

Park View Village

Newsletter – Vol. 5, No. 3

May-June, 2015



Our “Show and Tell Night”

Twenty-one PVV members and guests learned a lot about each other at our “Show and Tell” program in March. *From left:* Anne Miller, showing her “Rose Window” quilt, reflected on her midlife discovery of quilting and going on to create her own designs; Mary Anne Heatwole shared her enthusiasm for bowling; and Ed Bontrager described some adventures from his 41 journeys as a travel agent.

Photos: 1, courtesy of Anne from her exhibit at the Oasis Gallery; #s 2 and 3, by Greg Versen. “Show and Tell Night” continues on page 4, followed by other memories from this Spring.

BOARD PRESIDENT UPDATE

It is wonderful to enjoy the early produce from the garden like asparagus, lettuce and strawberries. While enjoying produce, the flurry of spring projects like getting the weeds under control, mulching landscape, and cleaning up winter leaves can overwhelm us. These projects can move along with help from Park View Village volunteers and vendors.

The Gnagey Household recently hired help to install a gutter guard system to eliminate the “need” for me to clean out the gutters 3-4 times each year. Max Troyer (Troyer Construction), who is on our vendor list, did the project.

Last newsletter, we reported our Secretary position was vacant. I am thankful that **Clara Yoder** (pictured at right) was elected to the board and to the secretary position at the May Board Meeting. Clara, it is good to have you on the board.

We also celebrated new PVV members, Steve Shenk and Karen Moshier Shenk. Please extend a warm welcome the next time you see Steve and Karen.

Thanks for choosing Park View Village as a source of education, services and fun in Park View.

Keith Gnagey, President

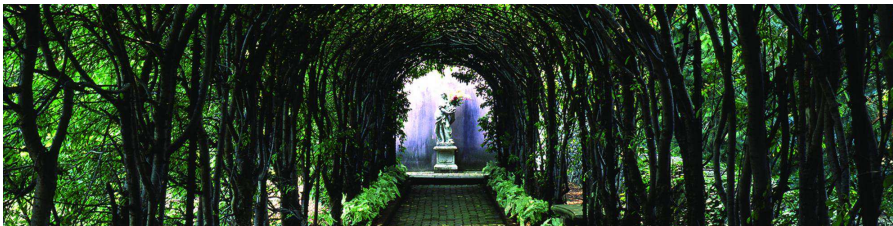


CALENDAR.....

Friday, June 5: PVV's annual picnic at Morrison Park shelter (on 2nd Street between Chicago Avenue and Willow Street, near Waterman School). Please bring one potluck dish per person (couples bring 2 dishes), a beverage, and your own table settings. Dinner begins at 6:30. Music and ice cream will be provided! In case of rain, check your email for announcement of a change in plan.

June 15: Deadline to receive new PVV discount for membership in EMU Fitness Center. (See below.)

Tuesday, Aug. 18: Trip to the Museum of the Shenandoah Valley, Winchester, and the adjoining **Glen Burnie estate.** For details about these sites, see themsv.org. Our bus will depart from Park View Mennonite Church at 8:30 AM, returning about 4 PM. Cost is \$28.00 per person - includes bus and entrance fee. (Provided we can fill a bus, that amount will cover transportation and entrance fee. The first 25 persons who sign up are in; the bus from Custom Transportation holds 25.) Bring a brown-bag lunch. To sign up, go on Park View Village website, or contact Ed Bontrager for a registration form at [540-438-9304](tel:540-438-9304) or eebontrager@comcast.net.



A view at Glen Burnie Gardens (from themsv.org). Harrisonburg Mayor Chris Jones (from whsv.com).

Thurs., Sept. 10, 6pm: Potluck dinner and PVV's **Annual Meeting** at PVMC Fellowship Hall, featuring an address by **Harrisonburg Mayor Chris Jones.**



SERVICE PROVIDER SPOTLIGHT

EMU Fitness Center has agreed to become a service provider member. Discount available for PVV members through June 15.

Since March 9, PVV members have had access to the EMU Fitness Center equipment plus the following additional services for an exclusive rate of \$120 per year or \$75 dollars for six months – a 20% reduction over the standard rates. The additional services include: four 30-minute orientation sessions per year to provide basic workout information led by a personal trainer, access to the

