

# THE Villager

◦ NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS ◦

Vol. 9, No. 3 AUGUST 2023

## IN THIS ISSUE

LBV Feature Presentation:  
Climate Change ..... 1

Nazir Bhagat to chair  
Volunteer and  
Services Com. .... 1

New LBV Board Member  
Elizabeth Boris..... 2

Quarterly Meeting  
Featured POW Camps.... 2

LBV Fundraiser ..... 3

In Memoriam  
Egon Weck..... 3

Magic Carpet ..... 3

Villagers Travel:  
France..... 4

LBV Celebrates  
10th Anniversary ..... 5

Interview with  
Elizabeth Boris..... 6

Book Review:  
Good Night, Irene..... 7

Coffees ..... 8



## Save the Date: Lake Barcroft Village to Feature Presentation on Climate Change September 27

Ellen Raphaeli



**W**HAT IS HAPPENING TO CLIMATE in our area, and can we do anything about it? Join us at the Lake Barcroft Village Quarterly Meeting on Sept. 27, 2023, when Dr. James Kinter, Director of the Center for Ocean-Land-Atmosphere Studies and Professor in the Department of Atmospheric, Oceanic, and Earth Sciences at George Mason University will discuss “Climate Change: Preparing for the New Normal in Virginia.”

As Dr. Kinter explains, “The citizens and businesses of Virginia are not exempt from the changes Earth will experience during the rest of this century – there will be a new normal and we all need to prepare for it. Knowing where, when, and by how much climate will change in the Commonwealth, and where and how to exploit natural resources, are critically important aspects of planning and preparing for changes that are decades in the making.”

Dr. Kinter will discuss the forces that have influenced global climate change over the last half-century and will describe Mason research into climate and weather of the mid-Atlantic region both to predict its future and to understand what preparatory actions we in the region can and should take.

The LBV quarterly meeting begins at 7:00 at the Mason District Governmental Center and is open to all. ■

Dr. Kinter’s photo is courtesy of George Mason University Speakers Bureau

Board member Nazir Bhagat has volunteered to chair the Volunteers and Services



Family photo

committee. The Board thanks him for his interest. Please let Nazir know if you are interested in joining him in participating.

## Brief Bio of Elizabeth T. Boris, Ph.D.

ELIZABETH T. BORIS is an Institute Fellow at the Urban Institute, after serving for 20 years as the founding director of its Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy.

For more information about Elizabeth's career, please see the interview on page 6.

Her spouse, Jay Boris, is a physicist at the Naval Research Laboratory. They moved to Fiddler's Green in 1972 and to their present home on Duff Drive in 1974. She loves to swim and enjoys living in this friendly community. They recently renovated and added on to their house to prepare it for aging in place. Their two sons, Paul and David, went to local public schools and Paul also lives in Lake Barcroft with his wife Carrie and daughter Caeli. David and his wife Linda live in Webster, New

York. They have four children and five grandchildren, making Elizabeth and Jay great-grandparents five times over. ■



Family photo

## Quarterly Meeting June 5 — *POW Camps in WWII*

Jane Guttman and Ellen Raphaeli



Lawn mowing was reportedly one of the most coveted jobs at Camp Atterbury.

Indianaopolis Star, June 13, 1943, accessed *Indiana State Library, Clipping File.*

THE LAKE BARCROFT VILLAGE quarterly meeting on June 5 featured as guest speaker Ann Shields who talked about the POW camps in the U.S. during WWII.

In his introduction, Sam Rothman commented: "Although I knew that there were German prisoners of war housed in a few places around the country during World War II, it wasn't until last year when I caught part of Ann's presentation that I learned the extent of their confinement and how well they were treated."

Ann Shields is a WWII researcher who spent 20 years in Germany. She recently retired from the Department of Defense. Her interest in German prisoners

of war evolved as she looked into the history of POW labor in her Indiana hometown nearly 80 years ago. She has interviewed scores of former prisoners, former guards, U.S. veterans, and civilians in the U.S. and Germany. Ann commented that she feels "a personal responsibility to pass on the stories that were shared with me."

Ann also displayed memorabilia for this period. She exhibited a prisoner of war rucksack numbered 31G: 31 means that he was taken prisoner in Europe; G means that soldier is German.

