

# THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 30 No. 9

Serving the people of Cabin John and beyond

May 1997

## HOUSE TOUR, SUNDAY JUNE 15TH

A house hidden in the woods, the smallest chapel in the U.S., an indoor Olympic-size pool, Reed Martin's infamous garage – all these and eight more houses are yours to visit on the Cabin John House Tour. Sunday afternoon, 1-5, June 15, is the time.



Get your tickets at the Clara Barton Community Center, 75th Street and Macarthur. Tickets will be available from 12:30 on the day of the Tour. A donation is suggested: \$5 per person, \$10 per family. Proceeds go to the Village News and the Citizens Association.

But this is not primarily a fund-raiser. The main purpose is to strengthen community bonds through an event that lets us get to know each other better, visiting parts of town other than our own immediate neighborhood.

We need monitors to assist at each house. If you are willing to do a 2-hour shift, please call Susan Roberts at 301 320 4451.

### KIDS! WANT TO EARN BIG BUCKS?

Set up a refreshment table near a tour house. All profits are yours to keep! If you're interested, call Barbara Martin 301 229 3482 or Diane Leatherman 301 229 7412 to get the location of the tour houses.

Save Sunday afternoon, June 15, to have a wonderful time and appreciate your town.

## NEIGHBORLY NEWS

**John and Missy Alloway** have moved into the 82nd Place home formerly owned by Marg Burgess. Dr. John is a chiropractor, Missy is a massage therapist. They have two daughters – Aryn (7) and Alysha (2).

**Naomia and Tommy Denell** attended her family reunion in Kansas—the 60th year for this event.

The houses of the **Barnhard's** on Macarthur and the **LaPorta's** on 81st Street were recently on the Washington Solar House Tour.

**Danny and Virginia Harris** celebrated their mutual May 2nd birthdays.

**Avi and Hope Adler** became Cabin Johners in early April when they moved to 78th Street with their baby daughter, Shaina. Avi has a computer business.

Also new residents of 78th Street are **Tina Rouse** and **Mark Murray**. Mark works for Agency for International Development; Tina is finishing her PhD dissertation in biology.

**Sarah and Simeon Hughes** went to Richmond in March for the bar mitzvah of Dean Camp. The Camp family, Mike Camp and Sydney Fleischer, are former residents of 81st Street.

**Terry and Janie Hook** were married May 17 in Fayetteville, NC. They live in the Gardens.

**The Kapp family** has moved in on Tomlinson Avenue, in the Sears house with the Manion addition. The Kapps are Cathy, Bob, and their daughter, Sisi.

In preparation for an eventual move, **Jerry Rhodes** has retired as business manager of The Village News. His diligence kept the creditors paid and the accounts in the state of most exalted fiscal perfection. Thanks, Jerry and good luck. **Lorraine Minor** has accepted the challenge of filling this post.

This column will appear each month. If you have news about your family, your neighbors, or former Cabin John residents, please call Barbara Martin at 229-3482.

**Cabin John Citizens Association Meeting**  
May 27, at the Clara Barton Center 7:30 pm

- Election of new officers
- Discussion of Cabin John playground below the tennis courts
- Report on Cabin John Stream cleanup last month.

## Looking Backward in Cabin John

Andrew E. Rice

### The Story of Cabin John Gardens

*In recent issues, this column has delved into the tales of 18 Cabin John old-timers whose oral histories of early days in our town were recorded by Elizabeth Kytte and published as Time Was on the occasion of the national bicentennial celebration in 1976.*

*Cabin John held its own community celebration on July 5 of that year, and the souvenir program prepared for that occasion contained other accounts of notable moments in Cabin John's history. The following paragraphs are taken from Dagny Newman's "The Story of Cabin John Gardens."*

In the early thirties the Navy Department bought the 22 acres that now comprise Cabin John Gardens with the intention of building the David Taylor Model Basin here, but found that the ground was not suitable for their purpose and bought land in Carderock instead.