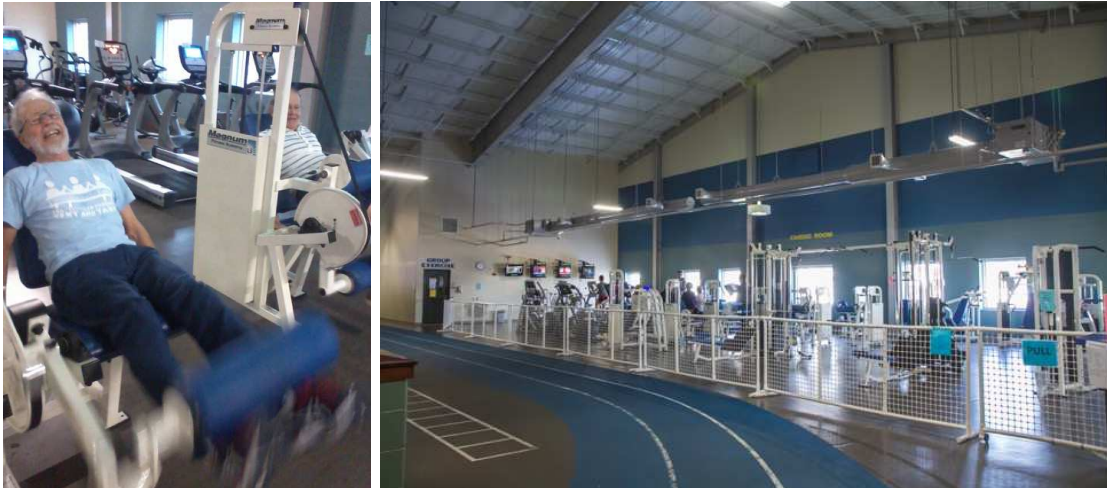
Exercise Room for private fitness sessions, access to a walking partner (student or faculty member when available), and a pass to five class sessions offered by the Fitness Center.

This offer is available until **June 15, 2015**.

Registration: All members will need to complete a Fitness Center Membership Form available at the Fitness Center Desk. Be sure to identify yourself as a PVV member to receive your discount (if signing up by June 15), and receive your ID card before accessing the Fitness Center.

Should you have questions about this agreement please contact your Vendor Services Provider Coordinator, **John Spicher at vjspicher@gmail.com or 442-8252.**

Hours when the Fitness Center is available to members can be accessed on the schedule board behind the Fitness Center desk, or online at <http://www.emu.edu/studentlife/fitnesscenter/>.



Ed Yoder (left) works out at the Fitness Center, located in EMU's University Commons building (right). Photos by Everett Brubaker and Ted Erickson, respectively.

Helping hands – PVV links volunteers with neighbors



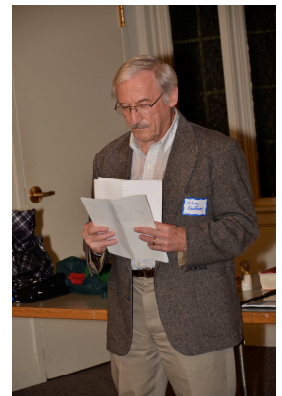
When Myron and Esther Augsburgers needed to be away recently, three members of PVV -- John Spicher, J. Lowell Wenger and Paul Yoder -- assisted by attending to their son, Michael. "They were a special help for Michael, and assurance for us," says Myron Augsburgers.

Volunteers are at the heart of Park View Village. As summer nears, volunteer coordinator Cliff Lind has two volunteers available for lawn mowing. Does anyone have time to help with planting or weeding for neighbors? Or help with home maintenance – routine cleaning, small repairs or larger projects? See the March-April newsletter for a longer list of volunteer needs and opportunities.

Do you have a volunteer story to tell? Can you send us some notes on your volunteer experiences, or an appreciation?

To offer, or to request a volunteer's help, contact **PVV Volunteer Coordinator Cliff Lind, 433-8225** or **hope35lind@verizon.net**.

“Show and Tell Night,” continued from page 1 --



Above, from left: Edie Bontrager finds creative ways to recycle colorful fabrics. Volunteering for Booksavers led Kenton Brubaker to amass a huge stamp collection; his wife, Shirley Yoder Brubaker, collects Nativity scenes from around the world. Glenn Kauffman writes poetry, which he shared.

Below: Cliff Lind described how he made a wooden hand plane, then watched Paul Yoder try it out. (Paul brought his bicycle, which he’s pedaled “around the world at least twice.”) Nancy Gunden shared her enthusiasm for fitness. Peggy Landis brought a Latin book from her career in local classrooms, while husband Jay (with four of his former EMC/EMU students seated among us) read from his well-used anthology of the works of Shakespeare.



- Photos by Greg Versen

Pictured here are just a few of the treasures and endeavors shared. Others included Virginia Spicher’s poinsettias crafted by painting dry magnolia leaves, and Ed Yoder’s metal bouquet sculpture, using nail casings he found while volunteering to help renovate a Habitat for Humanity home damaged by Hurricane Sandy in 2012. Finding the casings resembled both shell casings and flowers, he created 28 blooms – in memory of the 28 dead in the same year’s Sandy Hook tragedy.

