



THE VILLAGER

MARCH 2017 VOLUME V, NUMBER 1

Oh, The Places We've Been!



BY DEBORAH DROSIN

FOR 15 YEARS BEACON HILL Village members have traveled together to places near and far, arriving by foot, boat, subway, bus, plane, car, coach and van.

Cuba was the destination in January, 2014. This was a week-long trip that came about through the efforts of a BHV member who was determined to go to Cuba before the country was flooded with American tourists.

Closer to home and less exotic was the trip to the Deer Island Wastewater Treatment Plant. This facility was built as part of a federally-mandated plan to clean up Boston Harbor. Members learned about each stage of the treatment process and had a chance to view the plant's egg-shaped digesters up close.

Who knew that Boston was an archaeologist's dream? The city is home to thousands of artifacts excavated from hundreds of sites within its borders. Joe Bagley, the city archaeologist,

is passionate about his work and happily shared stories with BHV members who visited his West Roxbury lab.

Then there was last fall's visit to the Southwest Corridor. BHV members walked this 4.5 mile linear park, which stretches from the Back Bay to Jamaica Plain. In the 1970s, the corridor was destined to become a six-lane highway until Governor Frank Sargent bowed to community pressure and abandoned the plan. Instead, the corridor became a transit line with a park and paths built around it.

BHV members traveled by car for an overnight trip to New Haven for private tours of the Yale Art Gallery and the Beinecke Rare Book & Manuscript Library, and by plane to Mazatlan, Mexico, for a brief respite from the cold New England winter.

We've sat in on the editors' morning meeting at the Boston Globe, toured the state-of-the-art WGBH studio in Brighton, visited the International

Paper Museum housed in a Brookline carriage house, and toured scores of art museums, historic properties and gardens.

"Since joining BHV a year ago, I've been to more places in and around Boston than in the previous 12 years that I've lived here," said BHV member Diana Crane.

BHV's latest adventure will be a trip to New Canaan, CT, in May to visit three extraordinary properties: architect Philip Johnson's Glass House; Grace Farms; and the Noyes House, designed by architect Eliot Noyes. See the article on page 4 for more information. ■



From the Executive Director

Dear BHV Members:

How do you describe 15 years of a village? Leigh Hunt, the 19th-century author, said there are two worlds – the world we can measure with a line and rule and the world we feel with our hearts and imagination.

If we were to describe Beacon Hill Village as the first of Hunt's worlds – the numerical or physical world – it might look like this:

910 total members of the Village over 15 years

9 neighborhoods represented

754 vetted service providers in our database

452 individual donors and corporate sponsors

230+ member and non-member volunteers

350 existing and developing villages inspired by BHV

and a monthly average of:

49 cultural, educational, social and wellness activities

45 requests for information and referrals to service providers

149 check-in calls

25 rides to appointments and events

82 grocery shopping services

But as Beacon Hill Village celebrates its 15th anniversary, I encourage us all to consider it as the second of Hunt's worlds – the one we feel with our hearts and imaginations – and how together, as Beacon Hill Village founders, members, staff, providers, volunteers and supporters, we have forever changed the experience of aging for ourselves and tens of thousands of other older adults around the world.

Warm regards, Laura Connors

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Conversations with...Edward Jacoby



Architectural photographer Edward Jacoby (center) regaled BHV members with stories of life on Beacon Hill, illustrated through his photographs, at the Village's monthly *Conversations with...* series. With him are BHV members Roger Cox (left) and John Besser.

New Team Members



Beacon Hill Village welcomed two new team members in the last year, Lauren St. Pierre (right), and Angelina McCoy. Angelina brings her cheerful spirit, creative eye, and passion for community to her position as Office Administrator. Angelina studied studio art and Spanish before receiving her Master of Arts in Art History from the Uni-

versity of Cincinnati. Prior to moving to Boston with her husband, Angelina was the Visitor Services Coordinator at the Cincinnati Art Museum. Angelina enjoys exploring new places around Boston and capturing photos of the surrounding architecture.

Lauren comes to Beacon Hill Village as a social work intern from Boston College. A fellow of the Hartford Partnership Program for Aging Education, Lauren has dedicated her graduate studies to work with older adults. She brings an upbeat perspective and an interest in participant-directed services and aging policy to the various projects she supports around the Village. Lauren enjoys working with rowers of all ages as a US Rowing Referee and spending time outdoors where she lives in Western Massachusetts. ■

BHV WELCOMES

BACK BAY

Marilyn & Robert Root

BEACON HILL

Sharon Nolan
& Jim Rosenfeld

Ann Perinchie

Paul & Ulla Sullivan

SOUTH END

Janie Wallace
Martha Byington

WEST END

Jean Pilcher

& Carolina Kiggins
Nancy Soule

Hear Us ROAR!

BY KAREN CORD TAYLOR



Left: At a rare break in the crowd, Lois, Karen and Susan pose for photos by other marchers. Right: Two young women asked to be photographed with us, so I took a picture of them with Lois and Susan on their phones and then on mine.



SOME OLDER PEOPLE, ESPECIALLY WOMEN, say they have become less listened to, less appreciated, irrelevant, invisible to the rest of the world, as they have aged.

Maybe. But there might be a solution – proclaim your age and buck the system.

Susan McWhinney-Morse (83) and I (72) marched in the Women’s March on Washington on January 21 with my cousin Lois Jecklin (82), who lives in DC and with whom we stayed two nights. We wore nauseatingly pink hoodies with “Nasty (old) Woman” on the back.