In late 1939 when the Model Basin was ready for occupancy and we were on the verge of the Second World War, the Navy decided that it might be a good idea to make use of the land by asking the Public Housing Administration to build some houses to their specifications for prospective employees of the Model Basin, especially as gas rationing and large expansion in other government establishments were making houses and apartments difficult to find. The Navy ordered 100 homes here, plus 20 on Carver Road. Seventy-five two-bedroom and 25 three-bedroom houses were built in 1940; a private sewer system (the first in Montgomery County) was built and private roads established. Only personnel working at the Model Basin were eligible. A Community House and Office, with a workshop for small projects, was also built.

In 1955 we were given notice by the Navy Department that the Public Housing Administration had decided to sell this project and would prefer to sell — 1. to residents individually; 2. to residents cooperatively; 3. to the highest bidder. On December 2, 1955 the Cabin John Gardens' Citizens Association was formed primarily to make plans with regard to the sale of the property.

After this meeting everyone became busy writing letters to Congressmen, County and State officials to get the County Council to allow us to buy individually, but the Council was adamant in their decision not to let us buy. It was established that the Cabin John Citizens Association had written to the Council asking that the Association go on record as being opposed to the

Gardens and asking for the removal of the tenants and disposition of the property.

Eventually a decision was reached to allow the tenants to form a corporation (Cabin John Gardens, Inc.) and for the PHA to agree to a price, rate of interest, monthly payments, etc.]

Then we really went to work.

Our deadline for raising the money for the down payment on the houses was February 28, 1957. Now we had to get busy and figure out how to arrive at a proper price for each house, draw up membership agreements, get a good set of by-laws enacted, and after all that get at least 76 firm buyers.....

On the appointed day, February 28, 1957, the Board of Directors met with Public Housing Authority members to consummate the purchase of Cabin John Gardens, Inc. As usual, nothing runs smoothly. Just as we were about to sign all the important papers a voice speaks out and says "Do you have the necessary stamps with you?" "What stamps?" "Federal Tax Stamps." "Oh, oh!" Ken Wilcoxon (the corporation secretary) says, "how many do we need?" "At least \$500 worth." "Okay, I brought some extra change with me just in case we needed it." So off he went to get the stamps. Back he came with the stamps and all the papers were signed and off we went, now the proud owners of the hard fought-for Cabin John Gardens, Inc.

*[The next Village News will continue the story of the Gardens.]*

### Cabin John Stream Cleanup Of April 26th

A sunny day, a beautiful stream and woods, and a group of about 20 Cabin Johners cleaning up the refuse from the floods of two winters ago. An excellent way to spend a Saturday morning. By noon, trash (including an old refrigerator, several truck tires, and numerous trash bags) was piled high at both ends of the trail along the Cabin John Stream. The Montgomery County Park and Planning Commission supported the effort by providing gloves and trash bags and by promptly picking up the trash. The stream looks much better, although there is still a bit more work to be done on the side next to the Cabin John Parkway. And of course, there is still more work to be done so that the signs saying, "Warning - Avoid All Contact - Do Not Wade" can eventually be removed. Many thanks to Susan Roberts, Judy Olmer, Rob Kibler, Steve France, Terri Strassburger, Robert Herscowitz, Brandt & Annie Rice, Barbara Martin, Jay Johnston, Marina France, Marie France, Steve France, Rick Duffy, Helen Daniel, Kay Kemp, Andy and Connie Rice, Adriaan and Diana Carter, and Burr Gray.

# Neighborhood Events

## At The Clara Barton Center

When was the last time you visited the Clara Barton Community Center? Located at 7425 MacArthur Boulevard, the Center is a multipurpose recreational facility with activities for all ages.

