



Village Vibe

July/August 2014
Volume 1, No. 4

Presidents' Views: Outgoing and Incoming

Almost four years ago a group of us started talking about forming a Village here in and around downtown Silver Spring to support aging in place. During those years we have been blessed with the support and gracious hospitality of *Springvale Terrace*, a Seabury Senior Living Community. This organization has been a part of our Silver Spring community since 1965, providing independent living and supportive services to our older neighbors. Since early 2011 they have provided us with a “home” for our monthly planning meetings, then board meetings, and have hosted informational and recruiting events as we have grown.

As outgoing president of Silver Spring Village, I would like to thank Chuck Thornton, of Seabury, who said “yes” to our original request for meeting space. Thanks also to Margaret Hubbard and Christine Sliger, who continue to host our meetings, even providing lemonade and home-baked cookies. This gift of stability and structure and support has been a major factor in getting Silver Spring Village to our current “up and running and growing” status.

—*Roberta Gosier*

Thank you to Roberta and our other officers for leading our Village through a successful first year! Your hard work and dedication has already proven our Village’s potential to help make Silver Spring a *great place* to age in place.

Now, with a wonderful cadre of volunteers, a growing list of supporters, and a clear vision, we are ready to strengthen our operations, expand the number of members we serve, and build more ties to the community in the year ahead. I am enthusiastic about the work to be done and grateful to those who’ve entrusted me with a leadership role. I look forward to continued engagement with the rest of the newly elected Executive Committee, Peggy Gervasi, Michele Frome, and Mary Ann Zimmerman, and with the rest of our Board of Directors, our volunteers, and our members.

And thank you, readers! Please contact me or other members of the Board at any time (all are reachable via info@silverspringvillage.org or (301) 503-7401), with your ideas, issues, and inspiration. This is *your* Village!

—*Claire Maklan*

OUR NEW MAILING ADDRESS: PO Box 8217, Silver Spring, MD 20907

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Mission of the Village

To build and sustain a supportive network of neighbors helping neighbors remain in their own homes and be engaged in the community as they age.

Using a combination of volunteer and professional services and referrals, the Village provides a variety of services, as well as opportunities for social engagement. Participation by a diverse mix of residents within the Village’s defined geographic area enhances the quality of life for the entire community.

Like other Villages in the U.S. and abroad, our network aims to support individuals and to strengthen the community in which they live.

Progress Report

Totals as of the end of May

- Members: 65
- Volunteers: 55

Volunteer help April/May

- 22 rides
- Assistance with recycling and grocery shopping
- Computer and paperwork help
- Friendly calls and visits
- Minor household repairs
- The office telephone crew put in 246 hours.

Total volunteer hours

- April: 722
- May: 723

Silver Spring Village, Inc.

Board of Directors (as of July 1)

Claire Maklan, *President*
 Peggy Gervasi, *Vice President*
 Mary Ann Zimmerman, *Secretary*
 Michele Frome, *Treasurer*
 Martine Brizius
 Roberta Gosier
 Gary Klauber
 Anne McHenry
 Mae Novak
 Jacqueline Wallen

Committees

Membership—Peggy Gervasi
 Member Benefits—Gary Klauber
 Volunteers—Mae Novak
 Service Providers—Shannah Koss
 Development—Mary Ann Zimmerman
 Finance—Michele Frome
 Communications—Claire Maklan

Vibe Editors

Connie Raab, Erica Summers

Silver Spring Village is a non-profit, tax-exempt [501(c)(3)] organization.

Events Sampler

Local historian, and 20910 neighbor, Bob Oshel led a walking tour through parts of the Woodside and Woodside Park neighborhoods. He highlighted Civil War events as well as the suburban development that came in between the 1890s and the 1920s. Another great stroll was held on a gorgeous day at Brookside Gardens in Wheaton.



Neighborhood tour



Brookside Gardens stroll

A recent SPARKLE event (Senior Programs Aimed at Re-Kindling Lifetime Engagement) offered a panel on small and large home renovations that can enable seniors to stay in their homes longer. Presenting was a County representative, a professional home remodeler, a social worker, and a Takoma Park resident who had made age-friendly home modifications.



