

# NOV Newsletter -- September 2017



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## North Oakland Village

## Monthly Newsletter



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### Happening in September

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### President's Letter

#### Our Village Comes of Age

Is it really September already? North Oakland Village has had such a busy summer, it passed quickly.

Exhibit

So Many potlucks - so little time!

#### UPCOMING EVENTS

>> Monday Menders

>> Handability Group

>> Member Salon

>> Time to talk about NOV

>> Monthly Bridge Game

>> Non-Fiction Book Group

#### COMING ATTRACTIONS

#### COMMUNITY EVENTS

A Classical and Decadent  
Concert

## 2nd Annual Inter-generational Picnic

12:30-3:30 PM  
Sunday  
September 17  
At Lake Temescal



Board Members Joe  
Evinger and Maria

Hard to believe that autumn is knocking at our door now. September beckons us into the beginning of NOV's year to "Come of Age" as a mission-driven nonprofit offering Seniors in Oakland the opportunity to come together in community, to engage with one another and the world around us in ways that are meaningful, helpful and frankly fun.

NOV is 7 years old, ready to honor the great good work of our founding members by preparing for a new chapter that will bring our Village into ongoing financial sustainability. To prepare for this all-important task, we have worked hard to develop a very specific one-year strategic plan entitled "North Oakland Village Comes of Age." The work group has finished the draft, and it will be reviewed and polished at the next Board meeting on September 19. This will be followed by our All-Member meeting on September 30th from 2:00 - 4:00 PM, where we will go over the plan in some detail, share our thoughts and ideas for NOV's future and call for endorsement of the one-year plan which is scheduled to begin the following day, October 1st. We will also schedule a meeting for our wonderful volunteers in the near future to thank them for their excellent support and to introduce the "Coming of Age" one-year plan to them as well.

Our research on other successful villages indicates that most, if not all, do not rely solely on membership dues. Many have free office and gathering space or a reliable source of government support. Much of the thrust of the one-year plan is thus to identify and pursue possible city and county government funding, to continue our growing program of grant-writing to

Distler – photos by Sara  
Evinger

**Members:**  
**Need a ride? Call**  
**510/547-8500**



August potluck

our growing program of grant-writing, to consider possible alternative ways to secure support and at the same time to grow our membership and volunteer base by expanding our digital presence and developing a new marketing plan.

It's an ambitious plan, but we can do it if we work together to move forward with shared objectives, and have some fun while we're at it!

Looking forward to seeing all of you at the Intergenerational Picnic on September 17th at Lake Temescal, and at all the wonderful events and potlucks planned for this Fall.

Warmly,  
Susan Pierpoint  
Board President

## Member Profile: Susan Field

The biggest problem in interviewing Susan Field was getting her to sit down long enough for a conversation. For years she has belonged to a hiking group that meets every week, she's almost continuously enrolled in the Fromm Institute programs in San Francisco and during the school year she reads with second graders every week. Plus, she and husband Bob frequently travel with Road Scholars.



Robert & Susan Field hiking in Provence

Earlier this year she decided, almost on the spur of the moment, to attend the high school graduation of a grandson who lives with his parents in Hong Kong.

Never mind that she had returned only a few days earlier from a Road Scholar trip in Oxford, England. Never mind that she didn't have a flight reservation, she thought she should be there. So, she got on the phone and made the arrangements. One day to get there, two days there and one day to return. Perhaps her thirty years' experience as a travel agent helped her believe she could make it happen.

Knowing how important good reading skills are for children, ten years ago she joined a volunteer group that reads every week with second graders at Horace Mann Elementary School in east Oakland. But during the summer, Susan can often be found at the family cabin at Lake Tahoe. That's when she can spend extended time with the daughter and grandchildren who live in Hong Kong as well as the other daughter's family, who call Corte Madera home.

Both daughters, at ages 12 and 15, had a good introduction to international living in the late 1970's when the whole family lived in Paris for a year.

When Susan is not volunteering, traveling, hiking or spending time at the cabin, she can often be found tending her roses. A member of a local rose society, she can tell you whatever you need to know to keep yours looking beautiful and healthy.

NOV is happy that Susan, with her wide and varied background, is a part of our group.

– Ruby Long

## Art Group is Returning!

The art group is starting up again this month. Remember all the fun we have had: we have practiced wet-on-wet watercolor painting, used collage to create special cards, learned how to do sculpture in the style of Miro and turn bottles into sculpture, just to name a few.

