



Potomac
Community
Village

Dec. 2016 - Jan. 2017

"your roadside assistance on the journey of life"

240-221-1370

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www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org

Potomac Community Village News

New and Prospective Member Event, Sunday, Jan 22, 2 – 4 p.m.

Invitations are being sent out to new PCV members for a special Get-Together and an opportunity to chat over delicious refreshments while they learn about becoming more engaged with PCV's mission of enabling us to live where we want to – to "thrive in place" independently in our own homes. Friends are invited to attend with them to also learn about PCV and perhaps become more involved. Lots of yummy food promised. We'll be at a private Potomac home, so RSVPs please by Wed., Jan 18, to 240-221-1370. Any questions, please call 240-221-1370, and please let us know if you need a ride.



A New Membership Policy: Whenever you join you get a full year of membership

PCV recently moved from a membership year of July 1 – June 30 to a *rolling membership year* that begins when you join, and ends one year later, on the last day of the month you join. For example, if you first joined PCV on November 15, your membership year ends on November 30, 2017. Anyone who *renewed* stayed with a membership year that ends June 30, 2017. So if you've been waiting to join so you could get a full year of membership, your wait is over! To join now, and be able to take advantage of all our member-only benefits and activities, just call the Help Desk at 240-221-1370 and we'll send you a membership form.

Times when you suddenly need help can happen to anyone, and PCV is there when you do

A Stolen Car, but Help from PCV Saves the Day



Perhaps, when leaving Montgomery Mall and not finding your car where you thought you had parked it, you briefly feared it might have been stolen, but then you saw it one row over. Relief!

But when PCV member Yvonne Klenk stepped out of her home on a secluded court off Montrose Road this past September and did not find her car, she knew it had been stolen. She called the police to report the theft and an officer arrived about an hour later.

Unfortunately, as Yvonne tells it, the interaction was less than satisfactory - the police officer suggested that perhaps Yvonne had absent-mindedly left the car somewhere else and just walked home. Spending an hour with Yvonne should convince anyone that this was not at all likely. Yvonne was now suddenly – and unexpectedly - without personal transportation, but had appointments to keep and places to go. But she's a PCV member, so she called the Help Desk and arranged for rides through our Village Rides program. PCV volunteer drivers who came to her rescue include PCV members Norma Purcell, Mo Rosen, Elisabeth Schouten and Sheila Taylor, and non-members Cecilia Balchun, Arnie Feldman, Kathleen McWilliams and Sue-Anne Slonin. Neighbors on her court also helped out with grocery shopping. Meanwhile, Yvonne's insurance company made what she feels is fair payment for her loss, and she now has wheels again.

Next Meeting – Thursday, Jan 26 at 7:00 p.m.

Social worker Roberta Drucker, on

"Relating with Our Adult Children and Grandkids"

Location TBD. Check on www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org or call us at 240-221-1370.

Free! All welcome. Bring your friends and neighbors!

Brrr! Winter's here, and so is PCV's Storm Buddies Program, and our Member-Only List of who to call to get your driveway plowed out

- **Our Storm Buddies program**, for members who would like a phone call to check on their well-being when the weather turns frightful – snow, ice, power outages, etc. If you want to know more about Storm Buddies, or want to add your name to our Storm Buddies List, please call Dita Smith at 301-983-9354.
- **Member-Suggested Contractor List** for names of contractors of all types, including snow clearing, a benefit just for PCV members. Just phone the Help Desk at 240-221-1370 for referrals and information.

Getting to Know You: Meet Jane Blocher

Do you know the person sitting next to you at the PCV event you're attending? If not, please introduce yourself!



One member you might like to meet is Jane Blocher, who currently works with PCV's Membership Team and is a founding member who has enjoyed creating and watching PCV's growth, as well as meeting new friends and neighbors.

A "what-you-see-is-what-you-get" type of person endowed with optimism and empathy, she thoroughly enjoys PCV and has gotten to do things she feels she might otherwise not have done. As she says, "I can't think of a better way to have a support system so you can age in place."

Born in Colorado, Jane grew up in Wyoming and later moved to Washington, DC for graduate work in psychology at Catholic University. Destined not to leave the area, she met her husband here and together they began their 51-year marriage. A daughter was born, and in time a grandson and granddaughter have arrived to bring joy. Thirty-seven years and three careers were Jane's accomplishments at Montgomery College. She began as a counseling faculty member, then became Dean of Students, and ended up in ESOL and developmental education, where she worked with students from 187 countries. When talking with Jane you can hear how gratified she is to have been part of a program that helped so many students achieve academic success.

These days, Jane is busy monitoring her husband's health and visiting doctors; keeping up with friends from college, St. Elizabeth's Church, neighbors, and PCV; as well as reading in her quieter moments.

Coming up...

- **Tuesday, Dec. 20, 1:30 – 3:30, for the Member-only Book Group**, discussing *The Marriage of Opposites* by Alice Hoffman. For directions or questions, call Julia (301-762-1290) or Linda (301-299-6181).
- **Tuesday, Dec. 27, 3 – 4:30 for our Afternoon Tea and Talk**, at the Corner Bakery, Westlake Drive, near Montgomery Mall, to meet and chat with Potomac neighbors. Open to all. Call 240-221-1370 for more information. Please note that if it's snowing or otherwise unsafe to travel, the Tea will be re-scheduled.
- **Monday, Jan. 9 is our Member-only Docent-led Tour of the newly reopened National Gallery East Building**. Please call the Help Desk with questions or to RSVP (by Jan 4 please), at 240-221-1370.
- **Tues., Jan 10, 10 – 11:30, for Morning Coffee and Conversation. Tally Ho Restaurant in Potomac Village.**
- **January 21 kickoff of the 100 Mile Challenge** to be completed between January 26 and May 5. Fee is \$5 per person for seniors (and another \$5 if you want a bandanna for your dog.) A copy of the brochure with a registration form is posted on www.potomaccommunityvillage.org. Our Group Name is PCVMovers. For more info and how to fill out your form, please email Joan and Bob Spirtas at taralou2@gmail.com.
- **Late Jan. or early Feb, for our Member-only Luncheon Banquet to celebrate Chinese New Year. At the China Gourmet Bistro.** Details coming soon, at www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org, or 240-221-1370.
- **Tues., Feb. 14, 7:30; a member-only Theater party**, at Round House Theater, to see *Caroline or Change*. \$10 / members, \$15/ non-members; members have priority until Feb. 1. Call 240-221-1370 for more info.

A special thank you: The Oct. – Nov. 2016 issue of our newsletter included an article about volunteering which featured friendly visits to the elderly mother of a PCV member. The mother, Betty Brown, age 98, who died on Nov. 4, was also a PCV member. Her son, Scott, sent us this message: "My mother truly enjoyed the PCV events she attended, and it was so wonderful to have PCV volunteers come to visit her. Please convey my gratitude to my fellow Village members for the support they provided, both during my mother's illness and after her passing."