The take-away? Old women rock.

We must have had 500 requests for pictures of us in our togs. Younger marchers asked to be in pictures with us. Marchers told us everyone behind us was photo-

graphing us. We appeared on Facebook. Our garb attracted Huffington Post reporters who interviewed us. Other women asked how old they had to be to be in the Nasty (old) Woman club. Many said our hoodies conveyed the best message of the march.

We had worn them as a lark. They did not flatter us. We never expected to provide entertainment to the crowd. We didn’t expect to be noticed among all the others holding great signs.

Why did the hoodies hit the mark? Was it the slightly funny – but not *that* funny – message? Was it the pink that added to the irony? One of us had a real cane, another brandished one as a prop. Was it the surprise that people with canes would commit to a long walk? (It was a long walk – we couldn’t find a taxi or get through the Metro crowds to get home.)

Was it that younger women wanted to be like us – unafraid to stand up for justice at ages when we might have been expected to be entering a frailer time of life?

We are frailer. Susan and Lois are hard of hearing. Susan and I traveled on a comfortable train rather than a bus that left at 3 a.m. as we might have done when we were 30. Lois had beds; we didn’t sleep on the floor.

We weren’t the only old women in the march. Several said they were old enough to join us. Many held signs proclaiming, “I can’t believe I still have to protest this s--t!” Another said, “Now you’ve pissed off Grandma.”

One young woman told me, “You’re making us all braver.” Another said, “You guys are badassess.” I’d never been called a badass before. I think it was a compliment.

I’m still not sure why or what it means. But for one day, three old women were part of a huge community of the best people in the world, and we were relevant. ■

BHV to Visit Glass House, Grace Farms and Noyes House

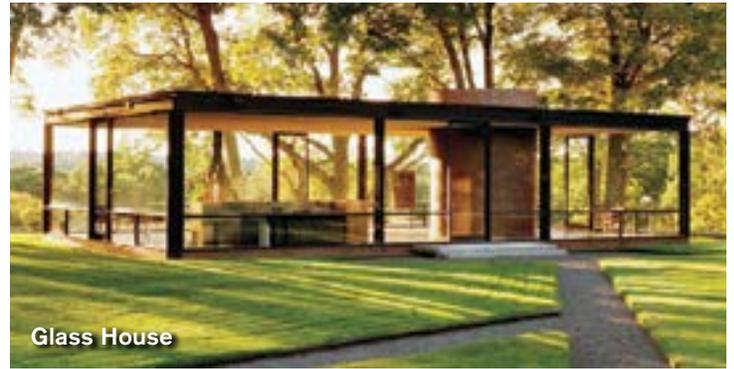
BEACON HILL VILLAGE IS EXCITED to offer a one-day trip to New Canaan, CT, to visit three notable properties: architect Philip Johnson's famous Glass House; award-winning Grace Farms; and the Noyes House, designed by architect Eliot Noyes, on Thursday, May 11. The trip will be led by BHV member Frank Mead supported by tour guides at each complex.

Built for Johnson's personal use in 1949, the Glass House is recognized as an outstanding example of sophistication and understatement in residential design. The 47-acre estate is operated by the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Our tour will also include a visit to Johnson's art gallery.

Grace Farms is an extraordinary multifunctional community and nature center consisting of 80 acres of community garden, chapel and gym designed by the Pritzker Prize-winning Japanese architectural firm, Sanaa. The main building complex twists and turns on the site with views out to forests and meadows through large glass walls as it winds through the landscape. The Noyes House was designed by Eliot Noyes for his own family. It is a fine example of 1950s modernistic "open air" residential architecture and represents an effort to be more family friendly than Johnson's Glass House.

The cost of the trip is approximately \$200 (based on 20 participants). This includes:

- Pre-trip lecture by architect Patrick Hickox, who knew Philip Johnson well and will discuss his personality and design philosophy



