

Our Village VOICE

Welcome to our December 2019 Newsletter

See photos of our past events, news of our upcoming events, information about our interest circles and committee reports. Enjoy!



Welcome

New Members & Volunteers!

The Member Services Committee welcomes our newest members: Doris Logan and Maria Cabral

What's New

at Clayton Valley Village

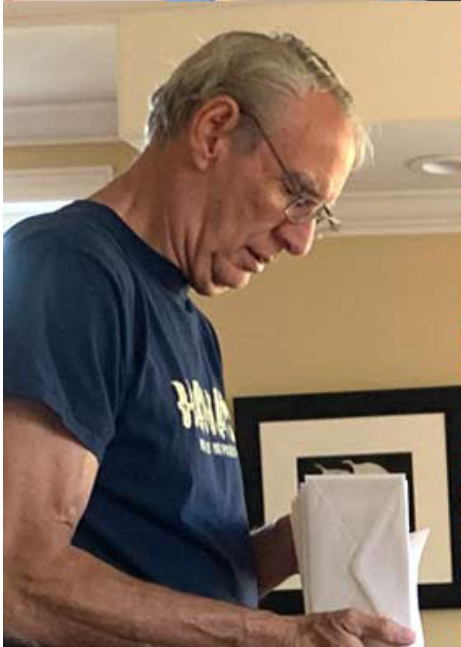
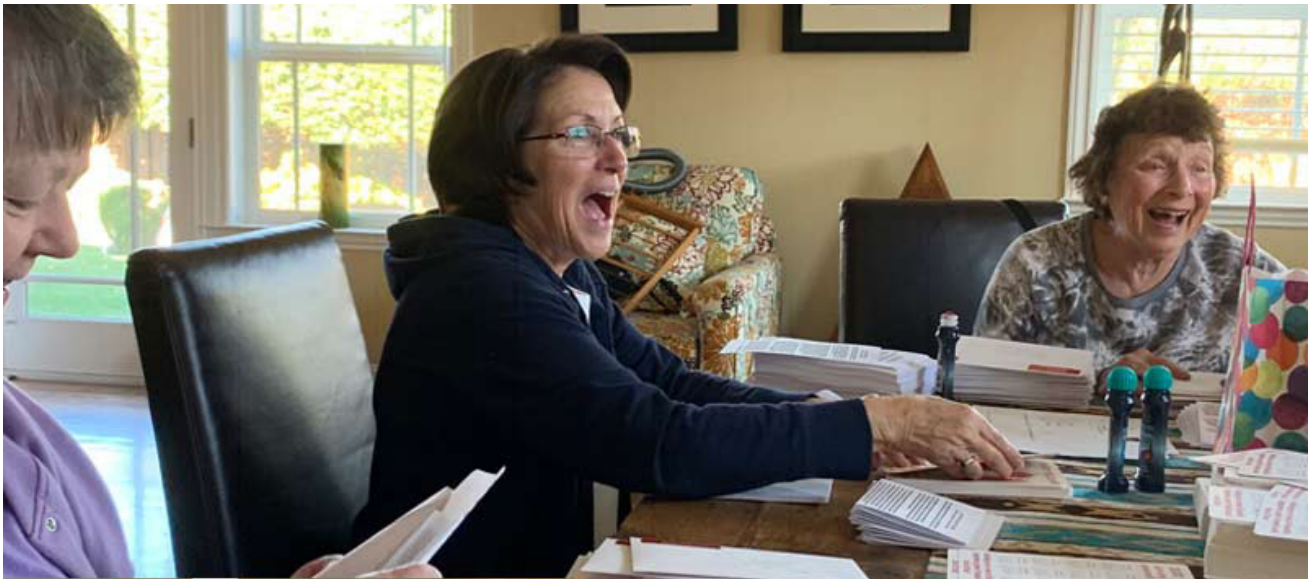
At the November Board meeting new board members and officers were chosen for 2020 and it was agreed that Carol Hansen Grey would step off the Board to serve as Executive Director (*an unpaid, volunteer position*) for a period of 6 months beginning in January. CVV has never had an Executive Director so this position is a "trial run" to see if having an Executive Director would be beneficial to the organization as a paid position. Carol's role will be to raise awareness of the organization in the Clayton/Concord area, to help grow the membership base, to plan and implement new educational and civic based programs that serve the Clayton/Concord community, and to research and implement new fundraising strategies. Carol brings with her the experience of having served for 5 years as the Executive Director of an international nonprofit. She will be working closely with the new incoming president, Susan Manning.

