



Sunrise in Symphony Village

Photo by Gil Hoffman

LIBRETTO

July, 2015

Symphony Village's Newsletter

Vol. X No 7

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.



Jo Ann Walker
155 Orchestra Place

Brian & Jane Melvin
156 Orchestra Place

Bernard & Brenda Doss
145 Orchestra Place

Richard & Susan Ann Darling
114 Harmony Way

Bruce & Kerri Giuriceo
639 Harmony Way

Walter Everett & Brenda Humphry
309 Symphony Way

HOA Board of Directors Meeting

Friday, July 24, 10 a.m. at the Clubhouse

MUSINGS FROM THE BOARD

An old adage says “you catch more flies with honey than with vinegar.” We all recognize the truth in this statement. We also recognize we have our own thoughts and opinions. Many times we agree with each other; at other times we disagree. This is to be expected and often encouraged. Only by respectfully listening to and thoughtfully considering differing opinions, however, can we reach common ground on issues that concern us all. We live in a wonderful community where we should honor our diverse opinions and celebrate our commonalities. The end result will be an even “kinder, gentler” Symphony Village.

New Assistant General Manager

On Tuesday, July 8, Cindy Clough (rhymes with now) started her new position as Assistant General Manager at the Clubhouse. She lives in Worton, Maryland. Cindy is the mother of two boys ages 19 and 21. The older one is home from the Marines and attending Wor-Wic Community College and the younger is attending Chesapeake College. Cindy herself is working on a business degree at an online university and is scheduled to get her degree this fall. She is anxious to meet everyone and find out our needs. Stop by and say hi! You can't help but immediately notice her friendly smile.



COMMITTEE REPORTS

COVENANTS – Chris Pariseau, Chair; Irene Hoffman, Vice-Chair

Considering Changes to the Outside of Your Home?!

Almost any change to the exterior of your home, your lot, your landscaping, or your hardscaping requires the approval of the Covenants Committee.

As part of the planning for the changes that you want, check out the [Covenants Guidelines](#) posted on the Symphony Village Website. If you have a contractor, show the guidelines to your contractor and tell him/her that the guidelines must be followed. Many contractors have done work in Symphony Village and know what the guidelines are.

If you find that the changes you want are permitted by the guidelines, complete the online Exterior Modification Request and submit it to Cindy Clough at the HOA office in the Clubhouse. Hard copies are also available from the office.

Painting?

If you are unsure of the color of your house shutters or door and/or want to repaint them, the permissible colors are limited to the approved list of colors in the Covenants. The Price & Gannon hardware store in the Food Lion Plaza has a list of the approved paint colors, including paint chips. The sales associates can be very helpful. Before you change the color of your door and shutters to an approved color, remember to submit an Exterior Modification Request to the committee.

An advertisement for Arundel Oriental Rug Cleaners. It features a close-up of a colorful rug. The text reads: "Dot Abbott says, 'You haven't had your carpets cleaned until they are cleaned by Arundel Oriental Rug Cleaners.'" Below this, it says: "We clean oriental & area rugs, wall-to-wall carpeting, and upholstery", "ARUNDEL ORIENTAL RUG CLEANERS", "1-800-585-9650", "1-410-263-2358", and "www.arundelrug.com".

An advertisement for Mary Kay Cosmetics. It features a Mary Kay shopping bag. The text reads: "Mary Kay Cosmetics", "Representative in SV", "Joselle Gatrell", "443-271-0275", and "joselle907@gmail.com".

Landscaping Sprinklers?

Landscaping reminder from page 9 in the Architectural Guidelines:

“When performing exterior modifications in or around the sprinkler system (such as installing pavers on the side of driveways or planting in existing gardens or establishing new gardens), it is mandatory that, in addition to submitting an Application for Exterior Modification to the HOA through the Covenants Committee, that you also submit signature of current irrigation contractor to show that review of existing irrigation heads has been done & any necessary move or cap will be done to affected irrigation heads.”

The irrigation contractor’s signature must be included on the Exterior Modification Request when submitted to the committee.