We are back from vacation and will be starting up again:

Wednesday, September 13  
at 2:00 in the NOV Office.

September will offer a bit of a surprise; an announcement with details of our activities in September will be sent out soon. So do keep an eye on your e-mail.



Do come and join us. In these stressful times we always find this group relaxing. The women are encouraging the men to come and join us on these great afternoons.

Necessary supplies will be available. Members and volunteers free. The public is welcome. The public is asked for a donation of \$10 to help cover expenses.

## Singing with Sara is back!



After a summer break, Singing with Sara is returning.

If you are a member or volunteer and are interested in joining but have not signed up, please contact us to find out if there are still spaces available.

**Meeting Date: September 14**

For those already signed up we welcome suggestions for songs ahead of time so that we can have large-print words and/or music for all.

We will meet at Sara Evinger's home. There will be *no meeting in October, but the singing group will meet again on November 2nd and December 7th*. Please be aware that the schedule for November and December could change based on the needs and wishes of the singing group members.

Currently for members and volunteers only. Due to space limitations number of openings is limited. Join up now.

Contact the NOV office: phone 510-547-8500

Email: [info@northoaklandvillage.org](mailto:info@northoaklandvillage.org)

## **Social Action Forum**

Members & volunteers,  
please join us!



Friday, September 15

1:00 PM

at the NOV office



The upcoming Social Action Forum meeting will focus on narrowing the field of group volunteer options for NOV or appointing a smaller Task Group to undertake that task with guidelines we'll develop together in the meeting. In the meantime, we can discuss some of the specifics of options that have been explored since our last meeting with the city of Oakland. Everyone who attended the last meeting is invited to bring your notes and ideas.

We will send out an agenda prior to the meeting to all who have attended past meetings.

Want to be added to the list? Email [susan.thomaspierpoint@gmail.com](mailto:susan.thomaspierpoint@gmail.com) or call the office at (510) 547-8500 – or just show up at the meeting on the 15th. ALL members and volunteers of NOV welcome!

e-mail at [info@northoaklandvillage.org](mailto:info@northoaklandvillage.org) or phone: (510) 547-8500.

– Susan Pierpoint

## **2nd Annual Picnic for all generations!**

**Sunday, September 17**

**12:30 PM–3:30 PM**

It has been a very busy summer, and we are going to top it off with our popular inter-generational picnic.

So members and volunteers this is the time to gather up your families and pets to join us for the picnic. Once again we will be at the Big Rock picnic area at Lake Temescal.

Please note: there is a paved, fairly flat walkway back to the picnic area. There will be at least a little walking on the green, uneven grass, but it is not daunting. You can use the entrance to the parking lot from Broadway Terrace, head toward the lake and look for the big rock, right next to the water.

We will provide charcoal, drinks, ice, hot dogs and buns. Please bring picnic fare: salad, side dish, or dessert to share and something to barbecue if you don't like

hot dogs.

The purpose of this picnic (in addition to eating hot dogs and having a lot of fun) is an opportunity for all generations to enjoy time together.

So, members and volunteers, round up your parents, children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, borrow your neighbors' kids or bring a friend and spend an afternoon together in the beautiful outdoors.

Please let us know if you are coming and how many will be coming with you. We want to make certain we have enough hot dogs for everyone.

*Carpool if possible*, as parking is limited. Members, if you need a ride let us know.



## Men's Group September Gathering

for Members and Volunteers with a special invitation for the Ladies

For the September outing the Men's Group will meet in front of Lake Chalet on Lakeside Drive at 10:00 am on Wednesday, September 20, 2017. The group will walk around Lake Merritt and take approximately 1 to 1-1/2 hours. There is 2-hour parking along the lake.



**Ladies take note:** The Men's Group invites any of the NOV ladies who would like to join this walk.

To join the group, or for any questions, please contact the NOV office.

– Bill Baerlocher

# Special Presentation:

## Understanding the Complicated World of Medicare

Presented by Imre von Komarnicki  
and Kerri Moon who have each helped hundreds of  
seniors connect to resources to maximize their health  
and finances.