A deal with the British, who had no more room, brought the first POWs to Virginia in 1943. Then more and more arrived until the

Continued on page 3

### THE Villager

Cindy Waters,  
*Village Executive Director*  
703-354-0652, or  
E-mail lbvcoord@gmail.com  
Published by Lake Barcroft Village  
Communication Committee  
Jane Guttman, *Editor & Chair*  
E-mail catsntorts@gmail.com  
Judy Hilton  
Sam Rothman  
Priscilla Weck  
Design  
Don Christian

## Quarterly Meeting

continued from page 2

number reached 422,000. There were 50,000 Italians who went from POW status to co-belligerent status. There were 5000 Japanese. The POWs around here were lodged in 19 camps in MD and around 40 in VA.

There were camps in just about every state, but they were most heavily concentrated in the South and Midwest. There were three camps in Fairfax County: Camp Meade, Fort Meade and Fairfax. Fairfax County was one of the largest dairy-producing counties in the U.S.

Prisoners earned 80 cents a day. The U.S. Treasury earned \$22 million from the POWs work. The POWs were paid in scrip based on the idea that if they did break out they wouldn't have cash. But they got cash anyway from the guards for doing special projects for them, such as paintings.

They were fed well as their food had to be equal in calories to what American soldiers were getting. For locals, who were dealing with war-time rations, the POWs' better food was a source of resentment.

Three bridges the POWs built in Camp Meade are still in use. ■

## In Memoriam Egon Weck

Village member Egon Weck of Pinetree Terrace passed away July 18, following a long illness. His wife, Priscilla, and their son Tom were by his side.

## Lake Barcroft Village Hosts Successful Wine Tasting Fundraiser to Kick Off Summer!

Lisa DuBois

OVER 40 ATTENDEES joined the Lake Barcroft Village (LBV) to help raise funds for LBV programs and to sample a wide array of French wines curated by Wine Traditions, a company owned and operated by Lake Barcroft residents Barbara Selig and Edward Addiss.

It was a gorgeous summer's day at the DuBois-Headley home, where Barbara and Edward served up a true Tour de France wine tasting spanning many wine regions of France. The event was perfect for connoisseurs or beginners alike!

Wine Traditions donated all the wines for the tasting and the glassware, and Village members provided cheese and crackers and fruit platters to complement the wine. The event raised over \$1,400 for LBV programs and services. A good time was had by all! ■

## MINIATURE MAGIC CARPET

Linda Woodrow

A miniature magic carpet in the form of a piece of paper. What could that be? How about a stamp! Lately I have been looking through old stamp albums belonging to me and my late husband. We both started collecting used stamps at ages 10 or 12 and maintained our interest for several years. One album I own was a gift from my mother and father in 1952 after a trip to Miami, Florida according to the inscription inside the front cover.

What is it about these tiny pieces of paper that is so captivating to so many? Looking through a world-wide stamp album you see black and white images of some of the stamps issued by many countries in existence at the date of the albums' publication. My goal was to find a cancelled stamp that matched the image in the album and place it over the photo with a special paper hinge. I believe all

those countries with the "strange sounding names" were the foundation for my love of travel. I had to find out more about the countries, where they were located, and what was special about them. Not only did I acquire used stamps from relatives and friends but sometimes I bought a packet of cancelled stamps from the Five and Ten Cent Store.

I also had a United States album with only U.S. stamps pictured in it. Some people bought first-day covers (envelopes cancelled on the first day of a stamp's issue) of U.S. stamps at the post office. You could look for special commemorative sets of stamps, stamps showing airplanes, famous patriots, famous authors or presidents. So many ways to enjoy this hobby.

Stamps can open the doors of your imagination whether you are young or old. I still like to think of stamp collecting as an adventure on a miniature magic paper carpet. ■



# VILLAGERS TRAVEL

## TRIP TO FRANCE

### Socca, Santons and Swans

Linda Woodrow

My trip to France for 14 days in May and June was for me to study the art of the Impressionist painters but the trip yielded some surprises and new adventures. I did enjoy the many special exhibits and museums devoted to certain painter—Chagall, Cezanne and Vincent van Gogh—along with the Musée D’Orsay and Musée de l’Orangerie in Paris but I wanted to share a few things I found equally interesting.