The Covenants Committee will consider your request at its next monthly Committee meeting. The deadline for receipt of Exterior Modification Requests is the Thursday before the meeting the following week. The next meeting is 10 a.m., Tuesday, August 4. The HOA office will contact you after a Covenants meeting to let you know what decision the Committee made. A follow-up letter will be sent documenting the decision.

If you’ve read the guidelines and have questions about what changes you can make, then email the committee chair, Chris Pariseau, at pariseau907@gmail.com.

LIFESTYLE COMMITTEE — Vinny Volpicelli, Chair Carolyn Harty & Margo Wagner, Co-Vice Chairs

Happy Hour – Saturday, July 18, at 6 p.m.

Next Meeting – Monday, August 3, at 7 p.m. We meet on the first Monday of every month and welcome new members at any time!



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or mainstreet@townofcentreville.org or (410) 758-1180

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Happy Hour – Friday, August 7, at 6 p.m.

Jimmy Buffet Happy Hour – Saturday, August 15, at 6 p.m. Hawaiian shirts and Margaritas!

Labor Day Picnic Planning – The first planning meeting for the Labor Day picnic will be on **Wednesday, July 15, at 7 p.m.** Symphony Way, Concerto, and Opera residents will be your hosts. Follow-up meetings are scheduled for **July 29, August 12, and 26.** Please come out in force to make this a memorable time!

A Unique Theatre Experience! - On **Sunday, September 27**, a Peter's Alley Theatre production of "Educating Rita," directed by Lee and Alan Ettman's daughter Aly Ettman, can be seen at a 3 p.m. matinee. The play will be at the *Theatre on The Run* in Arlington, Virginia. The theatre is in the Shirlington section which is home to a number of nice restaurants where residents can have lunch before curtain time. The ticket price is \$20 per person. At this time, Lee is checking on getting a minibus for transportation of 20-24 people with the price yet to be determined. If the bus transportation is secured, theatre-goers would leave SV at 11 a.m. and return by 7 p.m. We will blast this updated information. The cut-off date for final reservations is Saturday, August 15. Please look for the sign-up sheet in the Activities Book.

Trivial Pursuit Team Contest - This has been rescheduled to **Sunday, August 30, 2 - 5 p.m.** Come out for some brain-stimulating group fun!

Fall Yard Sale Date Change – Due to a conflict with the 9-11 Museum trip, the SV Fall Yard Sale will be rescheduled for **Saturday, September 26, from 8 a.m. – 12 noon.** Watch for the sign-up sheet in the near future.

Suicide Bridge Fall Paddle Boat Ride & Luncheon – A two hour Paddle Boat ride and lunch from Suicide Bridge Restaurant in Hurlock, Maryland, is scheduled for **Saturday, October 3!** The trip will run from **12:30 - 2:30 p.m.**

The senior cost will be \$36 and includes a chicken and crab cake platter, one vegetable, a dessert, soft drinks, tax, and tip. Alcoholic beverages are available for an extra charge. Transportation will be on your own or carpooling with your neighbors.



How to Attend: Call Suicide Bridge and make your reservation. Make sure you say you are with Symphony Village for this special senior price and seat placement (we all want to sit together). Once you have made your reservation and pre-paid (all major credit cards are accepted) please sign up at the Clubhouse in case carpooling is needed and we know how many to expect. **SIGN-UP DEADLINE – AUGUST 1.**

[Suicide Bridge Restaurant.](http://suicide-bridge-restaurant.com)

suicide-bridge-restaurant.com 410-943-4689 - [6304 Suicide Bridge Road, Hurlock](http://6304SuicideBridgeRoad.com)

Major Changes to the Fall NYC Trips! –There have been significant changes to the NYC trips announced in prior *Libretto* articles. Sorry for any confusion!

- The **9-11 Museum trip** is still scheduled for **Saturday, October 10**, but will not include the Statue of Liberty or Ellis Island. Everything else remains the same – bagel breakfast, price of \$105 per person. Dinner is on your own in Little Italy. Signup cutoff date is Tuesday, September 1.
- The **Radio City Music Hall** show is now down to one day and that day has changed. The new date is **Thursday, December 10**. Other details remain the same – bagel breakfast, \$105 per person, and time to shop or explore NYC after the 3 p.m. matinee. A sign-up sheet will be available in the near future for a deadline of September 10 to make your reservation.