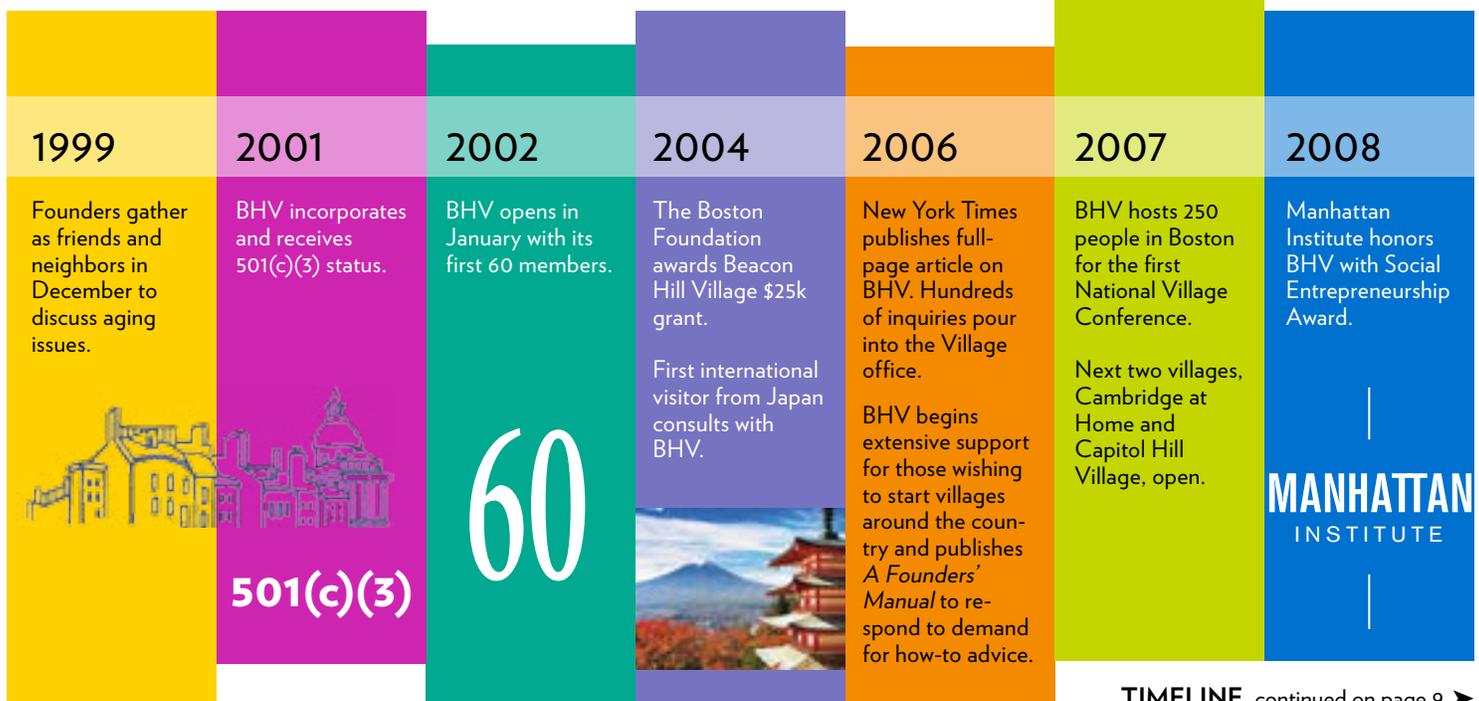
Glass House

- Transportation to New Canaan in a private coach
- 90-minute tour of Grace Farms and buffet lunch
- Two-hour tour of the Glass House and art galleries
- Reception at and tour of the Noyes House
- Box dinner for the ride home

The trip will leave Boston at 7:30 a.m. and return about 10 p.m. It involves a considerable amount of standing and walking over a rolling landscape of grass and paths. A golf cart that accommodates three people may be available for the Glass House tour only.

This trip is open to Beacon Hill Village members and their guests and to the general public if space is available. For more information or to let us know of your interest, contact Deborah Drosnin, Program Coordinator, Beacon Hill Village (617.723.9713) or deborah@beaconhillvillage.org. ■

BEACON HILL VILLAGE TIMELINE



TIMELINE continued on page 9. ►

MARCH 2017 CALENDAR HIGHLIGHTS

Programs are one of the benefits of membership in Beacon Hill Village. Selected programs are open to guests of members, to prospective members who may be interested in joining the Village and to members of the public. Members have priority when registering for programs that have space limitations. BHV reserves the right to limit the number of programs that prospective members may attend. A reservation is required for all programs unless otherwise noted in the program description. Refunds will be made for cancellations received at least one week prior to an event unless tickets have been pre-purchased or non-refundable payments have been made and we are unable to fill your spot.

Monday, March 6 5:30 - 7 p.m.

Conversations with...Dr. David Munson

An internist on the Street Team of the Boston Health Care for the Homeless Program, Dr. David Munson will talk about the epidemiology and health issues affecting people experiencing homelessness as well as the work done by the Program. Dr. Munson is also the Medical Director of the Program's Barbara McInnis House, which provides short-term medical care for homeless people. *Light hors d'oeuvres and beverages at 5:30 p.m.; program at 6 p.m. Meet at King's Chapel Parish House, 64 Beacon Street. BHV/BHS members: Free. Guests of members: \$20.*



Wednesday, March 8 2 - 4 p.m.

**Living Well/Ending Well
Safety at Home and On the Streets**



This is a two-part program that will begin with a discussion of home safety and falls prevention presented by Adam Lipman, physical therapist and program manager at Care-Tenders Home Health. Adam will also demonstrate simple and safe exercises that you can do at home to improve balance. The second part of the program will be presented by a City of Boston Community Safety Officer, who will provide key points on streets sense and walking to empower us with knowledge to stay safe on the streets. *Meet at AARP, 23rd floor, One Beacon Street. Open to the public. Registration required. Free.*



Tuesday, March 7 9:15 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Peabody Essex Museum



WOW World of WearableArt presents 32 unique, spectacular and outlandish wearable artworks from the New Zealand competition of the same name that challenges sculptors, costume designers, and textile artists to explore the boundary between fashion and art. *Shoes: Pleasure and Pain* explores the creativity

of footwear from around the globe through more than 300 pairs of shoes, ranging from elaborate vintage designs to those by contemporary makers. The exhibition considers the cultural significance and transformative capacity of shoes. Lunch afterwards (pay individually) at either the Atrium Café in the Museum or at the Tavern at the Hawthorne Hotel. *Van departs Café Tatte, 70 Charles Street, at 9:15 a.m., and Starbucks, 165 Newbury Street, at 9:20 a.m. BHV members: \$55 (PEM members, \$40). Guests of BHV members and prospective members: \$65 (PEM members, \$50). Trip price includes transportation, Museum admission and private tour.*

Thursday, March 9 2 - 3 p.m.

