



Potomac
Community
Village

Sept. – Oct. 2016

“your roadside assistance on the journey of life”

240-221-1370

info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org

www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org

Potomac Community Village News

New and Prospective Member Get-Together, Wed., Oct. 26, 3 – 5 p.m.

Written invitations are coming soon to all new members – those who’ve joined PCV since the spring - to come to a New Member Get-Together to meet other members and to learn more about what PCV is and what we do. They are also invited to bring friends with them, either non-member friends interested in learning more about PCV, or other PCV members who joined earlier but would also like to know more us, and perhaps become more involved. Any others who want to know more about PCV are also invited to attend. Lots of refreshments promised. We’ll be at a private Potomac home, so RSVPs are essential by Monday, Oct. 24, to 240-221-1370. When you RSVP, we’ll give you location and directions.



Can you help out? PCV’s Farmers Market Booth or on Potomac Day?



Volunteers are needed to man the PCV booth at the Potomac Farmers Market on Thursday afternoons, any time between 1:30 – 5, on Sept. 29, Oct. 6 and Oct. 13; and to help out on Potomac Day, Saturday, Oct. 22.

The Farmers Market is in the parking lot of Potomac United Methodist Church, on Falls Road at the corner of South Glen Road. Set-up is from 1:30 -2, after which we need people to talk with potential members and volunteers at any time between 2 – 4:30, and to help with take-down from 4:30 – 5. We’ll have written instructions for you, with suggestions on how to approach potential members and volunteers, lots of possible talking points and information all about PCV.

On Potomac Day, October 22, we need volunteers to be parade marshalls (helping with safety along the parade route), marching in the parade carrying our banner, handing out fliers along the parade route, and manning our booth. To volunteer at the Farmers Market, on Potomac Day, or just to learn more, please email us at info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org, or call 240-221-1370.

A member-only trip to a musical show, on Sat., Nov. 12, 1 p.m.

Join us on Sat. Nov. 12, at 1 p.m., at the Fitzgerald Theater in Rockville, for a member-only trip to a musical show of Hansel and Gretel, featuring the Heart of Maryland Chorus, (a double quartet from the group performed at our July Pot-Luck Dinner) along with the Greg Harrison Jazz Band. Tickets, regularly \$15, are \$10 for PCV members, with PCV paying the difference as a special member benefit. If you want to attend, **your tickets MUST be ordered and paid for in advance, with a deadline of Friday, October 15**. Checks, payable to Potomac Community Village, are preferred, but credit cards will be accepted. For questions or to order tickets, please go to our website, www.PotomacCommunityVillage.org, or call 240-221-1370. Current plans are to go out as a group after the show for dessert.

Next Meeting – Thursday, October 20, 7 – 9 p.m.

Amy Riolo, cookbook author and food expert, on

“The Mediterranean Diet and its Benefits”

at the Bolger Center, 9600 Newbridge Drive, Potomac

All welcome. Free, but donations gladly accepted. Bring your friends and neighbors!

A Conversation

In front of the PCV booth at the Potomac Farmers Market...

“I’ve heard of you, but what exactly is Potomac Community Village?”



We’re part of the national Village movement, but here in Potomac, in 20854. We enable people to age in place in their own homes, with a little bit of help, like someone climbing up on a ladder to change the burned-out light bulb outside your garage, or transportation if you no longer drive.

“I like that idea. But I really don’t need any help right now.”

Neither do most of our members. But our member survey showed that while most of us decided to join PCV because we wanted to support a worthwhile program, we stay because of the new social connections we’ve made. It turns out that it’s hard to meet interesting new people when you’re no longer working and the kids are all grown up.

“Yeah, it’s a lot harder now that I’m retired. What other things do you do?”

We have monthly meetings that are open to everyone. And we also have some member-only programs – theater, museum tours, lunches out, a home-safety inspection program, book group. One of our more popular requests is for computer help, like if your email stops working. And we have a Neighbor-Suggested list of contractors, sort of like asking your neighbor who they use, but it’s a whole lot more neighbors to get suggestions from.

“When’s your next meeting? And how do I get on your mailing list?”