**Friday, September 22nd**  
**11:00 AM**  
**North Oakland Village Office**



Imre von Komarnicki  
von Komarnicki & Associates



Kerri Moon  
Moon Care Strategies  
Retire Internationally

Come to this talk if you have  
asked any of the following  
questions:

- I'm about to turn 65. What now?
- I've had a Medicare insurance plan for several years,  
how do I know if it's still the best plan for me?
- What's the difference between Parts A, B, C and D of  
Medicare? What's right for me...plans A, B, C, D, F and high-deductible F, G, K, L,  
M and N?
- I have a frozen plan...should I keep it?
- What choices do I have during the annual open enrollment period?
- What's all this I hear about California's birthday rule?
- What are the gotcha's in Medigap, Medicare Advantage and Prescription Drug  
plans?
- Should I keep Medicare if I move out of the U.S.?

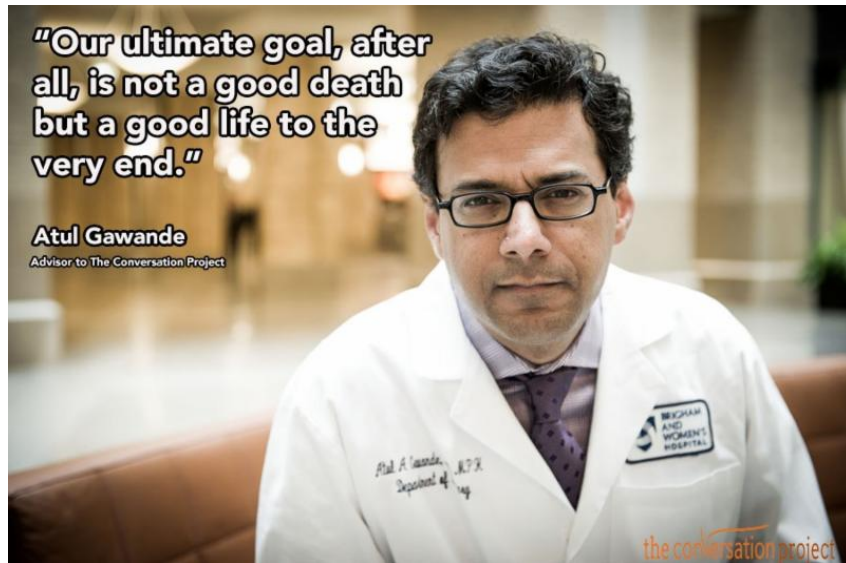
"Being Mortals Village: The Value of Community and Choice as  
we Grow Older," a webinar Conversation with Dr. Atul  
Gawande



Monday, September 25, 2017

2:00–4:00 Pacific time

Beacon Hill Village, the founding Village of the Village Movement is celebrating its 15th year of operation, and originally planned to host an event to celebrate this exciting milestone in February. Atul Gawande, author of *Being Mortal*, is the keynote speaker. As before, BHV plans not



Dr. Atul Gawande

only to celebrate their 15th Anniversary, but to celebrate the 15 years of the Village Movement as well. Villages have been making an impact throughout the world for 15 years, and this is truly something to celebrate!

North Oakland Village will be meeting at a member's home to join in the broadcast. Those who had signed up for the original event have been given first choice of spots; there are currently 5 or 6 spots left, so if you are interested, contact the office as soon as you can. We regret that, due to space limitations, this invitation is restricted to members and volunteers only, *and all spots must be reserved in advance*

We ask that you arrive by 1:30 PM to ensure everyone is seated by the time the event begins.

Please note the NOV office will close early for this event.



**Member Meeting**  
**September 30**

## 2:00–4:00 PM

# Gallery Room at North Oakland Village

We'll gather to celebrate North Oakland Village, share what it means to us and to get acquainted with the special one-year strategic plan we're calling "North Oakland Village Comes of Age" so we can all move forward together to realize the intentions and goals for our Village in the coming year October 1, 2017–September 30, 2018. Snacks will be served.

This meeting is for members only. There will a meeting for volunteers around this same topic in October. Date to be announced.

Members if you need a ride please let us know. We are hoping that as many members as possible will join us.

– Susan Pierpoint

## Beautify Oakland While Promoting NOV in 10 easy steps

Step 1 Members and volunteers meet Christine and Ruby at the NOV Office

**10 a.m. Saturday September 23**

Step 2 Get your NOV shirt (or wear one if you already have it)

Step 3 Put it on

Step 4 Walk to Grand Avenue

Step 5 Unlock the tool box (Christine and Ruby will guide you through this step)

Step 6 Choose a tool

Step 7 Pick up trash or retrieve things from the water

Step 8 Return tools and lock up

Step 9 Walk back to NOV

Step 10 Go home



Jo Studer models  
NOV shirt

Feel free to bring your own rake or picker-upper. Be sure to label it with your name.