Antique Appraisal Road Show - This was a well-attended, much enjoyed event! We are talking to the purveyor about scheduling another Antique Appraisal Road Show in the near future – hopefully this Fall. Stay tuned.

Wine Tasting Party – This party hosted by Susan Rayner provided some lovely libations and a chance to mingle with friends. Thanks Susan!

Need Hosts for Happy Hours – It’s Easier Than You Think!

This is a very easy assignment and a great way to meet fellow residents. Please review the sheet in the Activities Book which includes the step-by-step guide. You can select a theme if you wish which we will advertise. You will greet people as they arrive, enjoy yourself throughout the evening, and help with simple cleanup at the end. If interested, please sign up in the Activities Book or contact Carolyn Harty or Margo Wagner to register. Lifestyle Committee members are always there and can help.

Happy Hour Bartenders!

We are always looking for bartenders to help out at Happy Hours. Receive on-the-job training while you enjoy serving your fellow residents. If you would like to do a shift, please sign up in the Activities Book! Feel free to call Skip Kornmeyer or Donna Donaldson at 443-262-8090 for details.

OUTREACH – Bea Trotta, President

Neighbor-to-Neighbor by Margo Wagner and Marge Strano

Symphony Village is very fortunate to have many caring residents who are willing to volunteer their time and talents for the benefit of all. Although many of you may be reluctant to ask for help, this is exactly why the Neighbor-to-Neighbor Program was developed.

Neighbor-to-Neighbor is comprised of Street Captains who act as contact people for problems or issues as they arise. The basic resources available include occasional help with meals, shopping, and transportation on a temporary basis, usually no longer than two weeks. Neighbor-to-Neighbor works because of the many volunteers willing to provide meals and other assistance. If you would like to volunteer to provide a meal, please contact your Street Captain. A list of Street Captains is available online at [SV Website](#).

A list of local resources for help beyond what Neighbor-to-Neighbor offers is available from your Street Captain.

Due to increasing numbers of residents in SV, we need Street Captains to cover new sections of our neighborhood. We especially need help on Harmony Way for the 400-500 blocks and the 600-700 blocks. Street Captains generally act on resident requests for help, contact neighbors in need of assistance, and call residents who are willing to make meals on a temporary basis as needed. Street Captains also provide resource information, visit neighbors in need, and send sympathy, get well, and congratulatory cards when appropriate.



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THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING LOCAL.

Neighbor-to-Neighbor usually meets on the second or third Wednesday of the month at 7:15 p.m. in the Clubhouse. Check the SV monthly calendar for meeting dates and times.

A Memorial Book providing the opportunity for residents to enter a remembrance of their loved one is published and maintained by Neighbor-to-Neighbor volunteers - Brenda Stoltz and Ellen Miller. This program is currently in need of additional assistance in keeping the book up to date. If you would like to volunteer to assist, please contact Marge Strano at 410-758-2511.

Please let us know if you find yourself in need of any of these services.

Fourth SV Name Tag Campaign

Outreach will run its fourth SV Name Tag Campaign October 1 – November 30. Look for all the details in an upcoming *Libretto*.

Next Meeting — The next Outreach meeting will be held at the Clubhouse on Wednesday, August 19, at 7:15 p.m.

PUBLICATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS—Carol Hodges, Chair; Linda Blume, Vice Chair

Libretto Index

If you want to check out where to eat, click on the [Libretto Index](#). A list of restaurant reviews can be found there as well as a list of articles on Day Trips. Check out what else is of interest to you.

Blast Emails (emails mailed to the whole distribution list)

If you are not receiving the emails that go to everyone, such as the mowing schedule, you should go to the Directory page on the Website and fill out the subscription form. If you need help, call Carol Hodges at 410-758-0591.