(Our next meeting, open to all, is on Thursday, Oct. 20, at 7 p.m. Details are in the box at the bottom of the front page. To get on our mailing list, just call us 240-221-1370, or email info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org.)

Morning Coffee, Afternoon Tea and Book Group

Thursday, Oct. 6, from 10 – 11:30 is our **Morning Coffee**, **no date yet for Afternoon Tea and Talk**, both open to all, and both at the Corner Bakery, Westlake Drive, for an opportunity to meet other Potomac neighbors, chat about whatever comes to mind. Let us know if you’re coming to the coffee (and to find out the Tea date) at 240-221-1370. **The PCV Book Group meets on Wed., Oct. 19, 1:30-3:30 p.m.**, discussing *First Lady: The Life and Wars of Clementine Churchill*, by Sonia Purnell. The group is for PCV members only but new book group members are welcome. For directions or questions, call Julia Medin (301-762-1290) or Linda Perlis (301-299-6181).

PCV theater party: Just a few tickets left for “Angels in America”

Our theater party at the Round House Theater in Bethesda is in two parts, with a separate ticket needed for each part, to see *Angels in America*, by Tony Kushner. Part 1 is on Tues., Oct. 18; part 2 on Tues. Oct. 25. Each ticket is \$10 for members, \$15 for non-members. Details at 240-231-1370 or info@PotomacCommunityVillage.org.

Fire Safety Home Inspections Coming in November



A joint effort between PCV and the County’s fire department offers a free special member benefit of fire safety inspections in early November, with exact dates TBD. Thank you to PCV member Elisabeth Schouten for coordinating this event for us.

The purpose of this program is to make it less likely for us to be injured or die in the event of a fire. The inspection by the fireman will include an inspection of your home’s smoke detectors and if they need replacing, and an evaluation of your home’s safety, its exits, your emergency plans, and the proper placement of smoke and carbon monoxide detectors. County firemen will also install new battery-power smoke detectors and carbon monoxide monitors which you have purchased and already have on hand, and will change batteries. If you need to replace existing hard-wired detectors, you need to hire an electrician, as this is not a service the fireman is able to do. This special safety program is a follow-on to previously held Fire Safety Home Inspections we’ve already done on behalf of our members, and an outgrowth of our March 2015 fire safety program, when we learned that smoke detectors should be replaced every ten years.

This free program is a benefit for PCV members. For more information and to express your interest in having an inspection, please contact PCV’s Fire Safety Inspection Coordinator Elisabeth Schouten at 301-299-7923.

Coming in October and November...

- **Morning Coffee and Conversation, Thursday, Oct. 6, 10 a.m.** at the Corner Bakery, Westlake Drive.
- **Farmers Market Booth, Thursdays, Oct. 6 and 13.** Come visit us between 2 – 4:30, or see page 1 for how to volunteer to help us grow!
- **Theater Party on Oct. 18 and again on Oct. 25,** to see Parts 1 and 2 of *Angels in America*, see page 2 for details.
- **Book Group, Wed., Oct. 19, 1:30-3:30 p.m.,** page 2 for details.
- **October monthly meeting, Thursday, October 20, 7 p.m., with cookbook author and food expert Amy Riolo,** an internationally recognized expert known for fusing the worlds of cuisine, culture, and history in her work. She is an award - winning author, popular lecturer, food historian, food writer, culinary consultant, and cooking instructor. The program will be at the Bolger Center, 9600 Newbridge Drive, Potomac.
- **Potomac Day, on Saturday, Oct. 22!** Visit our booth and cheer us on in the Potomac Day Parade, and see page 1 for how to volunteer to help us share the PCV story with more people.
- **New and Prospective Member Get-Together, Wed., Oct. 26, 3 – 5 p.m.** See page 1 for details.
- **Fire Safety Home Inspections, early November.** Exact dates TBD, see page 2 for details.
- **November Morning Coffee and Afternoon Tea,** November dates TBD
- **Book Group meets on Tuesday, Nov. 15, 1:30 – 3:30,** to talk about *Born Survivors*, by Wendy Holden.
- **November monthly meeting, Thursday, Nov. 17, 7 p.m., with author David Hoffman, on his book, “The Billion Dollar Spy.”** Bolger Center, Newbridge Drive, Potomac. All welcome, admission free, but donations are gladly accepted.
- **Happy Thanksgiving! Thursday, Nov. 24.**

Need some help with organizing your home? The name of a good plumber?