Identity Theft, Scams & Frauds and More

Robin Putnam, Research and Special Projects Manager from the Massachusetts Office of Consumer Affairs and Business Regulation, will present Consumer University, with a focus on identity theft, scams and frauds, and credit card skimming devices. Robin's presentation will include information about the Office of Consumer Affairs and what they do. *Meet at Beacon House, 19 Myrtle Street, Community Room. BHV members and their guests. Free.*

Monday, March 13 12:30 p.m.

Lunch Group: Henrietta's Table

For Dine Out Boston (formerly, Restaurant Week), we're heading across the river to Henrietta's Table, located inside the Charles Hotel in Harvard Square. The restaurant is known for its "fresh from the farm and honest-to-goodness New England cooking." Guests may choose three courses from the restaurant's full menu for \$25. *Meet at Henrietta's Table, Charles Hotel, One Bennett Street. BHV members and their guests.*

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>GROCERY SHOPPING TRIPS Door-to-door transportation to Stop & Shop in Somerville every Tuesday at 10 a.m. and noon and Friday at 10 a.m. and to Star in the Fenway every Friday at noon. A driver will help carry your groceries. BHV members only: \$10</p> <p>TAXI COUPONS Come to the BHV office on Friday, March 10, between 11 and noon, to pick up your taxi coupons at this monthly distribution. Pay \$5 for a \$10 coupon book; maximum of two books per person, per month. BHV members only. 74 Joy Street, third floor.</p> <p>TRIP TO MARKET BASKET Door-to-door transportation to Market Basket in Chelsea on Wednesday, March 1 at noon. A driver will help carry your groceries. Space is limited. BHV members only: \$10.</p> <p>TRIPS TO TRADER JOE'S Door-to-door transportation to Trader Joe's in Cambridge on Wednesday, March 1 at 10 a.m., and Wednesday, March 15, at 10 a.m. and noon. A driver will help carry your groceries. Space is limited. BHV members only: \$10.</p>			<p>Trader Joe's (10:00) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Beacon Hill (11-noon) Market Basket (noon)</p>	<p>Meditation (8:45) Men's First Drink (4:00)</p>	<p>Grocery Shop (10 & noon) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Back Bay (11:45-12:45) Tai Chi (noon-1)</p>	<p>MEN'S FIRST DRINK Join the men of Beacon Hill Village for a late afternoon drink as they continue their exploration of Boston's watering holes. Men's First Drink meets on the first Thursday of each month at 4 p.m. Contact BHV member Roger Cox (rhcox1@comcast.net) for the location and to be added to Roger's email distribution list. BHV members and their guests.</p> <p>MAIDENS & MARTINIS Join the women of Beacon Hill Village for a late afternoon drink on the second Thursday of each month at 4:30 p.m. In March, the group will meet at Grendel's Den, 89 Winthrop Street in Harvard Square. Contact Louise Haddock (lh.9800@gmail.com or 617.447.9800 (text/talk) if you plan to attend. BHV members and their guests.</p> <p>MEDITATION Meets every Monday and Thursday at 8:45 a.m. (except as otherwise noted on the calendar) at the Beacon Hill home of BHV member Susan Cox. Contact Susan (ssn.cox@gmail.com) for more information. BHV members only.</p> <p>BOOK GROUP BHV members meet on the third Tuesday of each month from 2-3:30 p.m. at 74 Joy Street, first floor conference room, to discuss a book previously selected by the group. Members take turns facilitating the discussion. Contact Reese Berman (reeseberman@verizon.net) if interested in joining this group.</p> <p>KNIT & STITCH BHV members meet twice a month to knit, crochet, embroider or do other stitch work. In March, the group will meet on Tuesday, the 14th, and Tuesday, the 28th, from 3-5 p.m., at the home of Joan Doucette, 72 Mt. Vernon Street. Contact Diana Crane (dscrane565@comcast.net) if interested in attending either or both of these sessions.</p>