### SOCCA

What is *Socca*? I learned it is a specialty street food of Nice and has been made for many years initially due to the shortage of wheat flour. According to my guidebook Chez Pipo has been making and serving it since 1923. *Socca* is a traditional dish of Nice, France made of chickpea flour, olive oil, water and a little salt. These ingredients are mixed together to form a thin paste which is poured in a shallow round copper pan and baked in a wood-fired oven.

When the *socca* is cooked it is

transported freshly made by bicycle carrier to the city market stalls. There it is cut in slices and sold to waiting hungry tourists and the local population. It can be served with tapenade (a spread of finely chopped olives, capers and anchovies) or other dips.

I can attest that *socca* is delicious and has a crispy texture like a thin pancake. There are similar variations in other cultures with sometimes different herbs and spices added. If you see a line forming at the *socca* stall you know it has been delivered and ready to eat.

### SANTON

A second surprise was to learn about the Christmas Santons of Provence used in French nativity (creche) scenes. I found a delightful shop in Arles, France, displaying hundreds of small hand-painted terracotta nativity scene figurines. They were in several sizes. The word “santon” comes from the Provençal “santoun,” or “little saint.” They be-



came popular during the French Revolution when the churches were closed and the larger, traditional nativity scenes in churches prohibited. Small figurines began appearing in homes.

In addition to the traditional nativity figures of Mary, Joseph and the baby Jesus, shepherds, sheep, angels, oxen, donkey and the wise men, the local people added traditional characters from Provençal village life. Some special ones I saw were: a miller, farmer, fisherman, a lady with a goose and a lady gathering lavender. I also saw an artist figurine with his paint palette painting a scene at his easel—could it have been van Gogh? In the months

leading up to Christmas, there are traditional santon fairs all over Provence where families can buy special figurines to add to their nativity scene.

Continued on page 5

All photos by  
Linda Woodrow

## Trip to France

continued from page 4



I must confess I came home with a small figurine of a lady carrying a bunch of lavender and a miniature painting of van Gogh's "Starry Night."



### SWANS

Last but not least, I was surprised to see beautiful white mute swans swimming in the Rhône and Saone Rivers on the cruise part of my trip. Our six-day cruise gave me many sightings of pairs of gracefully gliding white swans along the shores. I learned that these mute swans are mainly resident in this part of France. The adult male has an orange bill and a distinct black knob on the top of the break near the forehead. They can be aggressive especially if they feel threatened. They are very protective of their nest site, cygnets and mate and can use their powerful wings and bill against an intruder. Swans have great memories, just like elephants, so be kind to the swans.

My advice is that wherever you travel or wherever you roam, be open to new eating adventures, new traditions and learning about wildlife. You won't be disappointed. ■

