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Volunteers Jo Yeargin and Karen Bagnard

The Village Well Represented at Conference on Aging

On April 11, over 1,200 people attended the annual Conference on Aging sponsored by the Pasadena Senior Center. The keynote speaker was **Dr. Laura Mosqueda**, chair of the Department of Family Medicine at USC Keck School of Medicine and co-director of the National Center on Elder Abuse. Her topic was “Joyful Aging,” and she urged older adults to stay active and connected to the community. In her talk she noted that she was happy she was soon to turn 55, “so now I can join the Pasadena Village.” We are pleased to announce that Dr. Mosqueda will be the featured speaker at the upcoming Pasadena Village Annual Meeting on June 7, 2015. For more information please call the Village office, 626-765-6037.



Bill Jennings

At the conference, Village member **Bill Jennings** presented a workshop on “Exploring Pasadena and Beyond with Public Transportation.” Bill informed attendees of the many transportation options available in the area. He gave instructions on how to use Dial-A-Ride, Metro TAP, and Access Services and encouraged everyone to apply

Don't Fall For It! Trust but Verify!

by Ann Riordan

Targeting seniors is a favorite pastime of many scammers, because the elderly are often less knowledgeable about matters of finance than the younger half of the population, and more polite, more trusting — and more lonely. In January, Larry Johnson spoke with Villagers about how to protect yourself. He has worked closely with law enforcement agencies for 35 years in internal auditing, ethics and compliance, and fraud, and is now a volunteer with the Pasadena Police Department Financial Crime Unit.

One of the favorite rackets is the Grandparent Scam. Generally, it goes like this: A fake grandson calls and says something like, “Hi, Grandma, do you know who this is?” A grandparent guesses one of her grandson's name, providing the scammer with vital information. The dialogue resumes: “I’m in terrible trouble, Grandma. I’m in jail in Las Vegas. I owed a lot of money at the casino. I wrecked my car and I was arrested on a DUI charge, too. I need \$9,000!” (This example is a little over the top, but scammers are greedy, if nothing else.) The fake grandson asks that the money be sent via Western Union or MoneyGram, which don’t often require identification to collect. The fake finishes with “Please

don't tell my parents. They'll kill me.” If you get a call like this, trust but verify. Ask questions that use a bit of deception. “Did you drive all the way there from San Francisco?” The grandson lives in Dallas. “When do you start classes again at Yale?” He goes to TCU. If you can't ask



these questions, get the phone number from where the grandchild is calling, hang up, and call his/her parents for verification on the grandchild's whereabouts. Then call the fake grandchild, lay out the reality of the situation, and hang up. (Reporting the attempt to the police is not helpful. No crime has been committed.)

Other swindles: Johnson said that eBay is very careful about verifying the seller, but crooks are always a step ahead and can get your credit card number. He advised using PayPal or a credit card, never a debit card, when buying on the internet. Credit card liability is limited to \$50. To avoid identity theft, be careful about giving your Social Security number to anyone. Incinerate or shred old personal records. On social network sites (e.g., Facebook) don't list everything about your life, such as address, telephone number, family members, travel plans, etc.

Watch out for email phishing. Scammers want you to give them account numbers, SSNs, and more. Their solicitations may begin with “We noticed an issue with your account.” If you get a suspicious email, call the bank or credit card company to verify the problem. Then forward the scam emails to the FBI using this email address: spam@uce.gov. Make sure your computer Malware and Anti-Spyware are up to date. If you believe you are a victim of fraud, Johnson urges you to call the Pasadena Police detective squad at 626-744-4576. He also suggests AARP’s book: *Outsmarting the Scam Artists: How to Protect Yourself from the Most Clever Cons*, by Doug Shadel.

We Had a Good Time . . .

Pasadena Village has many accomplished members with hugely diverse interests. The Cultural Activities Committee created **Member Connections** to give members opportunities to share their vast collective experiences with one another.

