

Park View Village

Newsletter – Vol. 7, No. 1

January-February, 2017



PVV PROGRAM CALENDAR

Tuesday, Feb. 7, 11:30 am. Antique jewelry tour and lunch. Following a tour of **Hugo Kohl's Museum of American Jewelry**, 217 South Liberty Street, Suite 103 (fee, \$5/person) we'll lunch in **Food.Bar.Food**, a nearby restaurant on 126 W Bruce St. Space for tour is limited; if interested, call Greg Versen at 433-1018.

Wednesday, Feb. 15, 7:00 p.m., PVMC Fireplace Room: "A Brief History of the Blues." PVV's Greg Versen, who hosted WMRA's "Professah Blues" for 32 years until retiring last month, will

share excerpts to illustrate how the music evolved from its African roots to its impact on today's popular music and American culture.

Tuesday, March 7, 7:00 p.m., PVMC Fireplace Room. "Our National Parks: The mission and history"

James Akerson, retired Shenandoah National Park Ranger, will provide an overview of the NPS mission and speak to the clash between laudable preservation goals when viewed from different perspectives.

Calendar continues on p. 2



The Harrisonburg Harmonizers bestowed holiday spirit on our December potluck with carols, cheery hits and singalongs. Left, Steve Weatherholtz and Roger Austin joining us for dinner. Right, songsters: back row: Nick Kozel, Doug Harmon, Joe Crockett; front: Tom Pearce, Michael Calhoun, Steve Weatherholtz and PVV's Ed Bontrager. Thanks, Ed, for bringing us your tuneful and colorful group! *Photos by Greg Versen.*

PVV program calendar, continued

Wednesday, April 5, 7:00 p.m., PVMC Fireplace Room: "What is Dyslexia?"

Presenter Jill McGlaughlin is the mother of two children who have dyslexia, and an advocate of dyslexia training for school educators. Many of our members

have grandchildren; perhaps some have dealt with this common but often misunderstood issue.

PVV Program Committee: Greg Versen, Robin McNallie, Peggy Landis.



PVV MOVIE NIGHTS

See the following films while enjoying popcorn and fellowship, at the Heatwole home, 1056 Smith Ave., at 7 pm one Friday a month. Donations from guests are welcomed; John and Mary Ann earmark them for charitable causes.

Feb. 10 – The Best Years of Our Lives

An award-winning 1946 classic about three men who return from fighting in World War II and try to re-adjust to civilian life back home.

March 10 – The Sea Around Us

Based on famous naturalist Rachel Carson's book by the same title, this award-winning 1953 documentary explores mysteries of the deep blue sea. One review calls it a "dazzling odyssey" that "gave audiences early warning about the environmental dangers threatening our planet."

April 14 – Babe The hero of this award-winning 1995 Australian-American comedy for all ages is a precocious pig who wants to become a sheep-herder.

May 12 – Chariots of Fire This award-winning 1981 historical drama tells the story of two runners in the 1924 Olympics -- Eric Liddell, a Scottish Christian, and Harold Abrahams, an English Jew.

A VILLAGE-TO-VILLAGE ANNIVERSARY

Monday, Feb. 13: The Village movement celebrates 15 years -- *"In 1999, a group of friends gathered to talk about their future in central Boston. They wanted more freedom and control over their lives as they aged and they wanted to be active, taking care of themselves and each other rather than being taken care of. The Village Movement was born."* For details about the upcoming anniversary celebration, see http://vtvnetwork.org/content.aspx?page_id=22&club_id=691012&module_id=245965&actr=4 or vtvnetwork.org/.



**Al Bartholet (left) and part of the PVV audience including (at left) WEMC program host John Horst.
Photos by Greg Versen**

TALKING RADIO

On Jan. 17, Al Bartholet, Executive Director for WMRA-WEMC, spoke with about 20 PVV members and guests on the topic, “All About WMRA-WEMC.”

PVV’s Greg Versen, who retired on Jan. 1 after 32 years’ anchoring WMRA’s “Blues Valley” as a volunteer, jokingly introduced Bartholet as “my former boss man.” Al arrived at WMRA in 2013 after managing Kent University’s station, where in 2003, he’d led in launching the online-streaming program, Folk Alley (folkalley.com).

In 2007, WEMC (91.7FM, the oldest public radio station in Virginia, dating to 1955) merged with the NPR station, WMRA (90.7FM), and moved into its studio.

Contrary to a popular misconception, Al said, “We don’t work for NPR. We work for JMU.” Less than one percent of the local stations’ funding comes from NPR, which in turn is only 9 percent federally funded. Most remaining dollars come from listener contributions, although less than 7 percent of listeners are estimated contributors.

