



Volume 4, Issue 3

Check Your Voter Registration

By Jane Guttman

The Virginia Department of Elections has changed the qualifications for Active status for voting. If your mailing address information on any government database (Social Security, USPS) differs from the one the Department of Elections has, you will be sent a postcard. If you do not return the postcard, your voting status will be changed to Inactive. If this happens, the only recourse is to re-register.

Check your voter registration now. It's a very simple process: go to

<https://vote.elections.virginia.gov/VoterInformation>

The information can be found at § 24.2-428 of the Virginia Code, "Regular periodic review of registration records; notice to voters identified as having moved; placement on inactive status for failure to respond to notice." The section can be found here:

<https://law.lis.virginia.gov/vacode/24.2-428/>

There are 170,000 Virginia voters on the Inactive list; 12,000 of those have voted in the last 3 elections (2017, 2016 and 2015) list. If you are having trouble finding out whether you are registered, you can contact me off line at catsntorts@gmail.com. I have been trained to register people to vote.

The Villager

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New Members

Gail Meaker has joined the Village as a full member. Welcome, Gail!

We also welcome several social members: Janet Kerley, Lois and Marty Mandelberg and Jill Pettibone.

Hope to see all of you at upcoming events.

Save the Date: September 24 Quarterly Meeting on "Losing Your Spouse"

By Linda Woodrow

Louise Ziebell and Linda Woodrow have had to deal with many legal and financial challenges since suddenly losing their **(See Page 2)**

Quarterly Meeting: "Losing Your Spouse" (C't'd from Page 1)

respective spouses. After comparing experiences, they decided to help prepare others with advice in case they were faced with this life changing and devastating event. They developed a seminar entitled "Losing Your Spouse" and have already presented the well-received seminar to eight groups of Woman's Club members.

The program will be presented at the Village Quarterly Meeting on September 24 at 7 p.m. at the Mason District Governmental Center.

The series of topics covers: funeral arrangements and expenses; ceremony and obituary; wills and trusts; computers and your "digital estate" and many more areas of interest and importance. This talk will basically be a "check up" on your current preparations for living in today's world.

Lee Jay Nelson to Perform at August Happy Hour

Performer Lee Jay Nelson will entertain Village members and guests at the Happy Hour, August 25, at the home of Terry Stone; 6318 Crosswoods Circle.



Photo by Waltraut Nelson

Lee Jay began his singing career as a folk singer in Greenwich Village in New York City. He was a winner in the World Wide Air Force Talent Contest three years in a row. After his Air Force service Lee Jay began his professional entertainment career. He has performed as front man/singer with various groups and has served as entertainment director at several well-known resorts. Currently Lee Jay performs in cabaret shows and acts in comedies and dramas.

The Happy Hour is from 5:00 to 7:00 p.m. Please bring an appetizer to share and a beverage of your choice

German Conversation Group Views Film on Von Trapp Family



Photo by Jane Guttman

Members of the German Conversation group enjoyed a German-language movie provided by Waltraut Nelson about the Von Trapp family singers, titled *Familie Von Trapp*. Attendees were: Don Christian, Debbie Danker, Judy Hilton, Jane Guttman and Waltraut Nelson.

The film featured German folk songs performed by a group of extraordinary child singers. This film (See Page 3)

German Conversation Group Views Film (C't'd from Page 2)

was most likely the basis for *The Sound of Music* since much of the story line of the first half of the movie was reflected in the plot of the American film.

There will be another showing of the film later in the summer for those who were unable to attend.

Village Policy Regarding Rides

All requests for rides must be placed with the Executive Director's office, preferably three days in advance. Passengers must be full members of Lake Barcroft Village. The only exception to this policy would be if a paid caregiver accompanies the member.

BOD Resignation

Priscilla Weck has resigned from the Board of Lake Barcroft Village for personal reasons. We thank Priscilla for her service. We are fortunate that Priscilla will continue to schedule book reviews for the *Villager*.

Trip to MGM National Harbor



The Village will be taking a trip to the MGM National Harbor casino at 101 MGM National Avenue; Oxon Hill, MD on Tuesday, September 6, at 10 a.m.

Note change in date.

Plan to meet at Beach 5 at 10:00 a.m. for rides to the casino and at 2:30 p.m. for rides back to the neighborhood. We will keep everyone posted as details develop.

Interview: Terry Stone

By Anne Murphy O'Neil

Terry welcomes me into her home, with its beautifully appointed entry and living room beyond. She introduces me to her son, Torren. Then she and I sit together at her table in the kitchen.

When did you first discover Lake Barcroft?

Terry: In 1960, 58 years ago, when my husband, Marvin, and I with our two children were returning from Japan where Marvin was a foreign correspondent. Our dear friends, the Rutherfords, lived here, and we decided to join them.