### Clara Barton Seniors meet weekly

Our Senior Program is growing and we hope it will continue. Newcomers are always welcome. The program meets on Wednesdays from 10:00 am till 2:00 pm. Exercise, bridge and speakers, are just a part of the program. On April 23rd and 25th free health screening will take place. This is get everyone prepared for a year long exercise program run by Holy Cross Hospital. The program will meet Wednesdays and Fridays from 11:00 am to Noon. all this is available to anyone 55 or older, with permission from your doctor and a County Recreation Activity Card.

### Getting Fit

Thinking about getting fit this spring? Consider joining the Weight Room. Recently we have had a NordicTrack Walk Fit and A Stair Stepper donated. Our fees are very reasonable.

### Teens

The Teen Center is in full swing with monthly Middle School dances. There is weekly drop-in and education tutoring.

Discounted Theme Park tickets are available for purchase at the Center. While it is sometimes possible to walk in and purchase tickets, to avoid disappointment, call first.

For more information on any of the programs call 229-0010

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## At Glen Echo Park

Cathie Nelsen and Katherine Andrie have been awarded a three year Residency at Glen Echo Park, at the Crystal Pool Studio where they will be operating Young Creative Spirit, a children's art program, which serves ages 5 through 12.

A wide variety of classes will now be offered, including summer art camps, and an open studio.

There will be an Open House at the Crystal Pool Studio, June 1, from 1-5 p.m.

Both artists would love to hear ideas of what can be offered to better serve the community. You can contact them at 320 6704 or 229 5282.

## FALL CRAB FEAST ORGANIZING MEETING

Meeting on June 9th (7:30 p.m.) at Clara Barton Center to plan the September Cabin John Crab Feast. The Crab Feast is the traditional fall event that brings out the whole community and helps fund the Cabin John Citizen Association activities for the following year. Everyone is welcome to come to the meeting and participate in this important event.

To announce an event in The Village News send a written notice to: Editor, PO Box 164, Cabin John Md 20818. The next deadline and mailing date is published on the inside back page.



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## FINDING HIS RIGHT PLACE: GER QUINN

by Barbara Martin

Ger Quinn is a born-and-bred Washingtonian. "The first neighborhood I remember is Brookland in Northeast. Then we lived in Anacostia in Southeast, and when I was in my teens, we moved to Silver Spring."

Even though his parents were quite young when they married, they were faithfully responsible in taking care of their family. His dad worked at a variety of jobs. "He had a job in my Uncle Gary's nightclub, he drove a truck, and in the '60s he did construction. There was a time when he was hauling untaxed liquor from Richmond to Washington, but after a judge warned him to stay out of Virginia, our family never went to there for any reason."

Ger is the sixth generation of Quinns born in Washington. As for his paternal grandfather, "In the Irish tradition, he was a great storyteller; that's what I remember most."

His mother grew up on the Chesapeake Bay, in a family tradition of watermen who were among the early settlers of that area. Ger spent summers there, working in his grandfather's boatyard. "I scraped barnacles, painted the bottoms of boats, did metalworking, learned about engines. From these grandparents, I got a solid sense of continuity. My grandfather sailed a skipjack on the Bay. I've always loved that life on the Chesapeake."

After a long illness from a brain tumor, Ger's dad died at 39. His mother moved back to the Chesapeake with his two young sisters; Ger, newly graduated from Blair High School and working in a printing shop, stayed behind.

These were the days of the Vietnam War. "At the beginning, I was deferred because of my father's illness. Many of my friends joined the service right out of high school—it was the thing to do—but when they came back, they told me to stay out any way I could. In order to be exempted, I took courses at Montgomery College; I had no real direction, I was just taking random courses. Later, when the draft lottery went into effect, I had a high number."

He liked working in the print shop and enjoyed learning all parts of the business. "My brain was very absorbent in those years. I wanted to learn."