SNEAKERS— *Linda Farrar, President*

Queen Anne’s County Public School Staff Luncheon

Residents of Symphony Village helped serve lunch to the QACPS staff who attended the two-day “Ride the Digital Wave” training session held at the QAC High School. Also, more than 20 residents from the community made cookies for the event.

Sneakers would like to extend a sincere thank you to all the residents of Symphony Village who volunteered their time and talent to make this event a success. A special thank you goes to Terri O’Connell, who coordinated the volunteers from Symphony Village.

Centreville Elementary School Book Giveaway

On Monday, June 8, Sneakers held the Spring Book Giveaway at Centreville Elementary School. These students now have a new book to read and share with their family and friends over the summer.

11th Silent Auction

On Saturday, November 7, Sneakers will hold a Silent Auction at the Clubhouse. We are collecting new/unused items for the auction. If you would like to



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donate something, please contact Amy Marotta (443-262-8807), Terri O'Connell at 443-928-3368, or Helena Joy at 410-758-6532.

Remember, we welcome your contributions of basket items, gift certificates, tickets to sporting and cultural events, and much more. Also, we will need your support of time and talents to make the fundraiser a success again this year.

Next Meeting

Sneakers' next meeting will be held in the Clubhouse on Wednesday, August 19, at 3 p.m. New residents are welcome to join us.

CLUBS AND CLASSES

Gazebo Garden Club and Victory Garden—by Jack Hennessey

With a limited staff, we got the Gazebo Garden in the best shape we could for the Fourth of July picnic. Because of insufficient help, we have decided to completely tear out two of the beds which have not been tended. Next spring we will probably plant knockout roses in them, since they are relatively easy to care for. Dennis provided a load of mulch for the Gazebo Garden which improves the appearance and makes weeding easier. Several residents have told us that they enjoy picnicking in the gazebo with their grandchildren. There is always a nice breeze there, even in hot weather.



The Victory Garden has 12 active gardeners, and things are booming – tomatoes, squash, beans, and in August, eggplant. We have had lots of rain, as evidenced by the local cornfields, so watering has not been a problem.

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Many robins and doves have started nests in the gazebo, so we clear out the nests every day. We have to keep the fan running because the robins like to build nests on the fan blades. There have been two families of killdeer nesting near the gazebo. Killdeer are the only birds that are fully feathered when they are hatched. There are always several “cute” bunnies eating flowers near the gazebo. **SHOO!**

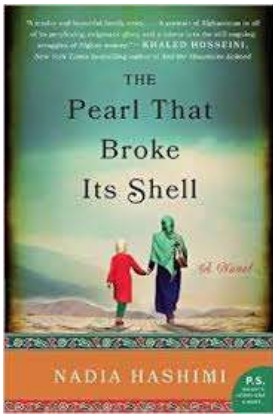
The pavilion garden should be in full bloom in time for the Labor Day picnic.

Lunch Bunch—The August Lunch Bunch is scheduled for Luisa's Cucina Italiana in Chestertown on Thursday, August 6, at 12:30 p.m. Luisa's is located at 849 Washington Avenue. You may want to enjoy a stroll through the shops in the heart of Chestertown before or after lunch. The restaurant is a five-minute ride from the downtown area and a half-mile from Washington College. Remember to sign up in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse.



Please call Bea Trotta at 410-758-0332 or Marge Strano at 410-758-2511 if you have a question, need directions, or need a ride. Everyone is invited!

Reading for Fun Book Club by Jack Hennessey



At our June 16 meeting we discussed *The Pearl That Broke Its Shell* by Nadia Hashimi. This novel was recommended by Pat Loiacano. The book is an intimate portrayal of a woman's plight in Afghanistan and a fascinating look at the lives of two Afghan women, a great grandmother and her great granddaughter, separated by generations and by miles. The setting is mainly in the capital city, Kabul, in 2007. The streets are ruled by the Taliban. With a drug-addicted father and no brothers, Rahima and her four sisters rarely leave their house or attend school. They resort to the ancient custom of *bacha posh*, which allows young Rahima to assume the identity of a boy, until she reaches marriageable age. We find that her great grandmother, Shekiba, had gone through the same process to form a life for herself. The novel interweaves the stories of these two remarkable women who are separated by a century, but share the same courage and dreams. On a scale of 1 to 10, this book received a rating of 8.2.