So you were among the first residents of Lake Barcroft. What do you enjoy most about being here now?

Terry: The people. I love the people here. Very nice and helpful. Everybody seems to be involved in something. As part of the Village, I visit with neighbors here at Happy Hour on the fourth Saturday each month.

It's wonderful for my son to be here too. Hugh McKay takes him out for a day each week. They do small projects together, and then have lunch.

Where did you grow up?

Terry: In the Bronx. I have such memories. (Chuckles.) When I was ten years old or so, my friend Clara and I agreed we didn't like our names. Mine was Sydell. We had a knock-down drag-out fight over a name we both wanted---"Terry." In the end, I got it.

My sister Irene and I had the best parents, and the people we knew were fascinating. We had lots of fun. We loved the theater, especially Broadway musicals. When Irene and I were little, Mom and Dad would come home from a show singing the songs they'd just heard, and then teach them to us. When the four of us visited our relatives, they'd say: "Here come the Magalaners. We're going to be entertained."

How did you and Marvin meet? (See Page 4)

Interview: Terry Stone (C't'd from Page 3)

Terry: I was attending summer school in Burlington, Vermont. I went for a swim in Lake Champlain, and picked him up on the beach. We married when I was twenty years old. He thought I was bright.

And entertaining, I'm sure. Did you continue to enjoy stage musicals?

Terry: Oh yes. As foreign correspondents during the Korean War, Marvin and James Michener became close friends. Sitting around and talking with Jim, we asked: "Of all the places you've been to, which is your favorite?" He answered: "I love the South Pacific." Later of course, he wrote *Tales of the South Pacific*, which inspired the great Rodgers & Hammerstein musical, my favorite. It has the one song of so many that made the most impression on me---"You've Got to be Carefully Taught."

Later, my husband became enamored of music and opera, and served on the Board of Directors of the Washington Opera.

Going to the South Pacific is on my bucket list---but I don't think I'll ever get there.

What's the secret of having so many friends?

Terry: Just because we don't agree about something, doesn't mean we can't get along and like each other. I can be wrong about something. I can be just as wrong as I can be right.

Terry takes me through her home, and shares photographs of Marvin conferring with past U.S. Presidents, his awards, a beautiful portrait of Terry as a young woman, and their tremendous collection of fascinating objets d'art, china, crystal and art---reminders of the venturesome public life she and Marvin shared.

A majestic commemorative figure of an American Bald Eagle celebrates Marvin's service as head of the United States Information Agency, a post to which President Reagan had appointed him after his retirement as editor of U.S. News and World Report.

It's a great pleasure to sense the very real difference Terry and Marvin made in the world.

Photography Group Forming

Are you interested in learning more about photography and how your camera works? Do you want to share helpful shutterbug tips at every level? You are welcome to join the new photography group that the Village is organizing.

Participants will develop their own agenda. Those who are interested will be invited to an informal get-together to work out the meeting dates, times, places and general agenda. If you think you might like to participate, contact Village Executive Director Cindy Waters at lbvcoord@gmail.com or 703-354-0652

In Memoriam: Don Jensen

Don Jensen died peacefully on June 18, 2018, at his home surrounded by family. He was 91. He is survived by his wife Vera, three children, Gary, Craig, and Diana, and five grandchildren, Lindsey, Kelley, Eric, Daniel and Thomas.

Village to Village Network and Washington Area Villages Exchange

By Hugh McKay

The Village Movement, according to www.vtvnetwork.org/, started over 15 years ago and today there are over 200 open Villages and more than 150 in development in 45 states and the District of Columbia. In 2010, the Village to Village Network – a national organization that collaborates to maximize the growth, impact and sustainability of individual Villages and the Village Movement – was formed. The Network provides expert guidance, resources and support to help communities establish (**See Page 5**)

Village to Village Network and Washington Area Villages Exchange (C't'd from Page 4)

and maintain their Villages and provides a forum for member Villages to share knowledge about their issues and successes.

The LBV Board of Directors interacts with the V to V Network to learn and implement current and evolving Village best practices to assist LBV members to experience **reduced isolation, increased independence, and enhanced purpose of life.**

The Washington Area Villages Exchange (WAVE) is a “forum through which nonprofit villages in the Washington area share experience and ideas” (<http://wavevillages.org/>). The Board's interaction with WAVE has resulted in the following: 1) A Board member attends the WAVE Information Technology Workgroup (WAVE IT) which evaluates village software packages for automating and improving member access to village services. 2) Working with WAVE IT, the Board is exploring the use of voice-controlled technology (e.g. Alexa, Echo, Google Home etc.) to help people in their homes

Book Reviews: Great Escapes

By Priscilla Weck

For summer reading, I have some ideas for “great escapes”, both engrossing and entertaining.