If you are planning to come and do not have your own tools to bring, please contact Ruby. If enough people want to come and let her know ahead of time they need tools she can get extras from the library.

– Ruby Long

## What a Summer

It was a whirlwind summer at the Village. Even with a few of our groups on hold for the summer, we were quite busy with most of the regular activities with the addition of some enjoyable outings and very special potlucks.



NOV community members getting ready to head off for a full day at the Oakland Zoo.

## Outing to the Oakland Zoo - quite a day!

On August 3, an energetic group of NOV volunteers and friends ranging in age from 16–100 gathered together for a day at the recently updated Oakland Zoo. All right, we admit the 16-year-old was the only non-senior citizen in the crowd.



Carolyn & David Hendsch, Robert Warwick & Linda Joslin  
enjoy the gondola ride  
– photo by Sara Evinger

But we did have a great time. It was supposed to be a day of record-breaking heat, and while it was hot, the sky was overcast all day, allowing us to glide through the zoo pretty comfortably.

The glide was helped by the 3 very special carts that NOV volunteer, Joan Hall-Feinberg (also a volunteer docent at the zoo) managed to have the zoo provide for us free of charge. Each cart came with a driver/docent and all the young



groups of school children we passed thought we must be very special people indeed. (That's my story and I'm sticking to it.)

Joan made certain everyone saw all of the best sites and made certain we had a safe and fun day. We ended at the brand new gondolas and shared lunch together before heading home. It was as close to perfect as a day can be.

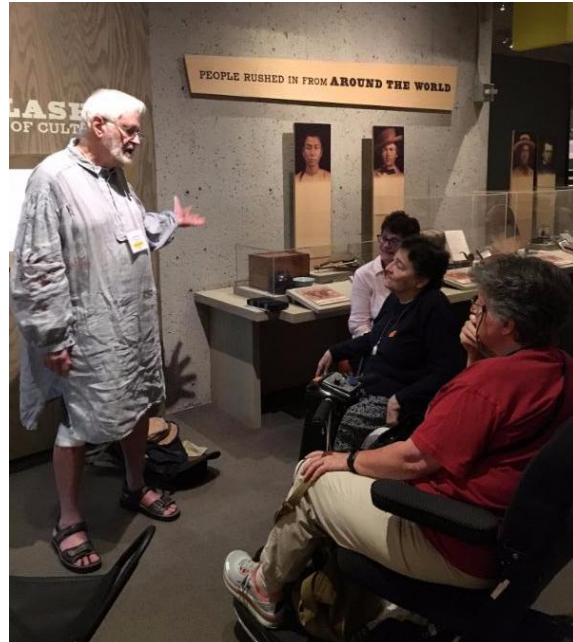


## Docent tour of Gold Mining Exhibit at Oakland Museum

On August 23rd, a group of NOV folks attended a docent tour at the Oakland Museum.

Our own member/volunteer, Larry Hannah served as docent for the tour. Larry has trained with the Oakland museum to lead this particular tour and wanted to lead a tour that was just for a small group so they could see everything and then enjoy a nice lunch together in the cafeteria.

Months before, Sandra Coleman (at Larry's request) had made a very special "gold miner's" shirt for Larry to use on his tours. This picture does not capture the magnificence of the minute detailing on this shirt.



Left, Larry Hannah in his famous shirt talks to some of the group who attended.

– Photo shared by Patte Bishop

Larry has now started a yearlong training at the Oakland Museum to learn to describe all of the exhibits, so we expect more of this type of outing in the future.

## So many potlucks - so little time!

Some of the most enjoyable moments of the summer came at our potlucks. June was an early 4th of July celebration which was featured in the last newsletter.





Martha Anderson with Board President  
Susan Pierpoint

It was our July birthday bash, however, that was the big hit. Something like 9 members and quite a few volunteers celebrated their birthdays in July. So Joan Hall-Feinberg, Norma Harrison and Sheila Pearce worked their magic and wow!

They printed up a lovely and very impressive list of birthdays with dates to place on each table, brought big beautiful balloons for every birthday person and brought the best birthday cake ever. Lyn Hines on her own had

canned some homemade jam, and each birthday person received one of those.

Every table top in the room was dressed to perfection with the beautiful flower arrangements Sheila loves to provide for us. Norma provided the best birthday cake ever, and we were set for a celebration.