Early in April, **Natalie** and **Don Cohen** invited 18 members to their home to talk about their long-time love for the Southwest, particularly the area in and around Santa Fe. The Cohens first visited nearly 25 years ago with their children, became fascinated with artistry and talent of the Indian tribes in the area, and have returned to Santa

Fe nearly every year since. Among the facts they shared was that part of our country has been inhabited continuously by Native Americans for 10,000 years or more. Navajo women weave colorful rugs from wool gathered from local sheep. The rugs are often small, easily framed, with symbolic designs in dark reds, blacks and the colors of the land. Navajo men specialize in silver jewelry,

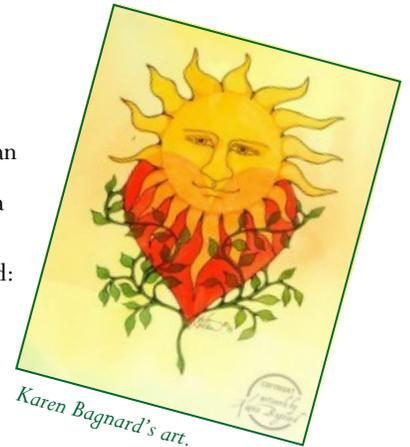
as do the Hopis. The Pueblos make the most beautiful pots. The Cohens had many beautiful examples of Southwestern art to share: rugs, decorative pots, distinctive silver jewelry and many photographic books of the area and its art. The Village members came away awed by the depth of their knowledge of the natives of Santa Fe.

— Ann Riordan

Member and local artist **Karen Bagnard** taught a two-hour, hands-on workshop in card making. Members who gave in to their inner artist included: **Lisa Davis, Lynda Obershaw** and **Barbara Madden**.

Early in April, **Barbara** and **John Madden** hosted a pot-luck dinner party for seven in their comfortable Altadena home. Thanks to **Martha Martinez**, who coordinates the cooks and their cookery, we had a lovely meal. The cozy dining room was the setting for interesting talk and some suggestions for new affinity groups. As members chatted, a peahen wandered around the back yard foraging for her dinner. We were thankful that ours was on the table!

— Ann Riordan



Karen Bagnard's art.

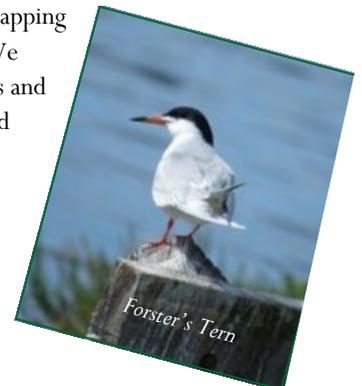
. . . And Here's What We Learned

Village members confirmed the might of the pen! 20 members donated hundreds (if not thousands) of books to seven local institutions. Volunteers **Margie Mason, Cheryl DeSautell, Natalie Cohen, Rob Russow, Ann Hyde, Ann Riordan, David Mason, Dave Folz** and **Marie Zondler** did all the work. The volunteer working group (subcommittee of Programs & Supportive Services) came up with the idea. We call that a win-win-win!

Continuing to share his interest in art, **John Orr** led a tour of ten members through renowned painter Armin Hansen's work at the Pasadena Museum of California Art. Hansen was one of the greatest marine painters ever born in this state. He gained fame by putting on canvas and paper an impression-

istic rendering of the same sort of people his contemporary, John Steinbeck, was then describing in his literature. Members completed the outing with lunch at California Pizza Kitchen.

In May, the Village Birders visited Bolsa Chica Reserve for the first time to check out hundreds of nesting Terns. You know what they say: One good Tern deserves another! Periodically one Tern would spy a hawk and all the rest would panic and rise in a cloud of flapping wings. Elegant. We spotted both Terns and Forster's Terns and three species of Grebes. Who says that birding is boring?



Forster's Tern



Dave Mason and Rob Russo

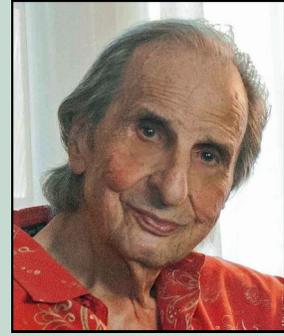


Volunteers prep donations.

In Memoriam

HAROLD NOBLE

Harold Noble, 92, died at his home in Altadena. He was a writer whose credits include seven episodes of *Death Valley Days* when Ronald Reagan was the host. A talented man, at age 80 he decided to take piano lessons and he practiced daily until his death. He also enjoyed ballroom dancing and he continued to foxtrot into his 90's. Village volunteers helped him fulfill his desire to remain in his home by driving him to appointments, to the market, and the bank. He is survived by longtime friend Patricia Williams.



CLARKE OLER

Clarke Oler, an Episcopalian priest for nearly sixty years, and a Founding Member of the Pasadena Village, died on April 6, 2015 after a long illness. His memorial service will be held at All Saints Church in Pasadena on June 13 at 1:00 PM.