	<p>Meditation (8:45) Calendar Mailing (10:30) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Beacon Hill (11-noon) Conversations with... Dr. David Munson (5:30-7)</p>	<p>Peabody Essex Museum (9:15-2) Grocery Shop (10 & noon) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Back Bay (10-11) Book Group (2-3:30) Terrific Tuesdays (4:00)</p>	<p>Total Fitness w/Cindy - Beacon Hill (11-noon) Living Well/Ending Well: Safety at Home and on the Streets (2-4)</p>	<p>Meditation (8:45) Identity Theft, Scams & Frauds and More (2-3) Maidens & Martinis: Grendel's Den (4:30)</p>	<p>Grocery Shop (10 & noon) Taxi Coupons (11-noon) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Back Bay (11:45-12:45) Tai Chi (noon-1)</p>	
<p>Rummikub (3-5)</p>	<p>Meditation (8:45) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Beacon Hill (11-noon) Lunch Group: Henrietta's Table (12:30)</p>	<p>Grocery Shop (10 & noon) Wellness: Medical Alerts (10:30-noon) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Back Bay (10-11) Knit & Stitch (3-5)</p>	<p>Trader Joe's (10 & noon) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Beacon Hill (11-noon) NEC Philharmonic at Jordan Hall (dinner at 6; concert at 7:30)</p>	<p>Meditation (8:45) McMullen Museum: Rafael Soriano (9:45-12:45)</p>	<p>Grocery Shop (10 & noon) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Back Bay (11:45-12:45) Tai Chi (noon-1)</p>	
<p>Spring Pot Luck Brunch (11-12:30)</p>	<p>Meditation (8:45) UBER 101 (10-noon) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Beacon Hill (11-noon)</p>	<p>Grocery Shop (10 & noon) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Back Bay (10-11) Boston in Miniature (11:00 tour) Book Group (2-3:30)</p>	<p>Total Fitness w/Cindy - Beacon Hill (11-noon)</p>	<p>Meditation cancelled Worcester Art Museum (9:15-2) Travel Group: Surf & Turf (5-6:30)</p>	<p>Grocery Shop (10 & noon) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Back Bay (11:45-12:45) Tai Chi (noon-1)</p>	
<p>IKEA (9:30-2:30)</p>	<p>Meditation (8:45) North Bennet Street School (10:30-noon) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Beacon Hill (11-noon)</p>	<p>Grocery Shop (10 & noon) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Back Bay (10-11) Candlepin Bowling (10:30-1:30) Knit & Stitch (3-5)</p>	<p>Total Fitness w/Cindy - Beacon Hill (11-noon) Living Well/Ending Well: End of Life Choices (2-4)</p>	<p>Meditation (8:45)</p>	<p>Grocery Shop (10 & noon) Total Fitness w/Cindy - Back Bay (11:45-12:45) Tai Chi (noon-1)</p>	
<p>TERRIFIC TUESDAYS Terrific Tuesdays meets on the first Tuesday of each month at 4 p.m. at 75 Chestnut Street to discuss and plan outings related to the arts. The group often stays for dinner after the meeting. Contact Roberta Meyers (bonmarchebabes12000@yahoo.com) for more information and to be added to Roberta's email distribution list. All BHV members welcome. Registration not required.</p> <p>RUMMIKUB Join BHV members Joan Doucette and Tina DiMaggio for an afternoon of rummikub at Tina's apartment (River House, 145 Pinckney Street) on Sunday, March 12, from 3-5 p.m. BHV members only. Call the BHV office to register or register online.</p>	<p>HEALTH & WELLNESS: Beacon Hill Athletic Club (\$5/class) <i>North Station, 261 Friend Street: Aerial Conditioning (Fri at 8:30)</i> <i>North End, 85 Atlantic Avenue: Total Body Strength (Mon at 8:30 and Fri at 8:15); Muscle (Wed & Thurs at 8:30); Stretching (Thurs at 9:30); Rejuvenating Yoga (Tues & Thurs at noon; Restorative Yoga (Wed at noon); Gentle Yoga (Fri at 9:15)</i> <i>Beacon Hill, 3 Hancock Street: Senior Conditioning (Mon & Thurs at 10)</i></p> <p>Total Fitness w/Cindy Sullivan - Beacon Hill: Beacon House, 19 Myrtle Street, Mon & Wed, 11 a.m. - noon. \$5 for BHV members</p> <p>Total Fitness w/Cindy Sullivan - Back Bay: First Church Boston, 66 Marlborough Street (at the corner of Berkeley). Tues, 10 - 11 a.m. and Fri, 11:45 a.m.-12:45 p.m. \$5 for BHV members. Call the BHV office for more information. Registration not required.</p> <p>Tai Chi w/Joshua Grant: Beacon House, 19 Myrtle Street, noon-1 \$200 for BHV members for 10-session class. Individual classes: \$25/class Contact Joshua (gulong16@gmail.com) for more information.</p>					