The spirit of adventure ran high in Ger, and he was eager to do it all. He moved to the Eastern Shore of Virginia to live the simpler life. He worked as a carpenter and rented a farmhouse for \$40 a month. He became the local library's best patron. "I wanted to learn. I set my own curriculum and studied math, sci-

ence, literature. In high school I had been a poor student, but now, on my own, I drank it all in."

Then he read about diamond mining in Venezuela, and enthusiastically set off with a friend to seek his fortune there. "What I read of life in the diamond fields of Venezuela sounded to me like the American Old West—rough and ready—and I wanted to experience it." But the reality was far from his dreams. "This was third world poverty and violence at its worst. People were desperately poor, sick, and frightened. They were malnourished, they were terrified of the Army vigilantes, many people carried guns, but many people were also very kind to us"

Ger and his friend travelled through jungles along the tributaries of the Orinoco, digging for diamonds. They found some poor grade diamonds and sold them in the mining towns for a small sums. "This was a shantytown. The streets were mud. Men from every country you can name had come there prospecting and hoping to get rich."

"The experience was valuable to me because it gave me an enlarged view of the world; especially I discovered how narrow and racist my upbringing had been. Until then, I had associated wealth and poverty with race but in Venezuela I learned differently."

"As far back as high school, my dream was to be an artist and work for myself, to investigate how things work, to understand how the world works. I didn't know yet how to put all that together, but I was still pursuing it."

Ger moved to Maine, to be close to the ocean and to explore another way of life. "After Venezuela I had worked as a freelance designer and saved about \$10,000. In Maine I invested my money in land. The truth is, I was in a somewhat shady deal with a banker and a real estate man—barely legal. And although everybody told me I couldn't lose in real estate, I did. Interest rates soared, the Savings and Loan scandal began to surface, and I lost my entire investment."

Just before moving to Maine, Ger had married and had a son. In Maine he tried to make ends meet as a carpenter, but soon found himself commuting to Washington to make a living, working on production of scientific publications. "I was spending weeks at a time away from my family, staying with friends; my life was in pieces." The Maine enterprise lasted 4 years, the marriage 5 years. "Within a period of 6 months, I was divorced, had an IRS audit, and lost all my money."

He came back to the Washington area, and took a job with the American Chemical Society, designing scientific publications. At the same time, he became fascinated with building geodesic domes, and in Poolesville made one from corrugated cardboard which he coated with plastic resin; this was his home. Another geodesic

dome, a portable structure, he made from plywood and with a friend transported it in pieces to British Columbia.

By now, Ger had found his field—one he excelled in and which excited him. With his talent for visualizing, and his facility for math and science, he became one of the first to apply graphic design to scientific publications, integrating words, pictures, and data. “I realized there was a niche in the world—largely unfilled—for that specialty.” There were no academic courses nor experts to teach him; he had taught himself.

“I have been lucky in finding a profession that is just perfect for me. I’m able to get paid for doing the things I enjoy and am good at, and I know I’m making a contribution that means something.”

He met his wife, Barbara, who was also in the publishing industry and in 1981, they were married and moved to their home in Cabin John. Two years later their daughter, Alexandra, was born.

Barbara and Ger have remodeled and added to their house, focusing on a horizontal design and a visual flow from inside to outside. At the end of Arden Road, their house and deck are integrated into the woods. They are currently expanding one side of the house, making a new room and expanding two others.

The lower level of the house is Ger’s workshop. It is here that he turns out the products of his profession. “I confer with my clients, help them determine messages, then edit and design their books.” His biggest client is the United Nations; he produces that organization’s annual report. That collaboration came about following projects he did for World Bank.

“From time to time I do feel isolated working away from the city and for a change of pace, I’ll take an office downtown. I’m more in circulation there, I make more money, but it takes too much of my time. That’s what I value above all else, so I mostly work from home.” His work concentration is seasonal; sometimes he works 14 to 16-hour days, and other times he has whole weeks free.