The book recommended by Jack Hennessey for our July 21 meeting is *All the Light We Cannot See*, by Anthony Doerr. The setting is in Paris, France, during WWII. The two main characters are Marie-Laure LeBlanc, a young French girl who loses her sight at age six, and Werner Pfennig, a German youth who is forced to serve in the Nazi army. Marie's father is a locksmith who works at the Museum of Natural History. He builds a perfect miniature of their neighborhood which Marie memorizes to get around. When she is 12, the Nazis occupy Paris, and they flee to the walled city of Saint-Malo. They carry with them the museum's most famous and valuable jewel. How they protect this jewel is the primary theme of the story.

Werner is an electronic genius who is recruited to work for the Nazis. He eventually ends up in Saint-Malo, where he, through a series of intricate maneuvers, saves Marie's life several times. It is worth reading this 500-page novel to see how the situation is resolved. The author does a masterful job of tying up all loose ends!

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JULY TRIVIA

1. Who were the Maryland signatories to the Declaration of Independence?
2. Which signatory later served as Governor of Maryland?
3. Which signatory later served on the U.S. Supreme Court?
4. Who served as Maryland's last royal Governor?
5. Who served as the first Governor elected by the legislature under the Constitution of 1776?

Social Singles by Carol Donnelly

The monthly meetings will be held at the Creamery at 10 a.m. on Thursday, August 6, and Friday, September 11. At each meeting birthdays will be celebrated. The Singles are having dinner and fun at the Jetty Restaurant on July 15. In August there will be a possible dinner at the Crab Deck. Sign up in the Activities Book for your preference of August 24, 25, 26, or 27. The September trip has been postponed to next year.

Sign up in the Activities Book for the trip to the Catoctin Colorfest Craft Show, Thurmont, Maryland - planned for October 10. The Colorfest will be featuring over 300 artists from across the United States whose skills

include glass blowing, broom making, wood turning, dulcimer crafting, and wood carving of flowers. A wide selection of delicious food will be available to satisfy everyone's appetite. The cost is \$40.

A trip to Allenberry Resort Inn and Playhouse to see "Sleuth," a play by Anthony Shaffer, is planned for **Wednesday, October 28**, sponsored by the Grasonville Senior Center, 410-827-6010. The day trip departs at 7:30 a.m. from Grasonville and returns at 5:45 p.m. The cost of the trip is \$78 per person. Ten have already paid the \$20 deposit. The balance is due by September 23.

A possible Singles Thanksgiving for those who can't see family is in the planning stages. Also, there may be a Singles celebration the second week of December.

Next Dining In Sunday, July 26, at 6 p.m.

Another delightful Dining In evening will fall on July 26 at 6:30 p.m. Sign up in the Activities Book at the Clubhouse. Dining In is a pitch-in dinner with hosts providing a main course and guests providing the rest. Guests also provide their own drinks. Anyone can host. Some months there is one host home and other months there are more. Everyone is welcome--singles and couples. So please join in this tasty way to get to know your neighbors! Questions? Call Jinny Guy at 301-641-8729.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

The 4th of July Parade at Symphony Village by Brenda Stoltz

I agree with Vinny Volpicelli who wrote on "Nextdoor SV" about how much fun he had Sunday dressed up in red, white, and blue riding around the neighborhood in the SV 4th of July Parade. Even though all I did was take pictures, I too was having fun along with the others. I also was feeling proud to see all the American flags flapping in the breeze. We are so blessed to live in this wonderful country—and our great community. Let's never take them for granted.

Thanks to Donna Donaldson and Carolyn Harty for organizing the parade. It may have been small, but it was a fun-loving group who met on Taylor Mill in the rain to begin the parade. Wouldn't it be nice if this SV 4th of July Parade could become a tradition?