Wellness: Medical Alerts

Tuesday, March 14 10:30 a.m. - noon

Wellness: Medical Alerts

Kate Sciacca, RN, will help members sort through the many options (GPS, automatic fall detection, mobile 911, etc.) available for medical alert systems and BHV member Murray Frank will do a “show and tell” with the system he uses. After the presentation, Kate will be available to meet with members one-on-one to check their blood pressure and other vital signs and to discuss health care questions. *Meet at Beacon House, 19 Myrtle Street, Community Room. BHV members only. Free.*



NEC Philharmonia at Jordan Hall

Wednesday, March 15 7:30 p.m. concert; dinner at 6 p.m.

NEC Philharmonia at Jordan Hall

Conducted by Hugh Wolff, this free concert by the NEC Philharmonia features Beethoven’s *Symphony No. 5 in C Minor* and Kati Agocs’ *Requiem Fragments*. *Meet at Uno Pizzeria, 280 Huntington Avenue, at 6 p.m. for dinner (pay individually). For concert only, meet at Jordan Hall, 30 Gainsborough Street, at 7:15 p.m. BHV members and their guests. Free.*

Thursday, March 16 9:45 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.

McMullen Museum of Art

On display during our visit to the McMullen Museum at Boston College is the work of Cuban painter Rafael Soriano, who immigrated to the United States in 1962 following the Cuban Revolution. *The Artist as Mystic* includes the artist’s works in the Cuban geometric abstract style; his 1960s and 1970s transitional, experimental paintings reminiscent of surrealist biomorphism; and luminous, mystical imagery from his mature period. *Van departs Café Tatte, 70 Charles Street, at 9:45 a.m., and Starbucks, 165 Newbury Street, at 9:50 a.m. BHV members: \$25. Guests of BHV members and prospective members: \$35. Trip price includes transportation, Museum admission and private tour.*

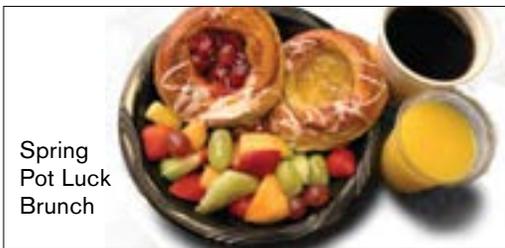


McMullen Museum of Art

Sunday, March 19 11 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

Spring Pot Luck Brunch

Join your friends and neighbors at Beacon Hill Village at a pot luck brunch to celebrate spring and the March equinox, when the days begin to be longer than the nights. Bring a dish or beverage (to feed 6-8) that can be served at room temperature – bagels, pastries, fruit, quiche, yogurt, granola, juice – and we’ll provide the coffee. *Meet at Beacon House, 19 Myrtle Street, Community Room. BHV members and their guests.*



Spring Pot Luck Brunch

Monday, March 20 10 a.m. - noon

UBER 101

Join BHV members Stan Berman and Charley Davidson for an UBER tutorial. Learn about how to book a ride, the different services offered by UBER (X, XL Black, SUV), cancellation policy, rate calculations, and driver screening. It’s best if you already have the UBER app loaded on your smartphone and have opened an UBER account; if you haven’t, Stan and Charley can help you if you bring a credit or debit card and your smartphone. *BHV members only. Free.*



UBER 101

Tuesday, March 21 11 a.m. tour

Boston in Miniature

On display at the Boston Planning and Development Agency is a meticulously crafted 1:40-scale replica of downtown Boston and parts of Beacon Hill, North End, Charlestown, Back Bay, and the South Boston waterfront. Highlights include a miniature City Hall, Customs House, and Boston Common. First constructed in the 80s, the basswood model is regularly updated as new structures are erected. After the 30-minute tour, folks may want to walk over to the Boston Public Market for lunch or to shop. *Meet at Boston City Hall, 1 City Hall Square (enter on Congress Street) at 10:50 a.m. BHV members and their guests.*



Boston in Miniature



Worcester Art Museum

Thursday, March 23 9:15 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Worcester Art Museum

Mary Cassatt's 1901 pastel *Simone in a White Bonnet* will be on view during our visit to the Worcester Art Museum as part of a small, focused installation, as will a comprehensive retrospective of the work of artist Ed Emberley, among the most prolific and respected illustrators of children's literature of the last 60 years. The exhibition draws on the Massachusetts-based artist's personal archive of original hand-drawn sketches, wood-block prints, final proofs, and first edition books. Lunch at the Museum after the tour (pay individually). *Van departs Café Tatte, 70 Charles Street, at 9:15 a.m., and Starbucks, 165 Newbury Street, at 9:20 a.m. BHV members: \$45. Guests of BHV members and prospective members: \$55. Trip price includes transportation, Museum admission and private tour.*



Travel Group: Surf and Turf

Thursday, March 23 5 - 6:30 p.m.

Travel Group: Surf and Turf

At this month's travel group, Joan Doucette will show photos of her snorkeling adventures in Belize and her safari in South Africa. *Meet at 72 Mt. Vernon Street. BHV members only. Free.*

Sunday, March 26 9:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m.

IKEA

The store that needs no description. Join Joan Doucette and other BHV members for a shopping excursion to IKEA in Stoughton. Wear your walking shoes – the store is huge! And when you get tired of shopping, you can take a break and enjoy Swedish meatballs or other selections at the IKEA restaurant (pay individually). *Van departs Café Tatte, 70 Charles Street, at 9:30 a.m., or Starbucks, 165 Newbury Street between Dartmouth & Exeter, at 9:35 a.m. BHV members: \$40. Guests of BHV members and prospective members: \$50.*



IKEA

Monday, March 27 10:30 a.m. - noon

North Bennet Street School

In existence for more than 100 years, the North Bennet Street School offers eight full-time programs, including violin making, bookbinding, cabinet and furniture making, carpentry, and piano tuning. During our tour of the School's 60,000 square feet of industrial space, we'll see the students at work and talk with them about their projects. We offered this program last year and got rave reviews. After our tour, we'll have lunch in the North End. *Meet at 150 North Street (off Cross Street). BHV members: \$10. Guests of BHV members and prospective members: \$15.*



North Bennet Street School

Tuesday, March 28 10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.

Candlepin Bowling

Join BHV members for candlepin bowling at Sacco's Bowl Haven in Davis Square, Somerville. Lunch at the Flatbread Company. Cost for bowling approximately \$10. *Meet at the turnstiles at Charles/MGH at 10:30 a.m. BHV members and their guests.*



Wednesday, March 29 2 - 4 p.m.

Living Well/Ending Well

End of Life Choices

Joyce Gallagher, Director of Nurses at Good Shepherd Community Care, will lead us through an overview of the choices arising from serious illness – palliative care, hospice, DNR, MOLST, organ donation – and the overriding importance of *advance* directives expressing your wishes for quality of life and death. You may want to bring a person you might ask to carry out your wishes if you are too sick to do so yourself. Open to the public. *Meet at King's Chapel Parish House, 64 Beacon Street. Free.*



Living Well/Ending Well: End of Life Choices

Changing How Aging is Viewed

BY SUSAN MCWHINNEY-MORSE

WE HUMANS LOVE TO CATEGORIZE – as in flora and fauna, animal, mineral or vegetable. We love to define – think Webster’s Dictionary. And we are particularly good at stereotyping and stigmatizing – “blondes have more fun” and “redheads have hot tempers.”