A passionate interest of Ger’s is solo sculling. His boat, which sits in the yard, is 24’ long and weighs 30 pounds. “I put the shell on my cartop rack and take off for the Potomac, the Chesapeake Bay, the ocean. I love offshore rowing on open water. One of my favorite places is Collington Island in Albemarle Sound near Kitty Hawk. I also like sculling at Assateague. “Part of me is always with that kid in his grandfather’s boatyard, and with the solitude and peace that go with life on the Bay.”

Another absorbing pursuit is reading, especially biographies, which lead to other books about that person’s field.

He and Barbara have a mutual hobby—visiting

beautiful places. “We’ve been to Italy, to Glacier National Park, and many other beautiful places, and we have a list of others we want to see.”

What attracted the Quinns to Cabin John? “When I was a kid, my family would visit my Uncle Gary on Macarthur Boulevard. Sometimes we would go out to Great Falls. This area seemed like Paradise to me, quiet, woody, pastoral. Even the quality of the air was different close to the river. As a boy, Cabin John represented the promised land, moving out of the city into a wonderful place.”

Ger’s son is 20 now, at Hampshire College in an independent study program. “We’ve stayed close. I’m proud of him; he’s doing what I wish I had been able to do.”

The Quinns are Cabin John heroes. Each month they put out our hometown newspaper, the Village News. Ger agreed to help out the former editor, “once or twice,” then suddenly found himself the new editor. Now Barbara and Ger are starting their third year as editors. “There are aspects I enjoy, and I recognize the importance of the paper as a unifying element in the community. Sometimes the deadlines are inconvenient, especially when I’m very much involved in a publication assignment. There are times when Barbara does the whole issue.”

As you might expect with a pair of publications pros as editors, the Village News has never looked better. Each month, the Quinns plan the issue together, listing all the things to go in, and laying out the various pieces. When contributors—regular and occasional—have sent in articles, the Quinns’ writing job is light. But when this doesn’t happen, they have to find stories. They take photos, do line drawings, and overall put together an outstanding paper that the whole town enjoys.

Ger has two long-term projects. One is a novel, near completion, with an Eastern Shore locale. The second, in its beginning stage, is creation of a series of 12 relief sculptures, based on the stations of the cross. Each one would be a model, with multiple castings made to be displayed in churches or gardens. “The story that the stations represent is such a powerful one. I have the sketches, and I’ve done a couple of preliminary pieces.”

The Quinns’ daughter, Alexandra, is at Pyle Middle School. She is a budding writer and is good in math and science. When she’s not babysitting, she may be swimming. Alexandra is on the Palisades swim team and on a second team called the Sea Devils.

For the Quinn family, Cabin John is their right place.

## Cabin John Citizens Association - April 22, 1997 Meeting Minutes

### Community Center Piano

Reed Martin and a friend of his generously repaired (at no charge) the piano arranged by Reed to be donated to the Community Center. So the Center has a working piano now.

### MacArthur Blvd Water Problems

An effort is underway to have whomever is responsible (as between the Corps of Engineers and Montgomery County) address the puddles and water problems that occur along MacArthur Blvd after a heavy rain.

### Wild Bird Center Property

There is concern that commercial activity occurring on the lot zoned residential next to the Wild Bird Center lot may threaten the zoning status of the lot. CJCA will contact the County to ensure that the lot remains residentially zoned.

### CJCA Officers for Next Year

The slate of officers for the next year are as follows: Burr Gray - President, Susan Roberts - Vice-President, Nominees for Secretary and Treasurer to be determined

### Treasurer's Report

Approximately \$3194 on account. CJCA will donate \$50 to each of the three churches that donated benches for the Crabfeast, \$150 to the Cabin John fire department, and approx. \$200 for Clara Barton programs.

### MacArthur Plaza News

The new post office is expected to open May 19th. Maryland Federal Savings & Loan is expected to open May 15th in the location formerly occupied by First Union.

