758-0980.

If you're not yet receiving the library's bi-monthly newsletter via email, go to <u>Library Newsletter Archives</u> and press "Join Our Mailing List!" at the bottom of the web page to subscribe.

Ongoing: "Santa's Christmas Cash"



The American Legion Riders (ALR) at Jeff Davis American Legion Post 18 in Centreville are holding "Santa's Christmas Cash," a 50/50 raffle, from **now until** the prize drawing on **Thursday, November 20**, a week before Thanksgiving. This is a fundraiser for the charities that ALR supports. Tickets are \$5 each or 3 for \$10. First prize is 50% of the proceeds; second and third prizes are a Secret Santa gift. Tickets are available at the Post (at the bar) or call 410-758-3584. Here in

SV, tickets can be obtained from Steve Harty, 410-758-2626, and Larry Lorditch, 443-262-8751. (American Legion Riders Facebook)

Queen Anne's Chorale

Save December 6 at 7 p.m. for the Annual Holiday Concert to be performed by the Queen Anne's Chorale. Many of our residents are members of this group. They will be performing "A Mostly Baroque Christmas." Visit their website for more information.

New Mexico Travelogue - Carlene Cooke

Jim and I did a 7-day self-guided tour of New Mexico and a small part of Arizona in early September. We began our adventure in Albuquerque, visiting Old Town where the TV program *Breaking Bad* (which we never watched) was filmed, the modern downtown, the Museum of Natural History with a great dinosaur exhibit, and the Petroglyph National Park, which was very interesting, giving a glimpse of Native American art in long ago times.



From Albuquerque we headed up to Jemez to see the Red Rocks, which are spectacular, took lots of pictures, and then headed for Santa Fe. We visited their Old Town, which we liked better, and Georgia O'Keefe's Art Gallery. That night we ate dinner at Cowgirl's, a fun restaurant that was featured on Rachel Ray's program, \$40 a Day, so the advertisement said. The next day we went up to Albuqui, where Georgia O'Keefe had her home, now a Presbyterian Retreat. Of course, more beautiful scenery with red

rocks and rock strata of different eras and more pictures. Many movies have been filmed in this area. Lunch that day was at Rancho de Chinmayo, which had been recommended by a friend. It had delicious Mexican food, but was in a very sparsely populated area. Of course, we found that many areas of New Mexico are sparsely populated, it seems. Back in Santa Fe, we saw the oldest house in America and the oldest church in New Mexico. The church dates back to 1610 and its bell was brought over from Spain in 1314.



The next day we left Santa Fe and headed to Roswell. Scenery consisted of desert and a few cattle, and we had rain that day. Luckily the rain stopped about the time we reached Roswell, where we visited the UFO Museum. Someone had asked us why we were going there, and our answer was "Why not?" It is a part of New Mexico and it was interesting and fun. And as far as we know, no aliens followed us out to the car!

We spent that night in a small town called Artesia; it turned out to be a great find. They have several fantastic sculptures through the town depicting their past and present way of life. Very detailed statues show the cattle roundup, cattle rustling, oil barons, and Sally Chisum, who was a school teacher there and was friends with Billy the Kid. Artesia is still an oil town. That night we had dinner at Henry's BBQ Restaurant where the high school's Rodeo Team was holding a fundraiser. The kids were the wait staff; we enjoyed both the food and the atmosphere!

The following day we headed to Carlsbad Caverns; we rode the elevator down 800 feet and spent about two hours exploring the large rooms of the cavern. We opted not to take the tour that has you crawl through the opening on your stomach, and we also



passed up the tour to the Bat Room. The large rooms really gave you lots to see. I kept thinking that the first person to explore those caverns had to have had a strong lantern and a good sense of direction!!

We spent that night in Alamagordo, and we had dinner at a neat restaurant called Memories; it was located in an old Victorian house. The food was good and the décor was really fun. The next morning we went to White Sands National Park. It is an interesting park with the gypsum sand dunes. Lots of white, white sand dunes; we were thankful for the park direction signs. Again some parts of movies have been filmed here.