We look forward to 2020 as CVV grows and expands into the greater Clayton Valley community. Our January issue will have more information about our new Board members who will take office on January 1. They will be officially introduced to the membership at Annual Meeting to be held on February 19th at Hoyer Hall from 7:00-9:00 pm. Mark your calendars now to make sure you attend this important meeting!

In the meanwhile, members and volunteers got together to get our holiday mailing ready!

EVEN WORK IS FUN AT CLAYTON VALLEY VILLAGE







Did You Know?

Coffee Filters



Coffee filters... Who knew?

And you can buy 1,000 large filters at the Dollar Tree for almost nothing.

1. Cover bowls or dishes when cooking in the microwave. Coffee filters make excellent covers.
3. Clean windows, mirrors, and chrome... Coffee filters are lint-free so they'll leave windows sparkling.
4. Filter broken cork from wine. If you break the cork when opening a wine bottle, filter the wine through a coffee filter.
5. Weigh chopped foods. Place chopped ingredients in a coffee filter on a kitchen scale.
6. Hold tacos. Coffee filters make convenient wrappers for messy foods.
7. Stop the soil from leaking out of a plant pot. Line a plant pot with a coffee filter to prevent the soil from going through the drainage holes.
8. Put a few in a plate and put your fried bacon, French fries, chicken fingers, etc on them. It soaks out all the grease.
9. Put baking soda into a coffee filter and insert into shoes or a closet to absorb or prevent odors.
10. Use them to strain soup stock and to tie fresh herbs in to put in soups and stews.
11. Use them as a spoon rest while cooking and clean up small counter spills.
12. Use them to wrap Christmas ornaments for storage.
13. Use them to remove fingernail polish when out of cotton balls.

14. Use as a disposable "snack bowl" for popcorn, chips, etc.

Our Volunteers Are Always Within Reach *(Just a Service Request Away)*



*Some-
times
you
need a
ladder*



*... and
Some-
times
you
don't!*



One of the things we hear from our members is that they don't think about putting in a service request because they can usually do most things themselves. One of the reasons to join Clayton Valley Village is to use the services of our volunteers to help you with tasks around your home and yard. Here is a sample list of things that volunteers could help you accomplish:

- Light yard work, • Install smoke detectors, • Help organizing an office or garage, • Help rearranging furniture, • Hang pictures or mirrors, • Fix or replace a hinge or door knob • Flip bed mattresses, • Take down or put up a curtain rod, • Replace light bulbs, • Lubricate doors, • Replace heater/refrigerator filters, • Install shower head, • Paint mailbox, • Replace a door screen, • Replace toilet seat, • Replace toilet tank flapper, • Adjust toilet tank water level , • Replace doorbells, • Change smoke alarm batteries, • Make a thermostat work, • Set up TV, cable and garage remotes, • Reset an irrigation timer, • Tighten garden hoses, • Reset breaker box or GFI...once. • Help with computer issues, • Repair a drip in an irrigation line, • Lift heavy boxes, • Move patio furniture, • Pot plants (in pots, not in ground), • Install solar yard lights, • Help setting up and taking down Christmas decorations, • Bring things down from attic using pull-down ladder (with second volunteer).



President's Message

Jim Whitfield

November News:

- Your Member Services team revised the Volunteer Handbook. It will be released in December.
- Armchair Travelers were treated to a video trip to Turkey and Greece plus Greek and Turkish desserts. Sue Manning and Fiona Hughes provided the delicious refreshments, Jim Whitfield and Marilyn Wollenweber spun stories and experiences from their May trip. Stay tuned for the next adventure!
- We celebrated several member birthdays – with a party!
- Two Movie Group trips to see current hits.
- 17 service requests filled. It's been a busy month!! I may have missed a few events, but you get the picture – we are active in our way of life.