Creating community was a hallmark of Clarke's priesthood and his life. He immediately embraced the concept of the Village and contributed his spirit, inspiration, and ideas in the earliest days of its creation. He served on the Village Board of Directors, and enthusiastically supported its early growth and development. Among his other accomplishments in a full life, he graduated from Yale University in 1949 and Virginia Theological Seminary in 1956. He served as rector of the Church of the Holy Trinity in New York City until 1975 when he came to California and eventually, to All Saints Church. Besides his work with the church, he was a licensed marriage and family counselor. He also authored the book *God Is in the Darkness: Finding Faith in Troubled Times* in 2006. Clarke made friends of everyone he met. He became a comfort and counselor to all who reached out to him. He is survived by his daughter Ellen and two sons, John and Kim and their families.



CONNIE SMITH

Connie Smith died at her home at the age of 94. She was a remarkable woman. In her 20's she learned to fly. She was known to dance at the slightest invitation. She loved fishing. She excelled at sewing and knitting. She was an active member of All Saints Church and was a leader of the Prison Ministry, assembling and delivering thousands of gift bags each year to the women inmates at Chino State Prison. As a member of the Pasadena Village she served on the Staying Connected committee, making sure that homebound members felt part of the Village. As noted at her memorial service, "she did not hide her light under a bushel." She is survived by her sons Harcourt, Robert, and John Hervey and their families. Donations in her honor may be made to All Saints Church.



CREATING COMMUNITY : The Art of Home Care by Barbara Calderone, RN, CPHRM

When seeking a person to provide personal care in the home, decisions are usually made out of acute need, without much time to meet with caregivers and weigh options. There are many things to consider, but often the only questions asked are "how much?" and "when can you start?"

Costs range from \$17 to \$27 per hour, and most private duty agencies have at least a four-hour minimum per day. When you find the best price, here are some important follow up questions:

Does the agency provide a **criminal background check** report?

Ask for proof of **Workers Compensation and Liability** insurance coverage for *all* the people working in your home. Some caregivers may be "independent contractors" hired through the agency. This practice puts you at financial risk for any injuries suffered by the caregiver.

Does this person have **basic training** in first aid, elder abuse reporting, HIPAA, dementia care, and/or other certifications? Does

the agency provide ongoing training?

Does the agency provide medical exams for employees to ensure they are **fit to do the job** and that they have no evidence of communicable disease?

Does the agency comply with federal law and verify that the employee has the **legal right to work** in the US?

If **driving** is part of the job, does the individual have a valid driver's license? Does the agency review the Motor Vehicle Record to ensure the employee meets acceptable driving standards?

Additionally, it is important to ask if the agency is paying overtime and offering healthcare and paid time-off benefits.

A caregiver's service can make a huge difference in quality of life. Choosing that person requires thoughtful consideration. Consider using an agency that does most of the background work for you, so you can focus on finding the person that best fits your needs.

THE PASADENA VILLAGE

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NOTICES

Save the Date!

Our **Annual Meeting** is June 7 at 3:00 PM
at the Polytechnic School.
RSVP by calling 626-765-6037.

Our next **Volunteer Orientation** is
Saturday, June 13 at 10:00 AM at the Village office.

Meet Me at the Village every third Friday at 10:00 AM.
Join us at the Village office for an informal gathering of
friends old and new – find out how you can get involved!

You can support the growth of our caring community
by visiting www.pasadenavillage.org/donate.

For help using the website,
call **Dave Folz**, 626-796-0901.
Follow us on [Twitter](#) and on [FaceBook](#).
For help call Rachel.

Remember, if you are reading this online, all the links are
hot.

Thank you to our Founding Sponsor:



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DIAL-A-RIDE AND THE THEATER

Through a partnership with Pasadena Dial-A-Ride, members of the Pasadena Village who have a Dial-A-Ride card will be able to attend the May 31 performance of “Waterfall” at the Pasadena Playhouse at a reduced rate. Members will meet at the Pasadena Village office to board the bus for a stress-free ride to the Playhouse, followed by dinner at a near-by restaurant, and a return trip to the Village. The cost for transportation is only \$1.50. We look forward to more excursions on Dial-A-Ride, and encourage all seniors in the Pasadena area to get their Dial-A-Ride and TAP cards! Stay on the move! Find the application at www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/transportation/dial_a_ride or call 626-744-4094.



ARTFUL HOME CARE

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