

# CLEVELAND & WOODLEY PARK VILLAGE

NEIGHBORS HELPING NEIGHBORS



Summer 2015

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## Director's Notes



*Mark Ohnmacht, Executive Director, dances with Chou Chou of the infamous Doc Scantlin and his Imperial Palms Orchestra.*

Since I arrived at the Village in January, my network of new and interesting people has increased exponentially. And now I've had a chance to party with many of them.

The Village's Spring Fling transformed the Kennedy-Warren into a 1920s speakeasy of music, dancing, auctioneering, visiting, connecting. What a grand party that was! And best of all, the event managed to raise \$50,000 to sustain the work of the Village and help our senior neighbors continue to live in our friendly community.

I want to thank many people for the evening's success. Event Co-Chairs Carol Lynn Bamford and Susan Taylor were assisted by a superb Benefit Committee, the Village's Board of Directors, Program Coordinator Chris Covell and photographer Elynn Sudow.

And all of us at the Village are grateful to these principal sponsors: B.F. Saul Company for the wonderful venue, Home Front Communications for design of the invitation and program, and Kwik Kopy for the printing.

Our generous gold sponsors included Bernstein Management Corporation and Marjorie Dick Stuart of WC&AN Miller.

Our silver sponsors included the Tamjidi Skin Institute, Hatfield Weir Real Estate, Tom and Elizabeth Fox, Giant Food, Barbara Stevens and Rufus King III, Margot Wilson of Washington Fine Properties, and Sheila Mooney and Ty Hreben of Beasley Real Estate.

You can see the impressive list of Spring Fling sponsors and other highlights on the Village website at <http://www.clevelandwoodleyparkvillage.org/spring-fling/>. A huge debt of gratitude goes to all those who provided premiums for the silent auction.

It takes a Village to successfully produce an event like our Spring Fling. And we made it happen in spades.

Bravi, tutti!

Mark

## Village Event "Queen"



**VOLUNTEER**



*Village Volunteer, Carolyn Kulischeck*

### **Carolyn Kulischeck** *By Rona Mendelsohn*

Carolyn Kulischeck is a top Village event organizer. A Washington native, the teacher of English as a Second Language joined in August 2013 as a Woodley Park resident because she "wanted to learn what [the Villages] do and get more involved." Carolyn has set up members' visits to the Kreeger Museum, Hillwood, the National Cathedral, and the Naval Observatory. She plans a trip soon to the Textile Museum.

"I choose places that are interesting, or people will suggest places, or sometimes they request places. The [village] members are so appreciative," Carolyn says.

In 2006 Carolyn established a school for orphans in Zambia and recently expanded it with a State Department grant.

"I go once a year to visit the school," Carolyn says. "We now have around 90 students and have trained four teachers from the village." The village women make jewelry and crafts, some of which Carolyn sells in Washington churches or in her apartment.

Carolyn says the Village is "a great asset to community seniors" and particularly likes "the general camaraderie." She's one of the Village People who have made the organization what she calls "an established entity."

## Spring Fling Celebrates Village's Second Anniversary



*Villagers Suzanne Rooney & Carol Lynn Bamford with guest speaker, Judy Woodruff.*

Maybe it was PBS News Hour co-anchor Judy Woodruff's praise of the Cleveland & Woodley Park Village as "a spectacular idea." Maybe it was the gold-lamé shimmies of Chou Chou, the torch singer of Doc Scantlin & His Imperial Palms Orchestra; or perhaps it was the 29 salons, experiences and artwork offered in the silent auction.

All that and more made the Village's first annual Spring Fling Benefit a raucous and successful party May 7 at the Kennedy-Warren Apartments. "I certainly expected something a lot quieter," said Woodruff, the evening's guest speaker.

Some 170 Village members, volunteers, guests and friends dressed up and danced, nibbled and toasted the Village, raising more than \$50,000 toward a third busy year of providing transportation, social events and household chore services to some 100 senior members.

"The Village and its national organization is wonderful for helping people stay in their homes, and it's also wonderful for the volunteers," said the Honorable Mary M. Cheh, the community's representative on the DC City Council.

"It's heartening that people who want to stay in their homes can know that support is there and they don't have to leave," said Woodruff. She expressed surprise at a large show of hands from people who have resided in "this must-live-in neighborhood" longer than her 37 years here. "We have a lot of reasons to celebrate," she said.



*DC City Council Community Representative, Mary Cheh*

Executive Director Mark Ohnmacht welcomed party-goers and thanked sponsors, donors and friends, including Giant Food Stores, the B.F. Saul Co., Kwik Kopy and Home Front Communications. "Party co-chairs Susie Taylor and Carol Lynn Bamford have got us off to a great start for another record-breaking year," he said.

## Highlights from the Fling! (See you next year...)



## Making New Friends



MEMBER



Village member, Joyce Myers with her daughter, Kathleen Klink

### Joyce Myers by Rona Mendelsohn

In her cozy Cleveland Park apartment, warm and comfortable while snow and wind whirled outside in mid-February, Joyce Myers reminisced about her move to Washington from Vero Beach, Florida in August 2014.

"I can't say I miss Florida," she said, "but I do miss my friends." Now, however, she has made a new set of friends after joining the Cleveland & Woodley Park Village.

"My daughter asked me to come and live with her in Washington to be with family," Joyce said. "She was the one who knew about the Village." Her daughter lives in the same building here and a son still lives in Florida.

Joyce, an Indiana native, worked as a secretary for many years and enjoyed oil painting. Now she plays bridge and Scrabble with Village volunteers and enjoys the occasional Lunch Bunch gathering. She joins a group at Iona Senior Services on Mondays.