Coming Events in December:

- A refresher Volunteer Training Class. The next class will be Saturday December 7 at 10AM. Those who have expired auto insurance cards and have renewed your drivers license need to bring these to the Training Class or mail copies to CVV mailbox #1274, Clayton 94517.
- We have another CVV Mixer at Old Spaghetti Factory in downtown Concord, 4-6PM December 10.
- Election of officers for 2020 – see the accompanying announcement.
- Other activities are being planned for the CVV Annual Meeting on February 19 at 7PM in Hoyer Hall. Plan to be there; refreshments will be offered and your new Board Members will be announced.

Have a Wonderful Holiday!!

Upcoming Events for December 2019

Sunday, Dec 1st- Christmas Sweatshirt Decorating for Members and Volunteers

Tues, Dec 3rd - CVV Board Meeting

Saturday, Dec 7th, Caroling and Tree Lighting in Downtown Clayton

Saturday, Dec 7th, CVV Volunteer Training

Sunday, 8th - DIABLO WOMEN'S CHORALE -- Winter's Light Concert

Monday, Dec 8th - Villagers Explorer a Hiking Group

Tuesday, Dec 10th - CVV Mixer - Spaghetti Factory

Saturday, Dec 14th - Dessert with Mrs. Claus

Tuesday, Dec 24th - Christmas Eve - Office Closed

Wednesday, Dec 25th - Christmas Day - Office Closed

For additional info about these events and more, click the link below:

https://claytonvalley.helpfulvillage.com/events/index_list



PAST EVENTS

It's Birthday Party Time!

Our October, November and December members celebrated their birthdays on Saturday, Nov. 9th at the home of volunteer Bonnie S. Bonnie Slatkin made the cake and members who didn't have birthdays

supplied the wonderful food. A fun time was had by all.

CVV Quarterly Birthday Celebration November 2019



Armchair Travelers Event at Jim & Marilyn's Home

Saturday, Nov. 16





CVV members and volunteers at the November Armchair Travelers' presentation at Jim and Marilyn's home were treated to an evening in Turkey and Greece. This was the most well-attended of our travel talks with 17 "villagers" there to enjoy beautiful photos and educated commentary on that area of the Mediterranean, with background music and food to make the experience even more authentic: wine, babaganoush, hummus, spanakopita, pita, baklava and revani cake were served. These presentations are a great way for many of us to learn about places we may not ever see in person and, for others, a reminder of great trips we took several years ago.

Please join us for the next Armchair Travelers' experience on Friday, February 7, 2020, when CVV member Dorothy Bradt will share her safari photographs from her recent trip to Africa. Look for the announcement under EVENTS on the CVV calendar closer to the date.

Upcoming CVV Events for December

Saturday, Dec. 7: CVV Volunteer Training
(open to the public -- RSVP Required)



Monday, Dec. 9: Village Explorers Hike
(open to all)

CLAYTON VALLEY VILLAGE



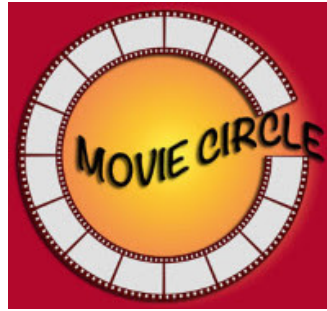
EXPLORERS

Tuesday, Dec. 10: CVV Mixer at The Old Spaghetti Factory
(open to all -- RSVP Required)



Thursday, Dec. 19: CVV Movie Circle

(open to all)



If you tend to worry too much, let Mark Twain help you put your worries into perspective:
"I have been through some terrible things in my life, some of which actually happened."
~ Mark Twain