Guest of honor spot went to Martha Anderson, who had celebrated her 100th birthday on July 7th. President of the Board, Susan Pierpoint presented Martha with a beautiful and grand proclamation from Mayor Libby Schaff which had declared July 7, 2018 Martha Anderson day in Oakland California. She received a standing ovation from the whole group.



The August potluck by comparison was pretty tame. But since the theme was vacations, we relaxed and told some great travel stories. We are

looking forward to September's Inter-generational picnic, which will take the place of a potluck in September.

# Upcoming Events

## Monday Menders

**Sewing and Other Handwork with Alyce Zacco & friends**  
**Mondays, September 11, 18 and 25**  
**12:00-1:00 PM**

Just drop by with your sewing, quilting, crocheting and other stitchery projects. Bring any mending with which you need help. We do not provide actual instruction, but do offer support, advice and good company.

## Handability Group

**Knitting and Crocheting in Good Company & for a Good Cause**



**2nd Monday of the Month**  
**September 11**  
**10:30 AM-12:00 PM**  
**For Members and Volunteers**

Supplies, instruction and support will be provided by the Handability leaders, *free of charge*.

## Member Salon

**Member Salon**  
**Contact: NOV Office**  
**Monday, September 18**  
**2:30-4:30 PM**

A group of eight people who get together *at a member's home* to discuss interesting topics and enjoy one another's company. Group size is limited, so you must register with the office in advance.

*Topic: To be announced before the meeting.*

*The salons are for members only. All levels of members are welcome.*

## Time to Talk about NOV

**Led by NOV Ambassadors**  
**Contact: NOV Office**  
**3rd Friday of every month: September 15**  
**10:30-11:30 AM**  
**North Oakland Village Office**

This is a monthly informational session to introduce people to the Village concept, and North Oakland Village in particular. It's an opportunity to get all of your questions answered. Join us, and bring potential members or volunteers. Coffee, tea and snacks are provided.



## Monthly Bridge Game - New Players Welcome

**Monthly Bridge Game**  
**Organized by Norma Harrison**  
**Third Friday of the Month**  
**Friday, September 15**  
**1:30 PM**

Members and volunteers, are you looking for an entertaining way to socialize? Join our bridge game. You do not have to be an experienced player, but you do need to know the basics. New players welcome. Held at a member's home.

Call Norma at 510/547-7530 for location of this month's game.

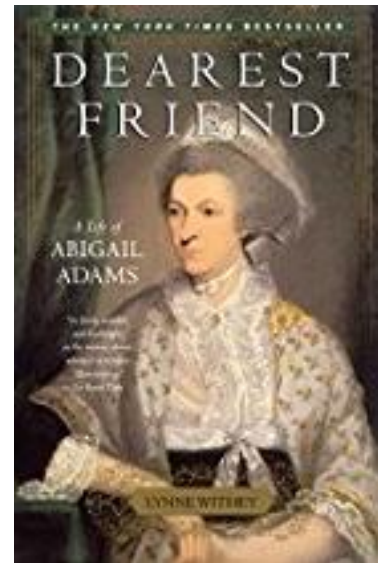
## Non-Fiction Book Group

**Non-Fiction Book Group**  
**Contact: NOV Office**  
**Last Friday of the Month**  
**Friday, September 29**  
**2:00-4:00 PM**  
**North Oakland Village Office**

Members, *the group meets at the Village office. We would be happy to have you join us.*

The book for July is: *Dearest Friend* by Lynne Withey. Susan Field will lead this discussion.

The discussions are lively, and you can help select what we read next.



## Coming Attractions

\*\*\*\*\*


Watch your email for information about upcoming events  
Autumn in the Village has lots of treats, such as:

- Special Volunteer Meeting in October
- November Presentation: "How we Learn: Human Memory" with Presenter Charles Vella on November 9th
- In the works, a new support group for dealing with ageing

## **Community Events**

### **Community Event for September**





# A Classical and Decade(nt) Concert


Sunday September 10th, 2017  
3:00 P.M.

## The Rockridge Chorale

Baritone Nikolas Nackley  
**NEW** Rockridge Chorale Juniors

*Raffle, prizes, and a reception await you!  
You might call it a party!*

Montclair Presbyterian Church  
5701 Thornhill Dr. Oakland Ca 94611



Tickets \$15  
510-388-5710  
[brownpapertickets.com](http://brownpapertickets.com)  
[www.rockridgechorale.org](http://www.rockridgechorale.org)

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