Did you hear the music? When possible, the riders and drivers were playing kazoos (compliments of Laura Rocco). Flags were flying and horns were blowing as the procession drove through our development. Some residents came out of their homes to cheer and wave as the parade passed by on its way to the Clubhouse to begin the picnic and enjoy the pool, bocce ball, snow cone machine, and music provided by Randy Officer.



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A special thanks to all the participants, including:

ATV - Pete Helsel

Bikers - Tom Baker, George & Mary Drake (bicycle built for two), Ray Goodmuth & Mabel (granddaughter), Lloyd McAtee, Ed Sullivan,

Cars & Riders - Steve Guy (truck), Carolyn Harty (red convertible), Chris Pariseau (car), Vinny Volpicelli & Mary Jo Keefe (car).

Golf Carts - Tom & Rose Clark, Donna Donaldson & Sharon Helsel ("Just Retired")

Motorcycle - Steve Harty

Pedestrians - Anita Dell, Jinny Guy, Pat Fox (drum majorette), Laura Rocco

Note: Check our SV Website for more pictures.



Bocce Banter by Don Rizzo

The early rain and constant cloudy skies on the Fourth of July didn't prevent a number of Symphony Villagers eager to learn about the game from attending the "Introduction To Bocce" session presented by Don Rizzo. However, the real attraction of the day was the Fourth of July Bocce Tournament which immediately followed the introductory session. Anticipated to be the Wimbledon of Bocce, the appeal to witness this challenging event was clearly in evidence by the early scramble for the good seats as both players and spectators gathered for the event.

As the tournament evolved down to the final match, the finalists were a contrast in themselves. One team, made up of past champion Steve Guy and his wife, Jinny, was the top-seeded team and the clear crowd favorite as they faced newcomers Alma Harrison and Cassie Rawlings who had just finished the "Introduction To Bocce" session earlier in the day. A Hollywood drama resembling a David and Goliath scenario was in the making, and the assembly was not to be disappointed as the final championship match evolved into a real barn burner.

As the afternoon wore on, both teams thrilled the crowd with their shot-making skills time after time. Each team took turns leading by a one point margin only to fall into a tie time after time to the delight of the crowd. With the Guy team up by one point and only needing two points to seal the match, the Harrison/Rawlings team came up with the shot of the day and scored three points to capture the crown as the crowd sat in stunned silence. The "newbies" to bocce had prevailed proving that it's never too late to learn a new game! Our congratulations to Alma Harrison and Cassie Rawlings and our thanks to Jinny and Steve Guy!

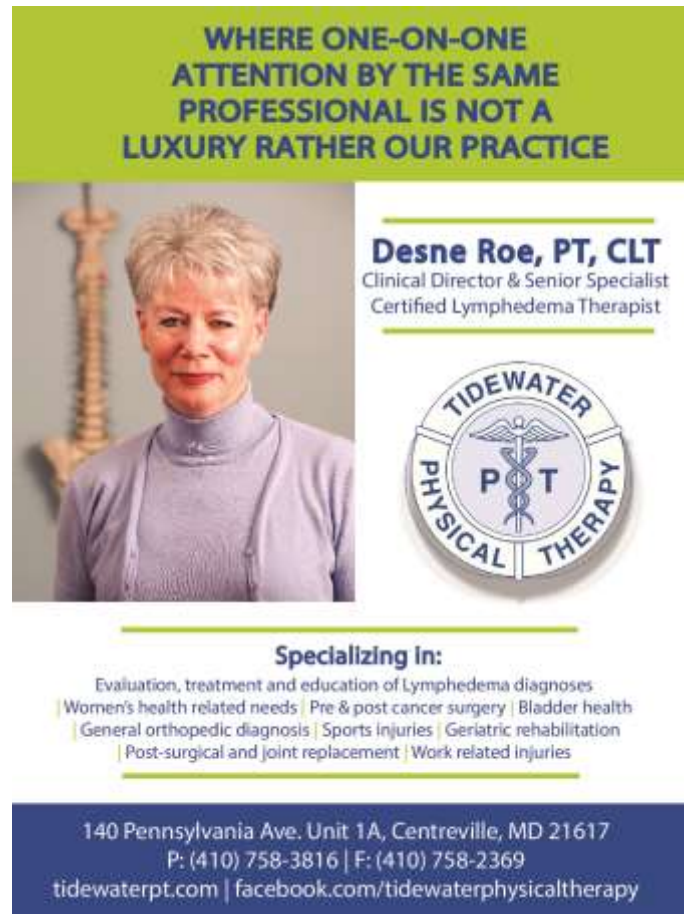
All teams were very gracious in their compliments to one another during the championship presentation as the very animated crowd applauded their appreciation for their efforts. We are all looking forward to the next championship event which will be Labor Day Weekend. In the meantime, if you are interested in learning more about bocce or scheduling an "Introduction To Bocce" session, contact Don Rizzo at 443-262-8192 or join us at the courts any Wednesday at 7 p.m.