### Cabin John Playground

The County has removed the playground swings and slide from the park in back of the tennis courts on MacArthur Blvd. Karen Melchen agree to investigate the County's intentions regarding the playground and report at the next meeting. There is a need to upgrade equipment at the park.

### Accident at Seven Locks Road

The recent accident on Seven Locks Road at the Bethesda Co-op resulted in damage to the fire hydrant. Apparently the police had to wait quite a while for the WSSC to turn the water off at the hydrant before removing the car on top of the hydrant. Concerned citizens have contacted WSSC for an explanation.

### Next CJCA meeting

May 27th 7:30 p.m. at Clara Barton Center. Issues to discuss: election of new officers, Cabin John playground below the tennis courts, report on Cabin John Stream cleanup last month.

## The Glen Echo Baptist Church

Vassar Circle, Glen Echo, MD

Jesus Christ is our Lord, Saviour and God. He still performs miracles at the Glen Echo Baptist Church. A born again Fellowship. 229-4430.

**Sunday Morning:** Prayer 8:00, Family Sunday School 9:30, Worship and Praise, 11:00.  
All are invited!!

**Sunday Evening:** 6:00 Why we believe the Jewish Bible, 7:00 Praise, Testimonies, Worship, Singing.

**Wednesday Evening:** 7:00 Prayer, Testimonies, Bible questions

**Friday Morning:** 10:00 Community prayer and Bible study  
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**HOUSE WANTED** - Desire to buy house in Cabin John for sale by owner. Call 229-4222.

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The **VILLAGE NEWS** is published monthly except in July and December and is sent free to every household in Cabin John. Others may subscribe for \$5 per year. Send news, advertisements, letters, and subscriptions to:

The Village News  
 PO Box 164  
 Cabin John, Maryland 20818

The next deadline is 10 AM Saturday June 14 for the issue mailing June 19

People who make the Village News possible:

Barbara and Ger Quinn, Lorraine Minor, Barbara and Reed Martin, Contributors: Andy Rice, Bur Gray.

To place an ad in the Village News classifieds send us your ad before the first Saturday of the month The cost is 25 cents per word.

If you have questions, call Lorraine Minor at 301 229 3515

**Hazard to pets**

Open containers of antifreeze are a hazard to free ranging dogs and cats. The smell and taste of engine coolants that contain ethylene glycol are very attractive to animals but also quite deadly. According to Dr. Gretchen at the Alpine Veterinary Hospital, when an animal drinks even a small quantity of antifreeze, time is the crucial factor in administering a successful treatment. Animals become sick within an hour and can die within a day. Treatment may be ineffective after three hours and is considered futile after twelve hours.

Early symptoms are wobbling and vomiting followed by weakness, panting and dehydration.

The lethal component is not present in all types of antifreeze. To be safe, buy only coolants that are free of ethylene glycol and don't store any type in a container where pets can get to it.