Age-friendly home event

Note to foodies: Each month Village events include visits to some local restaurants and coffee shops. Recently members had grilled shrimp, green curry chicken, and other dishes at Thai Derm and brunch at the new Urban Butcher.

See the calendar page 3 for July and August events.

Awards

Jacqie Wallen, former Village secretary, who has taught family science at the University of Maryland (UMD), won the UMD 2014 President's Commission on Ethnic Minority Issues (PCEMI) Outstanding Faculty Award. She was recognized for her work in developing and implementing cross cultural competence curricula, and for her development of multiple course opportunities for students to study internationally. Jacqie will continue her work in promoting diversity for the Village as well.



Jacqie and UMD President Wallace Loh—photo courtesy UMD



Anne Gavin

Anne Gavin, a key Village volunteer, received The Senior Connection (TSC) of Montgomery County's 2014 "Volunteer of the Year" award for her work with TSC's Bill Payer Program. Roberta Gosier, Village cofounder and former president, was instrumental in founding the program, and recruited Anne into the inaugural training class in 2012. The program matches volunteers with low income seniors needing help to manage their financial paperwork.

Got needs? We are here for you.

Full members: The Village is here for you. We can:

- Give you a ride to an appointment, haircut, Village event, or other locations
- Take you grocery shopping or shop for you
- Run errands for you
- Do a little light house cleaning
- Call you to see if you are ok or just to say hello
- Come over and spend some time with you
- Help you with paperwork or mail
- Do home organizing or decluttering of files, boxes, closets
- Weed or water plants
- Do small household repairs
- Move things around or out of the house
- Decorate for holidays
- Take care of pets
- Help you with technology



Shopping for a member—photo by George Lane

And more. We exist to help you! Don't hesitate to ask! Call us at (301) 503-7401 and let us know what you need.

How to . . .

...become a member: Residents throughout the 20910 zip code are eligible. All members can attend events, get discounts from local businesses, receive a subscription to *Washington Consumers' Checkbook*, access our information service, and get referrals to professionals. Full members can also receive services from our volunteers such as transportation, indoor and outdoor household help, technology support, friendly visits, and check-ins. Membership dues cover less than half of our operating expenses and are: Full: \$350/individual or \$450/couple; Associate: \$150/individual, \$250/couple.

...volunteer: People over age 18 who support our "age in place" mission are invited to serve as volunteers. Volunteers are not required to be members of the Village (though they are welcome to join, and many do). They need to complete an interest form and application, and have a background check. Training will be provided. All applicants must be officially accepted and enrolled by the Volunteer Coordinator before performing tasks for the Village. All sorts of skills and interests are welcome.

...donate: To keep our Village strong, we need funding from a combination of organizational and individual donors, in-kind contributions, and grants. Contributions in any amount are gratefully accepted. Donations are *tax-deductible*. Checks should be made to Silver Spring Village and mailed to Silver Spring Village, PO Box 8217, Silver Spring, MD 20907. Consider the Village in your will or in memorial donations.

We would love to hear from local businesses that might provide in-kind contributions or discounts to our members. Contact us!

All photos in this issue by Claire Maklan unless otherwise noted.

Events Calendar

Check our website for changes, additions, and details.

#Must be member or volunteer.

*Must be member.

ONGOING EVENTS

Walk in Sligo Park, every Thursday, 1 pm (weather permitting)

JULY

Wed., July 9 – **Coffee Hour, Zed's Café**, 10 am

Fri., July 11 – **Hillwood**. Visit Marjorie Merriweather Post's mansion and garden, 11 am*

Thurs., July 17 – **Dinner at Bete Ethiopian**, 7 pm*

Wed., July 23 – **Coffee Hour, Zed's Café**, 10 am

Wed., July 23 – **Social Media 101**. Launch of Village Facebook page and introduction to social media . 2:30-4 pm#

Fri., July 25 – **Thunderbolts Baseball Game**, 7 pm

AUGUST

Sat., Aug. 2 – **Art Nouveau**, 11 am-12:30 pm

Mon, Aug. 4 – **Happy Hour at 8407 Kitchen Bar and Restaurant**, 4 pm*

Wed., Aug. 6 – **Coffee Hour, Kaldi's Coffee Bar**, 10 am

Sat., Aug. 9 – **Traditional Japanese Architecture**, 11 am-12:30 pm

Sat., Aug. 16 – **Fenton Street Market**. Visit the Village booth on the plaza in front of the Silver Spring Civic Building, 10 am-1 pm