That afternoon, we left New Mexico and went to Tombstone, AZ. It is a really neat old Western town; some of the buildings have been there since the 1880's.

We saw a re-enactment of the Gunfight at OK Corral, which was fun, and afterwards Doc Holliday told us what happened to all the participants. While there, we had dinner at the Crystal Palace Saloon, one of the original buildings, and then we visited Boot Hill Cemetery.



On our last day on vacation, we went to Tucson and to the Sagauro National Park to see the cacti. These cacti only grow in this part of Arizona and can live to be 200 years old and some are about 20 feet tall. Then there are the barrel cacti, which are short and fat and have flowers on top. We really enjoyed this park.

From there we went

into Phoenix to spend the night and then flew home the next day.

As you can tell, New Mexico offers a variety of experiences which added to the overall fun. Jim did a great job of putting this trip together for us.



TRIVIA ANSWERS

- 1. All Hallow's Evening
- 2. Hallowed Evening or holy evening
- 3. Joe Altobelli
- 4. October 12, 1942
- 5. 1937



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RESTAURANT REVIEW

Frix's Fire Grill - Joan Hennessey

The Hennesseys and the Hodges could hardly have picked a worse time to eat lunch at Frix's Fire Grill (where 4 Seasons used to be located). A luncheon for almost 60 women filled the room and all tables except one: ours. It was busy and noisy!

But we persevered and enjoyed a good meal at a reasonable price. Jack ordered one of the daily specials, Beef Stroganoff (\$10), describing it as "tender and tasty." Larry's burger, The X-Tudo (\$14), was unique, with layers of peas, corn, ham, cheese, potato sticks, and a fried egg sharing the bun and beef patty! Carol's Mahi Mahi Sandwich (\$12) consisted of two pieces of grilled fish covered with spicy mango slaw on brioche bun. Finally, Joan's Grilled Cheese (\$8) had thick layers of cheese oozing from toasted sourdough bread. Jack's lunch included a small



side salad; he was disappointed that Frix's doesn't offer bleu cheese dressing. The other lunches included crisp, <u>hot</u> French Fries served in a mini fry basket, a humorous touch. A selection of bottled beers is available as is wine by the glass.

It appeared that everyone on the staff was waiting tables, and service was attentive and good considering the packed house. The restaurant looks much as it did under the prior owners, but the menu is quite different; in fact, a new menu was initiated the day of our visit. The new owners, Derek and Karina Frix, describe the food as South American or Brazilian/American. Karina Frix is the Executive Chef, and her recipe for Moqueca de Peixe (Brazilian fish stew) was published in the Shore Update on October 9.

We look forward to returning for dinner, perhaps during Restaurant Appreciation Week (October 11-18) to enjoy a small plate, house salad, and any entrée for \$30.

Frix's Fire Grill, 1533 Postal Road, Chester, MD 21619 410-604-2525 www.frixsfiregrill.com

RECIPE OF THE MONTH

CHOCOLATE ÉCLAIR CAKE

From the kitchen of Barbara Phillips

Cake:

2 boxes French vanilla instant pudding 1 box graham crackers

2 ³/₄ cups milk

2 oz. Cool Whip

Topping:

1 cup sugar 1 stick butter ½ cup evaporated milk 1 teaspoon cocoa ½ cup cocoa



- Beat pudding and milk together as directed on package. Stir in Cool Whip.
- In a 9" x 13" dish, layer: graham crackers, pudding graham crackers, pudding graham crackers, pudding - graham crackers, pudding - graham crackers.

Prepare the topping:

- Bring sugar, evaporated milk, and cocoa to a boil.
- Stir in butter and vanilla.
- Cool, and then beat until thick.
- Spread on the top layer of graham crackers and refrigerate.

Note: This cake serves a crowd and wowed everyone at the 2014 SV Labor Day Celebration.