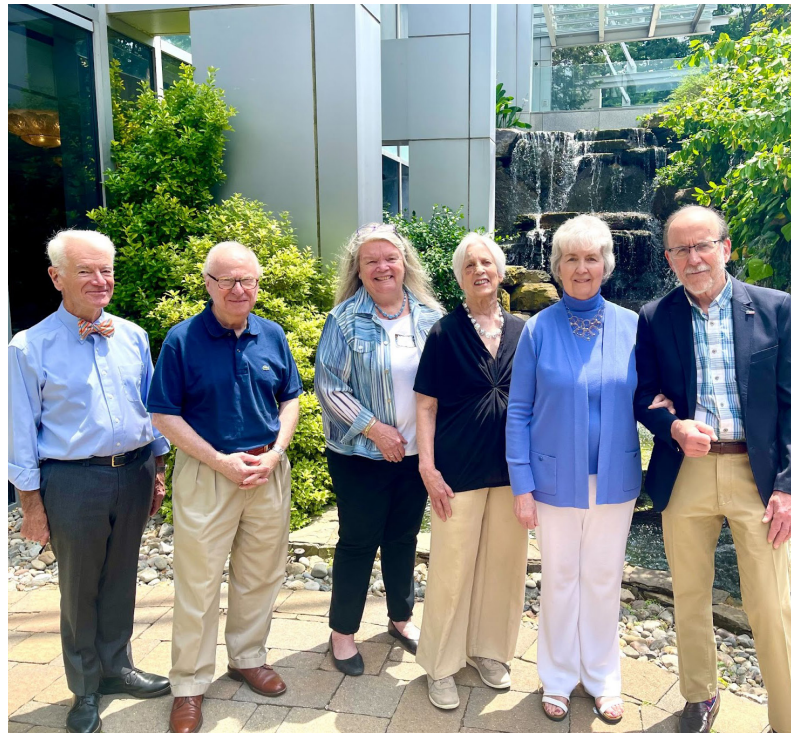


Photo by Louise Ziebell

Board Members from left: Walt Cooper, Vice President; Sam Rothman, Immediate Past President; Executive Director Cindy Waters, Ellen Raphaeli, President; Cathy Williams, Secretary; Ross Kory, Treasurer.

## Lake Barcroft Village Celebrates 10th Anniversary

Cindy Waters

**M**ore than 40 members and guests celebrated the Tenth Anniversary of the Lake Barcroft Village with a delicious brunch at 2941 Restaurant on Saturday, June 3. As part of her remarks, Village President Ellen Raphaeli recognized Clyde Williams for being the first to sign up as a member of the Village and thanked him for leading the way. The food, which included a lavish cheese board and Mediterranean platter as appetizers, filet mignon, ginger soy glazed salmon and cheese ravioli as entrees, and caesar salad, roasted potatoes and seasonal vegetables for side dishes, was enjoyed by all. Fancy cupcakes in a variety of flavors were served for dessert. It was a festive occasion to mark an important milestone in our Village history as we look forward to the years ahead. ■

## Interview: Elizabeth Boris, New LBV Board Member

Marcia Grabowski

ELIZABETH BORIS is the newest member of the Lake Barcroft Village Board. I spoke with her in the living room of her lovely home on Duff Drive overlooking the lake and backyard forest. She and her husband, Jay, originally lived on Fiddlers Green for two years. When they built an addition to their current house, it was built to age-in-place specifications.

Elizabeth and Jay have two sons who went to local public schools. Paul currently lives in Lake Barcroft with his wife and daughter. David lives with his wife, Linda, in Webster, New York; they have four children and five grandchildren, making Elizabeth and Jay great-grandparents five times over. In her spare time, you might find Elizabeth swimming in the lake.

Elizabeth is still involved professionally, as an Institute Fellow with the Urban Institute, a nonpartisan research organization. Her broad area of study and research has been philanthropy and nonprofit organizations and the policy issues that affect them. Her involvement in this field was mostly serendipitous, as she landed a research position with the Council on Foundations in the late 1970s. She had earned her Ph.D. in International Relations/Political Science but did not find many open doors in Washington in the mid-1970s as a woman with children. With the assistance of a Lake Barcroft neighbor, she got a job with the Council of Better Business Bureaus, working on a business ethics and social responsibility project. This led to

a position as a researcher with the Council on Foundations—a membership group of foundations which acts as a voice for foundations—when it moved to Washington; she eventually became the first Research Director, then VP researching, among other issues, why the wealthy give and how foundations administer themselves. This led to Elizabeth becoming the founding director of the Aspen Institute's Non-Profit Sector Research Fund. She stayed there for five years, then went to the Urban Institute to become the founding director of the Center on Nonprofits and Philanthropy and to make a home for the National Center for Charitable Statistics, which she'd also helped to start. She has been at the Urban Institute since 1996, doing a lot of different research, but also collecting and making available data on nonprofits, working with the IRS, and other partners.

She has worked on a very broad swath of topics, including big picture issues, such as: what part of GDP nonprofits represent (about 5.6%); how many nonprofits (1.5 million registered); how much is being given (\$499 billion in total giving). She testified before Congress on the importance of the nonprofit sector and who benefits from nonprofits and philanthropy—almost all of us.

She noted that giving and volunteerism, which are considered separate categories, have both seriously declined in recent years, unsurprising due to Covid; however, there are also many other factors, such as online and

person-to-person giving, more political donations, economic and political uncertainty. She noted that religious affiliations are also down and that religion and philanthropy often go hand in hand. Volunteerism is also down for a variety of reasons, partially due to people's fear of being in public due to Covid. Charities that were able to become particularly involved in online efforts to provide services and ask for donations. Others took much time to figure out how to address these issues. An important aspect of soliciting donations and volunteers is just to ask and to ask broadly of diverse constituencies.