Just ask! Call us at 240-221-1370 for these member benefits

It's not just transportation to the doctor that PCV members get help with. In recent weeks, we've had requests for going to the grocery store. And one time, a member asked for a ride to the library so she could pick up a book that was on "hold" for her. Would this kind of help make your life easier? Just call us, and we'll help make it happen.

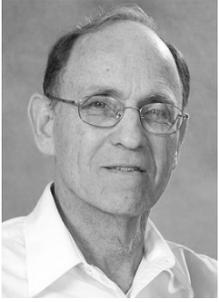
In the past few weeks, members called our Help Desk for names of plumbers, driveway paving companies and power-washing firms from our Neighbor-Suggested Contractor List; for friendly visits for caregiver respite and for help with organizing books and other items; for rides to doctors' appointments and for computer help. All requests were met. People also called in to get information about PCV, for themselves or on behalf of their parents; to sign up for our Tech Tutorials, our Morning Coffee, our Afternoon Tea, our member walk on the Canal and to volunteer to be at PCV's booth at the Potomac Farmers Market.

Want to know more? Just call our Help Desk at 240-221-1370.



A Serendipitous PCV Encounter

As the saying goes, “You never know who you’ll meet.” Such was the case for Simon Babil (pictured at left), a PCV volunteer who went to lend a hand to Jane Margolius, a fellow PCV member. As he was helping to pack some boxes for her that needed to be moved to another part of her house, they got to chatting and discovered, much to each other’s amazement, that they had both emigrated to the U.S. from Cuba. Jane (who declined to have her picture taken) was delighted that PCV had sent her a fellow Cuban!



Jane and her two brothers left Cuba in 1954 along with their parents who had emigrated to Cuba from Russia. Although it was before the rise of Castro, Jane’s family was aware that communism was creeping in. She has never been back. Simon left when he was 15 years old in 1960, two years after Fidel Castro came to power. He was the first from his family to come.

With no knowledge of the English language, he stayed with an uncle in Chicago whom he barely knew. After two years he left Chicago and went to New York to join his mother and brother and to attend college. His father, originally from Ukraine, and his mother, originally from Poland, as well as the remaining members of his large extended family, followed from Cuba to the U.S., along with 80 – 90% of their fellow Cuban Jews. Both Jane and Simon are now longtime residents of Potomac, Jane since 1969 and Simon since 1982.

Jane and her husband, the owner of a liquor store, raised two sons and a daughter. Only her two sons are now living, but being an outgoing and chatty person, Jane has attracted a host of friends. It also helps that she is a person who is “there for everyone” when there is a need. She attributes this trait to the teachings of her religion. Another one of her big interests used to be gardening, but since she now uses a walker to get around, she has to be content to just admire gardens.

Simon, with a Ph.D. in electrical engineering, worked almost full-time until a year ago and still does some consulting. In addition, his life is filled with activities at his synagogue’s Men’s Club, swimming, sampling local restaurants, attending a concert series at Strathmore, and babysitting his grandchildren. With a daughter who has lived in Israel for 8 years and is the parent of 6 children, he and his wife visit there once or twice a year. They also go to Florida 3 or 4 times a year to visit relatives and his wife’s 101-year-old father.

Thank you to Shirley Jacobus for interviewing and for writing these “meet a member” special features.

THANK YOU!

PCV acknowledges the following for their support: the **Bolger Center** for providing PCV with free meeting space; **Carol Nerenberg**, of **Berkshire Hathaway PenFed Realty’s** Bethesda office, for printing our newsletters each month. Carol can be reached at carol@carolnerenberg.com or at 301-961-6000; **Hopkins & Porter**, a construction and handyman services firm at 301-812-3161 or www.hopkinsandporter.com, for their financial support.