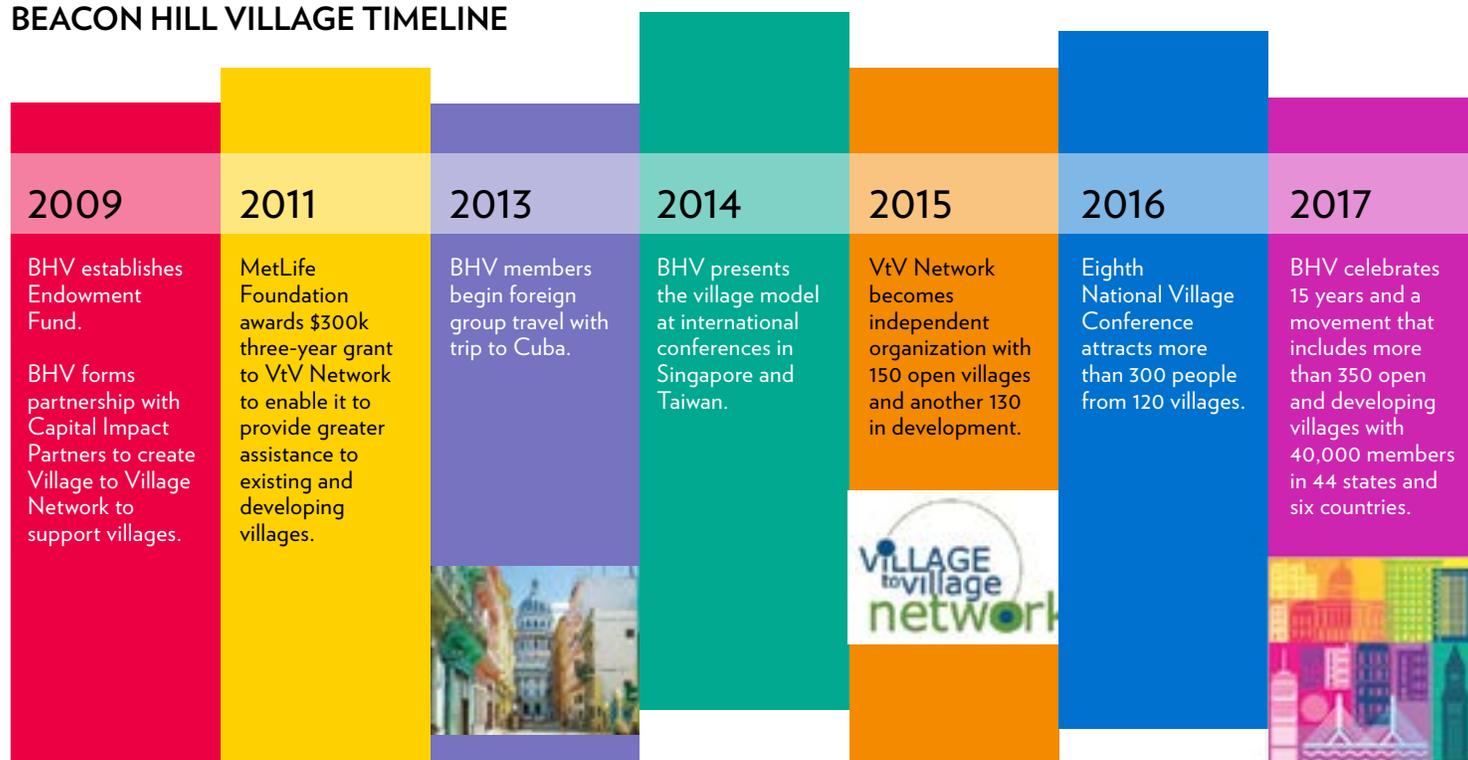
So it has come to be for many millennia that women are viewed as the weaker sex, the homemakers, while men are seen as strong, the providers. The elderly, according to a broad-based survey conducted in 2000 by J. Walter Thompson, a Madison Avenue advertising firm, are ugly, infirm and frail, while the young are handsome, strong and vibrant.

However, in light of the women’s marches of January 21 in which all ages participated, coupled with the knowledge that people live 20 years longer today than they did one

hundred years ago, one might ask if these stereotypes have outlived their truthfulness.

A year ago, Beacon Hill Village conducted a branding study: Who are we? How do we feel about ourselves? How are we viewed? Astonishingly (but perhaps not), we learned that we (our average age is 78) are viewed as “vibrant and curious,” “active and engaged,” and “vital, alive and spirited.” The stigma of old age seems to be receding. We are truly changing how aging is viewed. ■

BEACON HILL VILLAGE TIMELINE



My Favorite Things

BY SYLVIA BLUMENTHAL



Virginia Soule has been a member of BHV since 2005.

When I first visited Virginia Soule (pronounced Sue-lay) at her apartment in the West End, I knew immediately I would have fun. Virginia lives among wonderful collections of teddy bears and thimbles, all neatly arranged. The teddy bears sit on the floor and the couch, while the thimbles occupy a glass case.

One of the bears was made to celebrate the Celtics winning the 2008 NBA Championship. It's difficult to resist picking up one of the thimbles to see more closely its beautiful markings. Virginia inherited her zest for collecting from her great-grandfather Soule from whom she also inherited collections of spoons and egg holders.