UPCOMING EVENTS

Instead of all of Queen Anne's County Local Events, here are only the first few items of the Upcoming Events. To see all 13 pages of Local Events go to the Website.

Oueenstown Premium Outlets' Pink Event



Queenstown Premium Outlets is teaming up with Susan G. Komen for the Cure to support breast cancer awareness, research, and treatment programs in our community. During the month of **October**, visit the Simon Guest Services Center and donate \$10 to support the cause and receive 25% off one item from select stores. Donations will be accepted on-site only with contributions benefiting Susan G. Komen for the Cure. (Outlet Events)

QAC Business and Home Expo



The Queen Anne's County Business and Home Expo will take place on **Thursday**, October 16, 5 – 7:30 p.m., at the Chesapeake Bay Beach Club (500 Marina Club BUSINESS Road) in Stevensville. Come see dozens of exhibits and displays from area businesses. The event is presented by the Queen Anne's County Chamber of

Commerce and is free and open to the public. (Kent Island Online)

Baltimore Symphony Orchestra In Concert

The Baltimore Symphony Orchestra will perform on **Friday, October 17**, 8 – 9 p.m., at the Todd Performing Arts Center Theatre at Chesapeake College in Wye Mills. The performance will include Andree's Concert Overture in D Major (BSO premiere), Mozart's Flute Concerto in G, and Tchaikovsky's Symphony No. 3 "Polish." Tickets are \$40 and may be purchased at Todd Performing Arts Center Tickets.

Annual Bull and Oyster Roast



The <u>Grasonville Volunteer Fire Department</u> (4128 Main Street) in Grasonville will hold a Bull and Oyster Roast on **Saturday, October 18**, 2 – 6 p.m., at the Grasonville VFW (203 VFW Avenue) in Grasonville. There will be lots of food, free soda and beer, money wheels, cake wheels, raffles, a 50/50, and live music. Tickets are \$30 for adults, \$15 for children ages 6-12, and free to ages 5 and under. Purchase tickets at the fire house or call 410-827-8100 or 410-827-4847.

Lions Vision Research Foundation "Aim For Sight" Sporting Clay Shoot



The "Aim For Sight" Sporting Clays Shoot will take place on **Saturday, October 18**, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., at the Pintail Point Welcome Center (511 Pintail Point Farm Lane) in Queenstown. This is a 50-target run shoot. Targets, lunch, and shells are included in the registration fee. Registration is \$65 per shooter or \$240 per team. Go to the website for more information and to register.

8th Annual <u>Island Bay Day 2014 – "Rocktober"</u>



Island Bay Day "Rocktober" will be held on **Saturday, October 18**, noon – 11 p.m., at the 4-H Park in Centreville. This music festival will include over 17 bands on two stages. There will also be craft beer tastings and local vendors with unique items for sale. The event benefits the Make-A-Wish Foundation, Mid-Atlantic Chapter. Go to the website for all the details and to purchase tickets, or call 410-

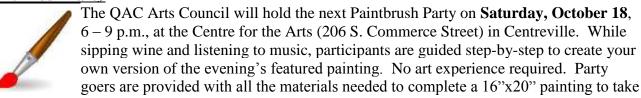
829-1453.

Haunted Village



The Haunted Village will be open on **October 18** and **25** at Camp Wright (400 Camp Wright Lane) in Stevensville, 6 - 10 p.m. Ride through the haunted woods to explore the creepy village, if you dare. The cost is \$6 for adults and \$4 for children ages 10 and under. (What's Up? Magazine - Haunted Village)

Paint Brush Party



home. The cost is \$40 for Arts Council members and \$45 for non-members. Reserve a spot by calling 410-758-2520. Past events have sold out, so make your plans early.

<u>Disclaimer</u>: The Symphony Village HOA and its constituents do not validate, endorse, or support any of the vendors or products presented in all ads and, as such, assume no liabilities.