

North Oakland Village



AUGUST 2014

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HAPPENING IN AUGUST

Party for All Members/Volunteers	August 3
Let's Speak Spanish!	August 4
Monday Menders	August 4, 11, 18, 25
Walking Group	August 6, 13, 20, 27
Bridge Game	See below

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I hope you have all been enjoying this warm weather. It is so seldom that we can eat dinner outside in the evening, but we have been able to in the last few days. I know that fairly soon the fog will come in again and we'll have the usual cool, or even cold, mornings and evenings and lovely warm mid-days. We do have wonderful weather in Oakland!

The move is accomplished. We are now settled in our new office at the First Congregational Church at 27th and Harrison near the north end of Lake Merritt. It's a beautiful, old building which we're anxious to show off when we have our **"Grand Opening for the New Office" on Friday, September 26th.**

To celebrate mid-summer on the first Sunday in August, a number of us shared a spread of sweets and savories in the reception room of St. John's Episcopal Church in Montclair. Volunteers and members took advantage of the "tea" to have leisurely conversations that we often are otherwise too busy to enjoy. *This event replaced the*

regular monthly potluck this month.

In a week I am off on another adventure; this time, it's a two-week riverboat cruise from St. Petersburg to Moscow. You'll be able to read all about it in another newsletter.

We've been very busy at the NOV office getting used to the new space, figuring out where everything belongs, and working out the occasional "wrinkle." I still have "Monday Menders" when I am in the office on Mondays, but, lately, I guess everyone has well-mended clothes, because no one has come in for help or just to sit and talk. We have a lovely atrium space where we can visit, and you're all welcome to drop in. Parking is around at the back; the entrance is marked with a "North Oakland Village" sign. Come on over!

- Sandra Coleman

In Memory: Jeanette Tripp



Dec. 31, 1925 - July 13, 2014

We are sad to report the death of this lively NOV member, who sat beside her husband of 68 years, Marv, at many a potluck. The couple has 3 children, 8 grandchildren, and 8 great grandchildren.

According to the *SF Chronicle*, Jeanette "lived most of her 88 years in Oakland and was a graduate of U.C. Berkeley. She taught in the Oakland schools, and after retiring, she continued serving as a tutor. She served as Deacon at the First Presbyterian Church in Oakland.

She was an avid reader of mysteries, she quilted blankets for her children and grandchildren, her garden reflects her pride in her home. She was a prolific letter writer and sent countless care packages to grandchildren."

You are invited to a **memorial service** on **August 9th** at

10:00 AM at First Presbyterian Church, 2619 Broadway in Oakland. *Donate in her memory to The Cancer Society, The First Presbyterian Church, or to a charity of your choice.*

New Paid Service Provider

This month we welcomed a new paid service provider to our panel of professionals. **Kerri Moon** is an *elder care consultant in solo practice*, and comes highly recommended by our President, Sandra Coleman. Kerri assists seniors in accessing community resources, especially during life transitions.

We anticipate arranging for Kerri to give a presentation at a future Third Thursday talk. In the meantime, she may be reached by telephone at 512-436-5236, or by e-mail at

kerrimoonproductions@yahoo.com.

- Patte Bishop

Exploring New Space

Shuffling, moving, organizing, finding the right spot, are all part of being in the NOV office these days. "Does anyone know where the three-hole punch is?" and "Where are we keeping the coffee now?" are frequent conversation openers as we make the transition to our new space.

The change, of course, began before the truck arrived on Saturday, June 28. Early in that week, **Linda Joslin** and a crew of packers sorted through what to take and what to discard. As they put things in boxes, labeling each one as to what was inside, they also made piles of things to be donated, with notes about where they should be taken.

That Saturday, **Bob Field** rented a 14' truck and led the team of **Larry Hannah, Joe Evinger, Franco Giunta** and his friends **Hadrian** and **John** plus **Bob Davidson**, that made the actual physical move of NOV's belongings.

It took two trips, loading and unloading the truck each time, to get everything from Rockridge Center to its *new space in the First Congregational Church building at 27th and Harrison*. The men were accompanied by **Patte Bishop** in her car, hauling small things that hadn't fit into the truck. Upon arrival at the new site, the same fellows arranged the furniture under **Linda Joslin's** direction. **Judy Sorey** was also an important part of this crew, filling in wherever she saw a need.

The office remained closed for a week over the Independence Day holiday, giving the office workers a chance to fine-tune the space before returning to the *10:00 AM to 2:00 PM, Monday through Friday, schedule*.

Linda and her daily changing crew of office volunteers have been getting things organized ever since, each volunteer contributing her opinion about what should go where in the supply storage area. Super handyman **Larry Hannah** brought his tool kit and repaired some things that were damaged in the move. **Charles Shen** continues to be helpful, too, rearranging furniture that doesn't fit exactly where it had been set originally as we continue to experiment with placement.

Both Linda Joslin and **Lynda Pike** took responsibility for moving our nerve center, the computer, and physically set it up in it in its new spot. Transferring the telephone, however, has taken a lot of time, patience and many phone calls.

One of the biggest changes for NOV has been accommodation to a smaller space. Some furniture from the old office was donated to other organizations, the refrigerator was left behind, homes were found for most of the other pieces, but fitting what was left into the new place has been a well-met challenge. The tables have been arranged to form a generous working space that is also a comfortable place for several people to hold a meeting.

Instead of the postage stamp kitchen we had in Rockridge, our new space offers us access to a food prep area at least twenty times the size of what we left. Our potlucks, an important part of NOV tradition, will be held in the large open space adjacent to the office. And when meetings are held during office hours, visitors can be taken to the light-filled, garden-like atrium for a one-on-one conversation.