Donna Leon writes Commissario Brunetti mysteries set in Venice. Leon is a fine writer who brings Venice alive and develops interesting characters and plots, some of which are based on Venetian history, like the burning of the La Fenice opera house. There are several books in the series but no need to start with the first one published. And Venice, with its canals, winding streets, grand palaces and lovely glass works is a great place for intrigue!

In her award-winning murder mysteries Louise Penny writes about Chief Inspector Gamache of the Sûreté du Québec and most often about incidents in a tiny hamlet called Three Pines, which is close to the US border. According to one critic, “Penny has shaped a world in which characters are constantly evolving, reacting to violence but also to love and connections.” Recurring characters like Ruth Zardo, a poet, and Clara Morrow, a painter are memorable, and Penny’s plots never fail to keep the reader engaged and guessing right up to the end.

Not a mystery but equally entertaining, [The Library at the Edge of the World](#) by Felicity Hayes-McCoy is set in the remote town of Lissberg on the west coast of Ireland. The local librarian, Hanna Casey, has returned to the village after a failed marriage in sophisticated London and lives with her overbearing mother. Hanna drives a book-mobile to more remote towns along the coast, becoming a life-line for those residents. As she tries to rebuild her life, she finds that saving this library is saving the community, too. At the same time, she tries to renovate a cottage left to her by her great-aunt so she can move out of her mother’s home. It all involves learning to trust, building connections, and getting involved. The book develops interesting characters, a lively plot and is well-written.

So head for the hammock with some iced tea and take your own “great escape” to Venice, Canada, or Ireland with one of these entertaining summer reads. (You can read them in the winter, too.) And have a great summer!

When Grass Won't Grow

By Judy Hilton

Mosses belong to the class Bryophyta. That is, they are seedless, nonvascular plants. We cannot think of them in the same way as we think of the usual landscape plants. (See Page 6)

When Grass Won't Grow (C't'd from Page 5)

They do not have typical stems, roots or leaves, but are attached to the ground by structures called rhizoids. Because they lack vascular tissue for transporting water and nutrients they remain quite small. They rely directly on the environment for water and when that dries out, they dry out too and remain dormant until water is available again and can be absorbed directly through their body surfaces.

A thousand years ago Zen Buddhist monks in Japan found mosses growing in their temple gardens and over time came to appreciate their serenity and simplicity. Gradually they learned to plant mosses and to provide conditions inviting their natural growth. Thus the Japanese became the first and the preeminent moss gardeners they remain today. Many who love nature find Japanese gardens the loveliest of all.

Up through the twentieth century homeowners and landscapers have been enamored with great swaths of green lawn. They mow, fertilize, aerate and de-thatch, apply pesticides and bemoan the moss stealthily creeping between the blades of grass. When it becomes clear that conditions favor mosses over turf grass, one might well consider the advantages of creating a moss garden or carpet. Why? Because moss is beautiful. It speaks of antiquity, tranquility and permanence in this rapidly changing world. And it is low maintenance, economical and most importantly, planet friendly. Happily, in the western world, moss gardening is becoming more popular as an alternative to growing turf grass or other groundcovers.

To grow a moss garden the prerequisites are shade and soil that is acid and, ideally, compacted clay or other hard surface and adequate moisture. It's a

good idea to pick a site where some moss is occurring naturally. If there is enough moss already growing it can be encouraged by further acidifying the soil and digging out the remaining tufts of grass. Otherwise, the best way is to prepare the ground to encourage the natural growth of new moss that will inevitably arrive if the conditions are right. All vegetation should be removed and the soil acidified until a pH of 5 to 5.5 is reached.

Aluminum sulfate works well as an acidifier, or sulfur powder or granules, or even powdered milk can be used.

Other methods include moss sods available commercially or (and this is more difficult) dug from woods or other shady areas. For certain species of mosses one can prepare a thick slurry of pieces of moss in a blender with a small amount of water or beer, then spread between moss patches on the ground. For rock and other non-soil surfaces buttermilk and/or egg may be added to the moss fragments.

While mosses are getting established they need to be kept wet, however, once they are thriving this is not necessary. Moss gardens and carpets need to be kept free of weeds, grasses, fallen leaves and other debris. This is the only work required to maintain a lush carpet of velvety green.

"Every John and Jane grows grass. Only nature's chosen grow moss." George Schenk

Cindy is a Notary!

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Cindy Waters, Village Executive Director, 703-354-0652,
or E-mail lvcoord@gmail.com
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Jane Guttman, Chair
Judy Hilton
Anne Murphy O'Neil
Sam Rothman