Let the good times roll!!

Arborist "Branches Out" for Residents

by Bob Natwick, Chairman, Tree Subcommittee

Our Symphony Village contract arborist, Bob Stanley, held a seminar on Saturday afternoon, June 27, at the Clubhouse during which he taught residents several valuable tips about caring for our trees. After a brief classroom session in the Concert Hall, we braved the elements and went outside for some demonstrations.



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Bob taught us how to identify various species, how to evaluate a tree's health and growth, how to identify a dominant leader at the top of the tree, how to properly prune and shape our trees, how to mulch around a tree, and other useful topics. He answered many questions posed by attendees. It is Bob's hope that our residents will become stewards for the health of our trees and work with him and the Tree Subcommittee to assure that our trees will continue to be one of our most valuable assets in our community. We are planning another seminar in the fall, so watch for an announcement.

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RESTAURANT REVIEW

BAY SHORE STEAM POT

by Brenda Stoltz

John and I have made several trips to Bay Shore Steam Pot (BSSP) since they opened their shop on Water Street in downtown Centreville. It's "Carry-Out" only; however, what we carried out has been delicious, even beyond our expectations. We highly recommend their shrimp, salmon, crab cakes, and salads. The seafood is sold raw or cooked--both options work for us depending on when we are planning to eat. Many SV neighbors who were regular customers of BSSP when it was located on Spaniard Neck Road are delighted to have their favorite seafood restaurant closer to home.

Weekly schedule at the new location on 111 E. Water Street (410-758-3933):

Bay Shore Steam Pot is open all year.
Mondays, Closed
Tuesday to Saturday, 11 am. to 6 p.m.
Sunday, Noon to 4 p.m.



Bay Shore Steam Pot's mission statement: "To provide the freshest available local and nationally sourced seafood available to our customers" Stop by, say hello to the owners, Mark and Karen O'Neal, and take home lunch or dinner.

TRAVEL

AMSTERDAM – JUNE 2015 by Pat Fox

We really like being retired and getting to travel some without worrying about how many vacation days we need to use. Howie and I went to the Netherlands in early June for 5 days and were able to experience both Amsterdam and some of the countryside. The



weather was terrific—sunny and 65°- 67° most days. We didn't realize that it is roughly on the same latitude as Calgary!

Another thing we learned is that the country is rightfully called the Netherlands, not Holland. Holland – north and south – are two of the major pro

vinces of which Amsterdam is in north Holland. We would have missed that one on Jeopardy.

We stayed at a well-located bed & breakfast we found through Vacation Rental By Owner (VRBO) – The Tulipa. Their site was an 18th century merchant's home at the confluence of two canals—the Singelgracht and Leidsegracht. We had the entire second floor which included two huge rooms (20' x 35')—the front living/dining room overlooking the canal and the bedroom looking down into the rear garden. We were close to the trams and the museum area which included the major Rijksmuseum (Rembrandts, Vermeers, etc.) and the Van Gogh Museum. Weird thing—in the Rijksmuseum there was a sword reputed to have beheaded one of my ancestors! I knew of his existence but not his demise!

Amsterdam is a very manageable city to traverse, but look out for the bicycles! There are reputed to be 800,000 residents and 1 million bikes! We believe it.