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**THE DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE IS  
10 AM SATURDAY,  
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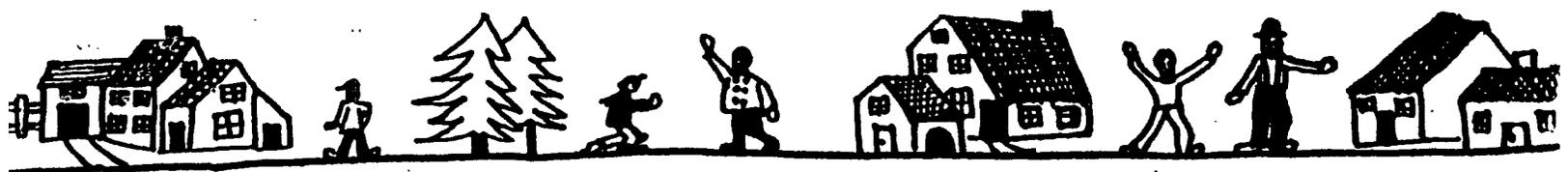
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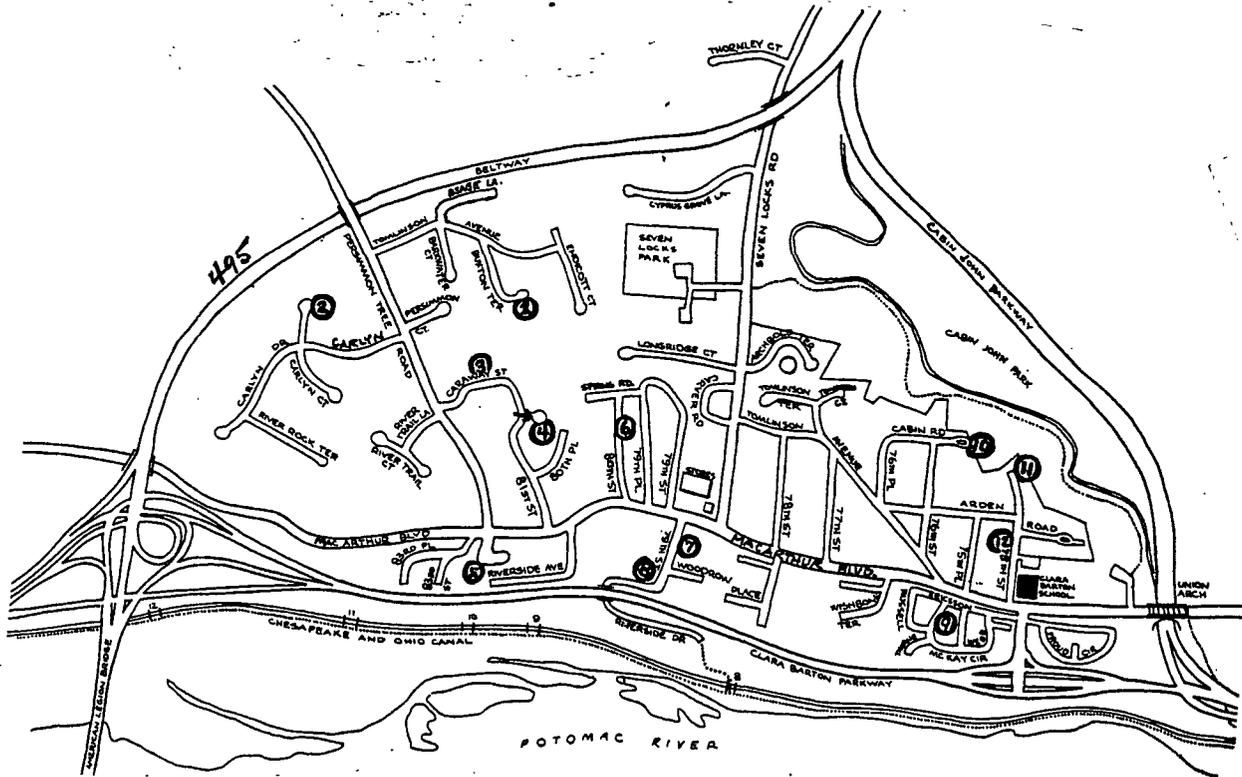
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# Cabin John House Tour