Arlene Wiens showed a “Nightingale Lamp” representing her nursing and nursing education career, while John Spicher displayed the hardhat he wore as a safety engineer/manager. Greg Versen, who hosts WMRA’s “Professah Blues,” brought a sculpture by the late John L. Heatwole III of “a blues man hiding in a piece of wood – Delta Blues.” Activities represented also included community theatre, family history and mementos, photography, travel, and for Mary Kauffman, a life in two nations. Being native to Canada, Mary displayed her permanent U.S. resident card (it’s not green, but pink).

Many thanks to PVV’s Program Committee (Ed Bontrager, chair; Peggy Landis and Robin McNallie) for putting this and our other programs together!

More from our Spring programs



Stan Macklin (above), founder of Harrisonburg's **Harriet Tubman Cultural Center**, spoke with PVV members in May about Ms. Tubman (1819 or 1820-1913), famous abolitionist, Underground Railroad conductor, and top choice in a recent national opinion poll for the face on a proposed new \$20 bill. See <http://www.harriettubman.com/>. Mr. Macklin, who led in last year's naming of Harrisonburg's Martin Luther King Jr. Way, also discussed local African-American history. Persons interested in arranging tours of Newtown (northeast Harrisonburg) and Zenda (an early settlement and church north of town) may contact the Tubman center: 117 High St., Suite B, Harrisonburg; 578-6389. *Portrait of Harriet Tubman, upper right, from Wikipedia; other photos on this page by Greg Versen.*



In April, 12 PVV members visited **The Gemeinschaft Home** – our neighbor for 30 years, which helps former prisoners transition back into the community. At left, PVV program committee chair Ed Bontrager talks with Dr. Sam Showalter, Gemeinschaft board chair, and program director Richi Yowell, who gave detailed updates and answered many questions from PVV guests – some of whom are pictured at right. We enjoyed refreshments, toured the home and met several residents. For more about Gemeinschaft, including ways you can help, see <http://www.gemeinschafthome.org/>.

A report from PVV's Village to Village meeting delegation

In September 2014, **Julia Alleman, Evelyn Driver, Denise Sauder and Clara Yoder** traveled to Arlington, representing PVV at the annual gathering of the national "Village to Village" movement.

Evelyn found "a feeling of excitement" as groups reported on their work – but she also learned of challenges facing VtV following the loss of two major financial donors, with staff reduction and possible fee increases expected. She requested considering a VtV membership price break for Villages like ours that have very small budgets. If fees increase, she noted, "We may need to re-evaluate whether the amount we spend on membership is cost-effective."

A break-out session addressed helping members prepare for unexpected life events. A guide, "Getting My Affairs in Order," was presented and is on this link from the VtV website:

http://www.vtvnetwork.org/content.aspx?page_id=86&club_id=691012&item_id=28189 (click on the first item beneath the heading, "Out of the Blue"). As an aid in compiling your essential information, it could serve as a resource for a PVV program.

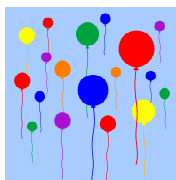
Could we benefit from participating in a coalition of neighboring Villages? We learned of a Washington area group, which meets regularly, as well as a more rural group.

A presentation emphasized viewing a Village as a small business enterprise. Questions relevant to PVV, Evelyn reports, include "Do we have a business plan? 'Measurable' outcomes? If we were to apply for grant funding, what would we be asking for? Do we need/want baseline data so that over time we can show how we helped persons remain in their homes?"

To learn more about the national movement we are part of, visit <http://www.vtvnetwork.org/> -- especially the "Resources" section.

Who will attend the **next VtV conference, Oct. 5-7, 2015 in Seattle?**

Happy birthday, PVV members!



Upcoming birthdays

June

Shirley Yoder Brubaker, Edna Brunk, Sarah Marie Weaver, Edwin M. Yoder, Paul A. Yoder

July

David Cowardin, Robin McNallie, Ann L. Yoder

NEWSLETTER NOTE: Deadline is July 20 for submissions to the July-August 2015 PVV newsletter. Send all items to ***Chris Edwards, editor, 434-0457; chrisedwardshburg@gmail.com.***

Park View Village Board Members

Ed Bontrager – Program Committee Chair
Evelyn Driver – Vice President
Chris Edwards – Newsletter Editor
Nancy Gunden – Treasurer
Keith Gnagey – President
Peggy Landis – Program Committee
Cliff Lind – Volunteer Coordinator

Robin McNallie – Program Committee
Anne Miller
John Spicher – Vendor Services Chair
Arlene Wiens – Member Services Chair
Clara Yoder – Secretary
Paul Yoder – Member Recruitment

To contact Park View Village: 540-705-0432; website, <http://parkviewvillageva.org/>