Wed., Aug. 20 – **Coffee Hour, Kaldi's Coffee Bar**, 10 am

Mon., Aug. 25 – **Lunch at Burger Fi**, noon*

Wed., Aug. 27 – **Dinner and Jazz at El Golfo**, 6 pm*

Thank You, Donors

October 2013 to June 2014

Cash Contributions:

Anonymous
 Dave & Toko Ackerman
 Gil Baxter
 Richard & Kristin Bemis*
 Martine Brizius
 Jo Anne Cashel
 Michelle DeFayette
 Chris & Mandy DesBarres
 Michael & Marian Dirda
 Brian & Barbara Ditzler
 Ellen Dreyer
 Michele Frome
 Anne Gavin
 Peggy Gervasi
 David M. Goldstein
 Frances Goldstein
 Roberta Gosier
 Pat Hahn*
 Gary M. Klauber
 George Lane
 Ed Levy
 Roberta Light
 Roy B. Lykes
 Claire & David Maklan
 David Marks*
 Anne & Jim McHenry
 G.J. Mitchell
 Mae Novak*
 Jeannette O'Connor
 Sylvia Olivetti
 Eugene & Anne Rice*
 Bruce Rosenthal
 Barbara Sanders
 Seekers Church
 Nan Shelabarger
 Susan and Ron Shapiro
 Alan J. Talbert
 Jacqueline Wallen
 Sue and Lew Winarsky
 Mary Ann Zimmerman
 *In memory of Donald Jacobson

In-Kind Contributions:

Easter Seals' Weinberg Inter-Generational Center
 Mark Kagan, Photographer
 Springvale Terrace
 United Therapeutics
 Whole Foods, Silver Spring

Note with a donation:

☞ *"With much gratitude
 for the Village
 People"*

Volunteer Corner: "Plant-a-Palooza"

In May, volunteers helped a new member plant her vegetable garden, and spent 7 hours weeding for another new member who loves her perennials but isn't going to be able to care for them this year. Also, volunteers, members, friends, and family were invited to a member event - the Village's first Plant and Seed Swap on Saturday May 24th. Hosted by members Roberta and Dennis Gosier (and surrounded by their beautiful roses), 39 adults, children and even a family dog joined in the fun. Refreshments were served on the Gosier's patio, the weather was beautiful, and gardeners went home with new plants. A suggestion has already been made to have a Fall event – a bulb swap and maybe pumpkin carving too. Please let us know if you are interested in this potential event by writing to member-benefits@silverspringvillage.org.



—Mae Novak

Want to Be Part of Something Exciting?

Our major function is providing assistance to members, but we have many other opportunities for engaging your talents and energy. And it's fun! If you have time, skills, and interests and like to be involved in meaningful work, the Village has a place for you. We are flexible and accommodate to your schedule and availability.

Silver Spring Village succeeds through volunteers, who carry out everything from single tasks to serving on a committee (see list on left of page 2) or the Board of Directors. We'd like to talk with you if you enjoy:

- Assisting individuals in a variety of ways
- Planning events and get-togethers
- Promoting a worthwhile cause
- Growing an organization
- Taking photos, writing, editing
- Raising money
- Maintaining databases, mailing lists
- Networking with friends, neighbors, local businesses, nonprofits
- Updating websites and using social media
- Using other skills and talents



Photo by Marc Kagan

Whether you might want to do a little or a lot, contact Silver Spring Village during office hours (10 am to 4 pm, Monday through Friday), or leave a message at (301) 503-7401 or email volunteers@silverspringvillage.org.

Silver Spring Village is Now on Facebook!

Our Facebook page is designed to encourage engagement online, interact with current and prospective members, volunteers, and supporters, and showcase our Village to a broad online audience. (It might surprise you to learn that the number of Facebook users age 55 and older grew by more than 80% over the past 3 years.) Visit us at www.facebook.com/silverspringvillage, "like" our page, and comment on our posts. Encourage your family and friends to do the same.