"You folks come in handy, especially in the cold," she said. "I use the Village's services to go to the doctor, the dentist, to play bridge, and to go to St. Alban's for lunch and games."

Building a new community of friends is what the Village does best!

## What do Volunteers Do?

"How may we help you?" They respond to members' requests. Usually those involve driving to appointments, help with household chores and joining in social events, of course. But sometimes you'd be surprised:

**Member:** Is there someone who knows about vegan cooking? I don't want to do much cooking, but I want to know about it.

**Volunteer:** I eat mostly vegan and my mother was a teacher of vegetarian cooking. I would love to share this with someone else!

**Member:** The electrician says it's not possible to remount my wall fixtures. He thinks I need new ones. Is there anyone to help me with this?

**Volunteer (a professional interior designer):** I'd be happy to look at the style of her room and take her to look at some possible fixtures that would be suitable. I'm not sure I could mount them myself, but I can take a look at that, too.

**Member:** Could someone come help me thread some needles so I'll have them ready to go when I want to sew?

**Volunteer:** This job could not have been easier nor the conversation more fun!

**Moral of the story:** Just ask, dear members, and it's pretty likely that ye shall receive!



Village Volunteer Sandy Rubin with Village Members Jackie Kienzle and Ann Jarman

## Rave Reviews for Village Events-Join Us!



Orchids, Crystal,  
the beauty of Hillwood

Spring flowers and orchids were in full glory at the Hillwood Estate, Museum and Gardens on May 19 when eight Village members met there for a guided tour.

The grand residence of the late businesswoman, socialite and philanthropist Marjorie Merriweather Post, on Linnean St. NW, features lush French, Japanese and rose gardens, among others, as well as a greenhouse with an orchid collection and a cutting garden, said Village member Joan Hardy.

"We had a very good guide, Carol Roberts, who gave us insight into the beautiful things in the mansion rooms we visited," she said. "I first thought 'Why do these wealthy people buy these luxury things rather than doing something useful?' but I learned Mrs. Post actually treated her staff well and paid them more than the going rate."

Village Executive Director Mark Ohnmacht joined the group for part of the hour-long mansion tour of Post's Russian and European art and furniture collection, organized by Volunteer Carolyn Kulischek. "I loved the chandeliers made of rock crystal, rather than glass," Hardy said, "and the little breakfast nook-you feel you're out in the garden."

The group finished its visit in that garden, with lunch in the estate's café. Hardy, a Village member with her husband since spring 2014, said this was her first Village outing other than some of the lunches. "It's kind of a backup for us at this point," she said. "This was a beautiful day."

## It Takes a Village



### Donations are welcome

We rely on your generous support to keep the Village going day-to-day. Please consider a tax donation by visiting us on [our website](#) or by calling us at 202-615-5853.

## Upcoming Events

Take a look at our upcoming events and join us when you can. Everyone is invited to Village events - members, associate members, volunteers and supporters. Please RSVP to attend. Members can also schedule a ride at 202-615-5853 or email [info@ClevelandWoodleyParkVillage.org](mailto:info@ClevelandWoodleyParkVillage.org).

### Lunch Bunch

Save the Date - Every 2nd Wednesday of the month

### Cultural Outings

Friday July 24, 11:30 AM - 1:30 PM, A tour of the Textile Museum Stay tuned for future dates!

Have an interesting place you like to suggest touring? Have a hobby you'd like to share? We'd love to hear from you and make it happen!

## Village Staff

### Staff

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### Newsletter

Joanne Omang, Editor  
Rona Mendelson, Contributing Writer  
Cathy Crouch, Communications & Outreach

Cleveland & Woodley Park Village is a welcoming Village. Call us to learn how you can be part of our community.



## Seeing the Voices at NPR

The voice was unmistakable to Village volunteer Mary Sue Flanagan: "A man got on the elevator and I recognized the distinctive voice instantly - it was Scott Simon!" The host of National Public Radio's Weekend Edition program was "gregarious and outgoing" as he greeted his fans among the 15 Village members and volunteers who visited NPR headquarters on April 24, said Mary Sue, a resident of the Kennedy-Warren apartment building in Woodley Park.



NPR NOMA Headquarters

Simon got off at the next floor and the Village people continued on their hour-long tour of what Mary Sue described as "a joyful, vibrant workplace-with soaring ceilings, walls of digital displays, interesting architectural textures galore; all very modern and eye-catching."

The new LEED building in DC's NoMa neighborhood features a partial green roof planted with wildflowers and grasses, a recording auditorium with a "floating" floor and walls of baffles to enhance the acoustics, state-of-the-art sound studios and computer equipment and an expansive, light-filled musical library.

"It was great to experience the tour and visit the recording studio where Scott and others report from each weekend," Mary Sue said. She suggested that others may want to treat themselves to one of NPR's daily public tours.

*In Memoriam*

Patty Frakes  
Cy Richardson

## Join the Village

### Member

**Individual: \$500 Annually**

**Household: \$750 Annually**

**Reduced fee (call for information)**

Enjoy individual services provided by our Volunteers and participate in social activities.

### Associate Member

**\$250\* Annually**

Enjoy social activities and stay informed

\*Tax-deductible donation

### Donor

Make a tax-deductible donation to ensure the vitality of our Village. Send a check or donate online at [www.clevelandwoodleyparkvillage.org/donate](http://www.clevelandwoodleyparkvillage.org/donate)

### Volunteer

Provide member services and/or organizational support. Attend our 2-hour Volunteer Orientation and then volunteer on your schedule and for activities that please you. Check out our Village calendar at [www.clevelandwoodleyparkvillage.org](http://www.clevelandwoodleyparkvillage.org).