Each roadway has a bike path (in the city and the countryside), and the bicyclists ride fast and do not give right of way to pedestrians and barely motor vehicle traffic. Motor scooters use the bike paths as well. It is great exercise and energy efficient for the locals, but a bit dangerous for us.



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Exciting and beautiful things to see in the countryside were the windmills—many still in use. There used to be thousands, but their numbers are now down to 800. They are maintained and treasured as cultural/architectural landmarks. Many have thatched exteriors that are typically good for 50 years (wish our paint jobs lasted that long).

Everyone wants to know about what foods to seek out. The cheeses were superb and you have to try a Dutch specialty—“pannenkoeken” (pancake). This is actually a very large crepe (14” across), typically with fruit baked on it. I had

crystallized ginger and lemon curd one day—terrific blend of flavors. Fish was plentiful, as were the bakeries with wonderful pastries and breads. We did not try the pickled herring which they sell at food carts, but it looked good. Based upon Dutch colonization history, Indonesian food is also common, such as the Rijsttafel (Rice table) – rice as the base with many different meats, fish, vegetables, etc. to spoon on top.

Many folks stop in Amsterdam as a starting/ending point for their river cruises. You will have a great time—just watch those bikes!



Recipe of the Month--From the Kitchen of Doris Pullman
Cream Scones**

- | | |
|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2 cups flour | 4 T. butter softened |
| 4 tsp. baking powder | 2 eggs |
| 2 tsp. sugar | 1/3 cup heavy cream |
| 1/4 tsp. salt | sugar to taste |



- Mix, then sift the dry ingredients. Work in the butter with pastry blender until it resembles coarse crumbs.
- Before beating eggs, retain 1 teaspoon of egg white for an egg wash. Beat eggs well and add to dry ingredients. Add cream and mix dough thoroughly.
- Wrap dough in waxed paper and place in refrigerator for 1 hour before proceeding. Toss dough on a floured board, pat and roll to 3/4-inch thickness. With sharp knife, cut in squares or triangles and brush with egg wash made of reserved egg white diluted with 2 teaspoon of water. Sprinkle with sugar, place on ungreased cookie sheet, and bake 15 minutes.
- Preheat oven to 400°. Yield: 12 scones.

P.S. I made this recipe six times to make 90 scones for this year's Tea.

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UPCOMING CENTREVILLE EVENTS

Paint Brush Party



The QAC Arts Council will hold the next Paintbrush Party on **Saturday, July 18**, 6 – 9 p.m., at the Centre for the Arts in Centreville. While sipping wine and listening to music, participants are guided step-by-step to create their own version of “Starry Night Sunflowers.” No art experience required. Partygoers are provided with all the materials needed to complete a 16”x20” painting to take 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.

Lecture: “Disaster Preparedness and Recovery: Where I’ve Been and What I’ve Learned”



The Centreville Branch of the QAC Public Library will host Vicki Lee, Director of Conservation and Preservation at the Maryland State Archives, on **Tuesday, July 28**, 6:30 – 8 p.m. Ms. Lee will be sharing insights from some of her in-house, national, and international archival rescue missions. She will also touch upon some preparation measures and ways of thinking that can mitigate damage and loss in our own emergencies at home.

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National Night Out



National Night Out will take place on **Tuesday, August 4**, in downtown Centreville. This is a family-friendly event featuring games, prizes, balloons, hot dogs, and popcorn. It's part of National Night Out Against Crime! ([QAC Tourism](#))

Queen Anne's County Fair



The [QAC Fair](#) will take place **August 10 – 15** at the 4-H Park in Centreville. **Thursday, August 13**, is Senior Citizen Day – Seniors admitted free from 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. Go to the website for all the details and the full schedule.

To see a list of tourism and local attraction websites, press “Event Source Links” on the [Sources](#) page on the SV Website.

Trivia Answers

1. Charles Carroll, Samuel Chase, William Paca, Thomas Stone
2. William Paca
3. Samuel Chase
4. Robert Eden
5. Thomas Johnson

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