One interesting fact is that the government does not keep statistics on nonprofit organizations as it does for businesses, although this is being advocated for. Since 1979, Elizabeth has been involved in helping to grow the field of academic studies, centers, university degree programs, and scholarly associations which give courses and conduct research, helping to build the nonprofit infrastructure. Her goal has been to conduct research and provide data in a way that is understandable and usable by leaders in the sector, public officials, and the general public. One of these efforts, the Fundraising Effectiveness Project, was co-founded by our own Cathy Williams who collaborated with Elizabeth and her team for many years.

The next topic of discussion was the Aspen Institute, where

Continued on page 7



## Book Review: *Good Night, Irene* by Luis Alberto Urrea

---

Karen Ackerman

**I**F YOU ARE EXPECTING a military history of the U.S. armed forces in World War II Europe, this book is not for you. Luis Urrea spins a fast-paced tale of the Red Cross Clubmobile Corps, a little-known group of women, affectionately called “Doughnut Dollies.” As source materials, Urrea built on the memoirs of his mother, Phyllis Irene and other Clubmobile Corps women, and on interviews with his mother’s best friend from the Corps, Dorothy.

Urrea’s mother departed for the European front in 1943 and was assigned to General George Patton’s Third Army. The Clubmobile Corps women drove two-and-a-half-ton trucks, called Clubmobiles. They followed the convoys of American G.I.s across Europe as World War II unfolded. The Clubmobiles gave the

young G.I.s and airmen a taste of home. The Corps women served doughnuts and coffee while playing American popular songs on portable record players installed inside. The Corps women danced with the G.I.s and acted as the young men’s sisters and friends from home.

Why did young women join the Clubmobile Corps? Most were simply patriotic like the soldiers themselves and wanted to serve their country in wartime. Some were escaping problems back home such as brutal marriages and engagements, family tragedies, or unappealing futures. All were out for adventure.

The central characters in *Good Night, Irene*, Irene and her friend Dorothy, found love and heartbreak, developed nerves of steel, learned skills that they might

never use again, and forged bonds of friendship that would last forever. They came face-to-face with the horror of war and its imprint on a generation of young Americans and Europeans. The Dollies’ years in WWII Europe became the most memorable of their lives.

I enjoyed reading this book. Urrea created a fast-paced narrative. The Corps women participated in many of the historical events from the Battle of the Bulge to the liberation of Buchenwald. The scenes of horror and sadness were sandwiched between moments of luxury (a getaway to the French Riviera), daily life at the front, and the women’s growing friendship with each other. Urrea’s *Good Night, Irene* is a vibrant ode to his mother as a young Corps woman. ■

---

### Boris Interview

continued from page 6

Elizabeth worked for five years, founding and leading The Non-profit Sector Research Fund. This project involved raising money from large foundations, such as Ford, and making grants to scholars for research and dissertations in a peer-reviewed competitive process. The goal was to incentivize research, another project designed to build the infrastructure of this field and promote development of knowledge. The targets of research were a diverse array of nonprofits, those that serve the

poor, promote democracy, provide health, food, and education, and protect the environment.

Closer to home, Elizabeth noted that Lake Barcroft has always had an active Woman’s Club, a nonprofit charity which makes donations to three organizations annually chosen from local charities nominated by Club members. (She has just recently just joined the LBWC, by the way.)

When asked what she would like to do on the LBV board, she said she has been aware of the Village concept for a long time and has friends who have started Villages in various DC neighborhoods, but she needs

to learn more about the how the Village works in Lake Barcroft before deciding what to focus on. She is fascinated by groups like the Village that are dedicated to helping in their communities through mostly volunteer efforts. She remarked that it would be a good thing to study.

Elizabeth has written many reports on nonprofit issues which can be found on the Urban Institute’s website. Giving Dashboard, updated by her colleagues last week, is one that might be of special interest; other reports can be found on the website of the Urban Institute at [urban.org](http://urban.org). ■

Photo by Linda Woodrow



Photo by Waltraut Nelson



Getting together for coffees in members' homes is a highlight of Village membership. Recent coffees have been held at the homes of Clyde and Cathy Williams, Nazir and Ashraf Bhagat, Charlotte Flounders and Paul Napier, and Linda Woodrow.



3 photos by Cathy Williams