There are many differences between our new space and the old one, but we are doing a good job of adapting. If you haven't seen it yet, you're always welcome to *drop by during office hours*. Better yet, come to our **grand opening party on September 27th (3:00 to 5:00 PM)**, or one of our potlucks. Watch this space for more information on those.

- Ruby Long

Celebrations, Congratulations

It's been quite a summer for big birthdays here at the Village.



On June 4, member **Dr. Sol Miller** was honored at a birthday party hosted by his local senior center. It was actually one of many parties to celebrate his **100th birthday**, which actually fell on June 3rd.

Several people from NOV attended the party where he

was surrounded by partner **Jenny Jorgensen**, his family and friends. He was photographed with the birthday card sent to him by **President and Mrs. Obama**. How appropriate, since Dr. Sol was a man of many science degrees who worked under 6 U.S. Presidents!

His daughter **Barbara**, from Huntington Beach, came for the event, while son **Ken** and his wife were here for a long visit from Australia. Barbara and Ken are pictured above with their father.



To round out the summer Volunteer **Paul Shepard** turned a mere **70** on July 8! Another milestone birthday well worth celebrating. Many members, volunteers and staff joined Paul to celebrate with his numerous friends from other parts of his life. The party was held on **July 29** in a airy outdoor space at his apartment.

There was a yellow and blue theme, and Paul, who has spent many years in the theater, wore a dapper outfit in yellows and blues. It was a big hit. You can see him above with a couple of friends from the Village.

Food was great, friends were many, the day was hot, but Paul had us all well taken care of with canopies to shield

us. It was a delightful day, and another example that the Village can be a place to make and keep good friends.

There were other birthdays celebrated by members and volunteers, but, out of space considerations, we decided to just review a couple of the milestone birthdays. *A truly happy birthday to all of summer birthday folks.*

- Linda Joslin

MEMBER ACTIVITIES

Monday Menders

August 4, 11, 18, 25

NOV Office

First Congregational Church of Oakland

2501 Harrison, Oakland 94612

Phone: 547-8500

Enter driveway to the parking lot off 27th Street.

Walking Group

Wednesdays, August 6, 13, 20, 27

9:00 am

Weekly, 40-to-45-minute walk.

2501 Harrison, Oakland 94612

Phone: 547-8500

If you are interested in **a group of walker who would just like to stroll and visit**, contact the office. If there is interest, a new group will be added.

The Art & Spirit Group

On summer vacation. Starting again in September.

Let's Speak Spanish!

Cooking and eating, and speaking Spanish all the while. Great fun. Members, please contact us if you are interested we have a space or two opening up. Call **547-8500**.

Monthly Potluck

No potluck this month or August (due to the Grand Opening). The next potluck will be on **October 26**.

Bridge Players, Welcome

Looking for an entertaining way to socialize? Join our NOV Bridge Game. You don't have to be a great player.

Call **Paul Shepard**
at **510/547-4575**.

French Class?

Some people have been requesting a conversational French group. We have someone who is willing to do a trial class if enough people are interested.

Let the NOV office know if you would like to participate in a lively group, led by a pro. **Call 547-8500.**

Volunteer Party

On July 20th, volunteer **Sheila Pearce** opened up her lovely home and garden for a party honoring all the



wonderful volunteers who do so much for North Oakland Village.

The buzz we generated drowned out that of the bees in her yard. Many people made connections and found

ways to work better together, a bonus to enjoyment of spending time getting to know each other better. As always, the food and wine were wonderful, and the view of the entire Bay Area was an inspiration.

Our volunteers work so hard to make NOV a great community for the members, it is treat to stop and take time just to enjoy one another's company. We are already looking forward to the next chance to get together.

- Linda Joslin

Help Wanted

Are you ready to enlarge your circle of friends and serve both yourself and the Village? **Volunteer to be an NOV visitor.** Call the office at **547-8500** to offer your conversation and company.

Creative Recycling Workshop



Evelyn Roth on the far left with the class and some of their projects.

On Wednesday, July 23, the North Oakland Village held its first workshop in our new space. **Evelyn Roth**, an internationally renowned *textile and performance artist*, led us in a 3-hour workshop learning to use various

discarded items such as VHS tape, old fabric and whatever else you have at hand.

It was free for everyone, and we had a great time. One of our member/volunteers brought her granddaughter, who is almost 6. Little Ginger had a great time braiding material and dancing about in the long ribbon braid her grandmother made her. People were knitting and crocheting with all sorts of creative approaches.

Someone used two pairs of old scissors; another learned to use the most unusual pair of knitting needles you ever saw! They were made of some sort of Australian root!

It was imagination-stirring fun.

- Linda Joslin

Film Showing at First Congregational Church

"Lost Angels: Skid Row is my Home"

Friday, August 15

7:00 PM Doors open at 6:00 PM

(enter through the blue door from back parking lot)

Collins Chapel,

First Congregational Church of Oakland

2501 Harrison Street (at 27th)

Oakland, CA 94612

An "uncompromising yet life-affirming look at the lives of 8 remarkable individuals who have found a way to make a life for themselves in the community of homelessness." The Lamp Community has taken an original approach to guiding many to recover from mental illness and substance abuse and to find stability. ". . . proving that sometimes home is where the help is."

North Oakland Village | (510) 547-8500 www.northoaklandvillage.org, 2501 Harrison St., Oakland 94612

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8/15/2014

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