CVV members and volunteers have many interests, hobbies and skills, so we invite you to start an "Interest Circle." It's a great way to meet, share and learn from others in our village who share common interests. Suggestions include: walking/hiking, arts & crafts, book club, creative writing, woodworking, doll making, card making, painting, quilting, sewing, photography, dining in private homes, conversations on various topics, attending musical events and/or local theater, travel. What it comes down to, however, is the willingness of our Members and Volunteers to lead and coordinate these Interest Circles. If you'd like to share ideas and discuss further, please contact by email Sue at [<suemanning121@gmail.com>](mailto:suemanning121@gmail.com)

New Circle Forming in 2020



If there is enough interest (4 people or more), Clayton Valley Village will start a Beading Circle facilitated by Carol Hansen Grey that is open to members and volunteers who enjoy beading and jewelry making. This circle will meet monthly at a location to be determined to share projects, techniques, supply sources and their enthusiasm for the craft. It will provide an opportunity for participants to get to know one another, to exchange information, to inspire and to be inspired. Those with all levels of beading experience, from novice to advanced, are welcome to participate. If you

are interested, please contact Clayton Valley Village at 925-626-0411. Leave a message with your name, phone number and indicating that you are interested in the Beading Circle.



Bocce Villagio enjoyed its last game on Sunday, Nov. 10th...here is a picture of those who have participated! it was a fun season with good company, and another way to promote CVV!





Our Writing Circle has met monthly since August (two hours each time) at the Clayton Library. Our regular activities include: the reading and discussion of books on the craft of writing; short book reports by members; practice of timed writings (*which are 10-15 minutes of non-stop writing on a chosen topic*), sharing our timed-writing results with the circle; and most recently, an introduction to the art of memoir writing with a view to writing our own memoirs. We are a small, lively group with lots of opinions and questions about writing.

Due to the holidays, we will skip our December meeting and reconvene in January. This spring we start a new round of writing projects, and will open the circle to new participants. CVV members and volunteers are welcomed!



Standing & Ad Hoc Committees

2019 CVV Board of Directors

Executive Committee:

Jim Whitfield (President), Sonja Wilkin (Past-President)
Sue Manning (Secretary), Joanne Wasak (Treasurer)

Members-at-Large

Diane Berger, Carol Hansen Grey, Mary Esther Loranger,
Marilyn Wollenweber, Kathy Geddes

Volunteer Representative Member

Pete Bardea

- The CVV **Events Committee** meets on the last Friday of the month between 1-3 pm and we welcome anyone to our hardworking team! We enjoy our meetings and the satisfaction of pitching in to make sure our events run smoothly.
- The CVV **Tech Committee** meets on the third Tuesday of the month, participates in the HV Users Group and handles Database Management.
- The CVV **Communications/Publicity Committee** interfaces with the Tech Committee and handles Website Development, Newsletters, Printed Promotional Material, Calendar Management, Social Network Outreach and Email Notifications. (No regularly scheduled meetings.)
- The CVV **Outreach Committee** gives presentations to various organizations, organizes periodic community gatherings; joins other Bay Area Villages at resource fairs & programs; attends public meetings of various local, state and national government agencies; represents CVV at National and State Conferences; continuously promotes CVV wherever the opportunity occurs to increase membership. (Meets as needed.)
- The CVV **Member Services Committee** meets on the second Thursday of the month. The committee processes new member applications, schedules new member in-home visits, creates, edits, and distributes the Member and Volunteer Handbooks. The committee also provides and monitors the call managers who are assigned days to answer calls and respond to emails sent to the Village. It receives members suggestions for service providers and adds them to the service provider list on CVV's website after review.

Our Village Voice is a free, electronic publication of
Clayton Valley Village.

Editors: Carol Hansen Grey & Diane Berger

Email: Village.clayton@gmail.com.

The editors welcome all submissions and reserve the right
to include or edit all material. Unless otherwise specified,
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Clayton Valley Village is a 501c3 Nonprofit: 81-3858223

Donations are tax-deductible and welcomed.

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**Submissions, Questions or Comments about
Clayton Valley Village or Our Voice Newsletter**

Email: Village.Clayton@gmail.com or **Phone:** 925-626-0411



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