WEMC, Al said, formerly had “a patchwork” of programming that “didn’t fit together.” Moving to nearly 24/7 classical music doubled the station’s audience, he said. The classical programming’s sources are Minnesota Public Radio and the local programs “Airplay,” hosted by Kimberlea Daggy, and Bob Satterwhite’s “Record Shelf.” WEMC also continues to feature such local traditions as church broadcasts and “Mostly Mennonite, Mostly Acapella,” hosted by John Horst, a guest at the PVV program.

At WMRA, Al said, “We don’t want to be just a repeater station for NPR or PRI.” He has introduced local news coverage by reporters including Andrew Jenner and Kara Lofton. When Greg retired, program director Matt Bingay found the Chicago program, “Blues Before Sunrise,” for WMRA to fill Greg’s vacated 8-to-midnight slot.

“Radio isn’t going away,” Al said, but he forecasts a future not based on devices traditionally called radios. He added, “At our home, we don’t listen to radio,” and

notes that persons 25 and younger are turning to such listening innovations as Alexa and Pandora. Smartphones, he said, can pick up stations from around the world, which enabled Greg's listeners to reach and call him from points including Massachusetts, California, even Japan. Meanwhile, aficionados can download WMRA-WEMC's app to their Apple or Android devices and listen to it from half the world away. (See <http://wmra.org/wmra-app>.)

"What matters is content," Al concluded. (CE)

BOARD PRESIDENT UPDATE

Park View Village members on the Events and Program Committee (Greg Versen, Robin McNallie and Peggy Landis) and Movie Committee (Chris Edwards, Robin McNallie, John and Virginia Spicher and Steve and Karen Shenk) launched us into 2017 with a great list of engaging programs and movies which offer opportunities to gather with neighbors for fellowship and entertainment. I hope you will take special notice of upcoming events listed on pages 1 and 2 of this newsletter.

Treasurer Nancy Gunden, is creating our 2017 budget with input from committees and officers. The goal is to grow memberships in 2017 and to expand program options.

On numerous occasions the name Park View Village has been confused with Park Village, part of Virginia Mennonite Retirement Community. Last month the Board identified a new name, Village Neighbors. The parent organization would remain the Park View Initiative, however, we would operate as Village Neighbors rather than Park View Village. How does this name strike you? We feel it allows us to accept memberships from a larger geographical area, moving beyond Park View. Actually we have extended memberships well beyond Park View to the surrounding neighborhoods already.

I look forward to the New Year.

--Keith Gnagey, PVV Board President



A scene from "The Best Years of Our Lives," the featured PVV movie for Feb. 10 about veterans returning home (see page 2).

OUR MEMBERS

By a recent count, Park View Village has 35 households, consisting of 63 individual members. We welcome new member **Ruth Henderson!**

We are now faced with the fact that tomorrow is today. We are confronted with the fierce urgency of now. . .

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

p. 4



The Park View water tank under construction, looking south on the hilltop from EMU's Discipleship Center. The old Summit Avenue tank, which will be replaced, is the little mushroom shape in the distance, to the left of the new tank. It has supplied the neighborhood's water since 1960. (CE)

PARK VIEW VILLAGE BOARD

Evelyn Driver – Vice President
 Keith Gnagey – President
 Nancy Gunden – Treasurer
 Peggy Landis – Program Committee
 Robin McNallie – Program Committee
 John Spicher – Vendor Services Chair
 Clara Yoder – Secretary
 Paul Yoder – Member Recruitment
 Administrative assistant: Denise Sauder

*Deadline is **March 20, 2017** for submissions to the March-April issue of **PVV's bimonthly newsletter**. Send items to **Chris Edwards, editor, 434-0457;**
chrisedwardshburg@gmail.com*

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



Happy birthday, PVV members!

February - Kenton Brubaker, Dorothy Jantzi, C. Norman Kraus, Omar Showalter, Sam Weaver, Janet Wenger, David Wiens

March - Vernon Jantzi, Mary S. Kauffman, Edie Bontrager, Ruth Stauffer, Janet Weaver, Arlene Wiens, Clara Yoder, Karen Moshier-Shenk

Vendor Spotlight, House Cleaning **A correction:**

Sharon Driver operates the cleaning business, **Hired Hand**, recommended in our last issue. Here is her correct contact information (thanks to Yvonne Stutzman, who has appreciated Sharon's services):

Email: sharon171978@yahoo.com

Hired Hands phone: 540-820-3458

"Vendor Spotlight" will return with the next newsletter.



A moment in a recent PVV program brings smiles. Photo by Greg Versen