Just as interesting and varied as her collections is Virginia's life. She was born at St. John's Hospital in Brooklyn and grew up in Baldwin, New York. With a guilty smile on her face she mentions the many visual arts schools she attended over a period of 15 years. They include the Pratt Institute, the Parsons School of Design, RISD and the School of Visual Arts. While at Parsons, she lived at International House with students from all over the world.

Virginia started out in the art field as a fashion illustrator, sketching famous designer hats for a millinery trade newspaper. She went on to create fashion retail ads for different department stores. Eventually, her talents took her into graphic design and the book publishing field. She did graphic design for a medical research company. As a book designer, she designed college textbooks, as well as nonfiction and fiction books for adults and children for Prentice

Hall and Doubleday & Company. All told, Virginia worked in the art field for 28 years in New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts.

During that time she also painted theater scenery for such community musical groups as the Montclair Operetta Club in New Jersey, which put on shows – *Brigadoon*, *My Fair Lady* and *The Unsinkable Molly Brown*. She also took charge of the stage props and did stage makeup for the men chorus members. Also under the category of fun, Virginia herself sang in different choruses in New York, New Jersey and Massachusetts. Verdi's *Requiem* was one of the most difficult pieces to sing.

She was also an associate curator for the camera museum in North Plainfield, New Jersey, where she managed a special exhibit for the North Plainfield Camera Club. She still enjoys photography as a hobby.

A visitor to her home can't help but notice a picture of Virginia with the Boston Symphony staff and conductor Seiji Ozawa at his BSO retirement staff luncheon. She formerly worked there as a switchboard telephone operator and as an usher and front door ticket person for concerts.

Virginia is still working. Since 2002, she has been a receptionist and telephone operator at the AAA's Boston branch downtown. She also does other office work, a true Jack of all trades.

In her spare time, Virginia now enjoys water color painting. She also still ushers in a number of Boston theaters and is quite proud of her official union card for IATSE Local B4-Boston, which represents theatrical workers in stage and screen. ■

Get Ready for Creative Kitchens



Left: Creative Kitchen Tour committee members (from left) Atheline Nixon, Aideen Jenkins (co-chair) and Barbara Lindeman prepare for this year's tour. Other members of the committee are Reese Berman (co-chair), Sally Brewster, Rachel Clafin, Elizabeth Cook, Joanne Cooper, Susan Cox, Diana Crane, Frim Field, Judy Fitzsimmons, Amy Haskel, Marion Nierintz and Ken Scott. Right: Lindy Roethlisberger and Tom Kershaw at last year's reception at the Hampshire House.

PUT SATURDAY, APRIL 8, FROM 1 to 4 p.m., on your calendar. That's the date, rain or shine, of BHV's popular annual fundraiser in which we step inside eight distinguished kitchens nestled in the historic homes of the Back Bay and Beacon Hill.

Now in its fourth year, the Creative Kitchen Tour has become a popular tradition. This year's tour showcases kitchens with unique features reflecting each owner's personality, style of living and occasional idiosyncrasy, such as the higher-than-normal counters installed for a six-foot-tall cook.

Guests will see one kitchen whose owner loves the open flow from kitchen to dining room because friends can join her while she cooks. Another owner, however, wanted her preparations out of sight from the dining room. A street-level kitchen has one-way shades, allowing light in but blocking the view from passersby. Two kitchens are brand new.

Glenda Tall, a Village member and a volunteer at last year's tour, found more to enjoy than the kitchens. "It is a bonus to view artwork on the walls and the gardens and living areas that can be seen from the kitchens," the artist said.

Sponsors this year include the Cheers for Children/Kershaw Foundation. A special thank you to Tom Kershaw for this generous contribution.

Tickets for the tour are \$50 in advance and may be purchased at www.beaconhillvillage.org or by calling the office at 617-723-9713. Tickets sold on the day of the tour will be \$60.

A limited number of tickets are available for members who would like to join participants at a luncheon to be held at Tom Kershaw's elegant Hampshire House on Beacon Street. Tickets for the luncheon and tour are \$135. ■

Atul Gawande Helps Celebrate 15 Years



Beacon Hill Village will host Atul Gawande, the surgeon, thinker, writer and expert on aging, at the 15-year celebration of BHV's founding at 5 p.m. on Monday, February 13, in Rabb Hall at the Boston Public Library.

Dr. Gawande's talk will be on "The Value of Community and Choice as We Grow Older." These were the themes of his last book, *Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End*.

Gawande's charge to older adults and their families is to make sure that the marvels of modern medicine do not get in the way of a person's choice of how to live as he or she ages. He lauds such communities as Beacon Hill Village, which facilitates interaction among those who are growing old, because belonging to a community is one of the most important features of life at any age, and its importance is sometimes forgotten in the effort to house, feed and care for people as they age.

As members of Beacon Hill Village we look forward to celebrating this important anniversary and hearing Dr. Gawande. ■



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THE VILLAGER *design by Joanne Legge*

Holiday Party 2016



Left: Michael Rotenberg, Amy Ryan, Karen Rotenberg and Hal Carroll enjoyed the festivities at Beacon Hill Village's Holiday Party at the Advent Church. Top right: New member Dan Power and Elaine Davidson got reacquainted at the December party. Bottom right: Diana Ambrose, Dorothy Leef and Carol Silverman at the party.