Sunday, June 15, 1:00-5:00

## 12 HOUSES



Pick up tickets after 12:30 June 15 at  
Clara Barton Community Center

Suggested donation \$ 5. per person  
\$ 10. per family

Questions? Call Martins ..... 301-229-3482



**HOUSES ARE NUMBERED ONLY FOR LOCATING THEM ON THE MAP. YOU MAY VISIT IN ANY ORDER YOU LIKE.**

1. **Cable 7000 Buxton Terrace** The Cables' world travels are reflected in the decoration of their home. Their special interest is religious art--sculpture, paintings, and hangings--some contemporary, some very old. A large greenhouse/sun room has a fountain and a 12' ceiling.
2. **Kazmi 6911 Carlynn Court** The indoor 2-level pool addition contains an Olympic-size pool and a complete suite of swimming-area amenities. Originally from Pakistan and Bangladesh, the Kasmis have lived here 27 years and raised four American-born children.
3. **Manion 8211 Caraway** All or part of many Cabin John homes have been designed by architect Tom Manion, including this family home. It incorporates two earlier houses on the site, one a log cabin. There are glass block walls in the family room and master bedroom, ash and oak cabinetry by cabinet-maker Bob Rabb, and a plastic stucco exterior.
4. **Almand 6619 81st Street** Charles designed and Kathleen engineered this home, and both built it in 6 months in 1984. Charles calls it a classic contemporary set back in the woods, with a terraced garden, seven decks, and a bridge. The home has no gutters or downspouts; the water is handled in drains on the ground as it runs directly off the roof. One soaring main room is the living, dining, and cooking space.
5. **Rixey chapel South of Macarthur, opposite Persimmon Tree Road** In the new cluster of houses called Chapel Woods stands the tiny chapel built in the 30's by Helen Hadley to house the ashes of her father, the painter Lawrence Southwick. Mr. Southwick's painting of Jesus was in the 6'x10' brick chapel. Both the painting and Mr. Southwick's ashes have been moved. Mrs. Hadley sold her property to the Totoros who built a house there where they lived for over 30 years. Chapel Woods is being built by the Rixeys, who have preserved and restored the structure that was once the smallest consecrated chapel in the United States.
6. **Bergfors-Rice 6547 80th Street** Built in 1965 by Edward Clark, a former White House photographer, the house was based on the design of a California architect, and has undergone several additions and remodelings. Connie's sculpture and painting studio is in the back yard, and a gallery is attached to the house.
7. **Martin 6431 79th Street (Garage only)** Reed Martin's garage holds an amazing collection of pre-1905 vehicles and everything else under the sun, from a 9' Flexible Flyer to a water buffalo head.
8. **Peters 6416 79th Street** The original house was built early in the century. Eight years ago, extensive remodeling tripled the size of the house and employed creative use of space. Deceptively small-looking from the street (this is the old section), the 6-bedroom house expands to the rear.
9. **Atwell-Derian 2 McKay Circle (Garden only)** Every foot of the property is abloom with dozens of varieties of flowers. The owner, a professional horticulturist, has put 6 years of love, talent, and work into creating this garden in the Gardens.
10. **Gallagher 7600 Cabin Road** This minimalist, contemporary home is accessible to the out-of-doors from all rooms except the kitchen; all windows are actually doors. Mr. Gallagher and architect Don Alexander Hawkins designed and built in 1968 a home that met Mr. Gallagher's needs and desires, one of which was a way to get out into the woods. Mr. Gallagher needed to get around his home easily in his wheelchair; the house is on two levels with a ramp. Bordered on two sides by parkland, it is placed to catch sunlight all day.
11. **Koch 6532 75th Street** The historic rammed-earth home of Cabin John was built in 1923 by Hubert Humphrey's aunt and uncle on a 5-acre plot; 3 1/2 acres were later deeded to the adjoining park. Mrs. Humphrey designed it, and Dr. Humphrey and their sons actually did the building. Ecologically, it was ahead of its time: made of a readily available material--earth, cool in the summer thanks to its 18" thick walls, with three fireplaces of stone from the nearby Cabin John Creek.
12. **Gordon-Smith/Heslin 6514 75th Street** The tiny original 1-bedroom house was built early in the century and inherited by the Costellos who lived there a number of years. Ms. Gordon-Smith bought the property in 1982, rented it until 1994, when it got a complete renovation completed in 1996. Lucia Costa, the architect, worked to preserve the look of the original house. Mary and Tom's living room features a vaulted ceiling and a river-stone fireplace.