

THE VILLAGE NEWS

Volume 3² No. 2

Serving the people of Cabin John and beyond

October 1998

CABIN JOHN CITIZENS ASSOCIATION - Yearly Recap

Ever since 1919, the Cabin John Citizens Association has worked to further the interests of our community and has served as a forum for discussion of problems and concerns. The Citizens Association's fundamental goal is to preserve our identity as a community.

The Association's mailing address is P.O. Box 31, Cabin John, MD 20818; all ideas are welcomed and any participation is quite appreciated.

The Association meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month (except December, June, July and August) at 7:30 p.m. at the Clara Barton Community Center, 7425 MacArthur Blvd. Meetings are open to all. The Association operates on the school year, and yearly membership dues are \$10/family and \$7/individual, which can be mailed to the Association's address.

This past year (Sep 97 - Aug 98), the Citizens Association, often in conjunction with the Clara Barton Community Center, was responsible for:

- the annual Cabin John Crab Feast,
- a Christmas/Hannukkah/Kwanzaa Party (which was supported in particular by local merchants),
- working with other groups to convince the National Park Service

NEIGHBORLY NEWS

Oct 1998

by Barbara Martin

Jack Michael Herscowitz is the newest resident of Woodrow Place. He was born in September to parents Terri Strasburg and Rob Herscowitz.

Danny Harris was presented with the Governor's Award for the state of Maryland, honoring his continuing work as coordinator for helping needy families in Cumberland and other Maryland communities. This is the second time he has won the Governor's Award. For many years, Danny has used his yard and garage as a collection point for used appliances, donated building materials, etc. These supplies are trucked by volunteers to areas in Maryland where they can be well used by those in need. In the past 8 years Danny has made possible delivery of over half a million dollars worth of supplies. Danny's award was presented by the chairman of the board of the Interfaith Consortium. Danny says his wife, **Virginia Harris**, should get an award for her behind-the-scenes support, for example, feeding the trucking crews.

Diane Leatherman's book "Crossing Kansas" was published recently. In September she gave readings from her book on two Sundays at McCrillis Gardens Gallery, where one of her works is currently displayed in the "Material Women" fabric arts exhibit. The exhibit runs through October 9; the Gallery is at 6910 Greentree Road in Bethesda.

Sergei Hadjibabof has died. Sergei lived in the Gardens.

New neighbors are **Nan and David Fry**. Nan works in the Academic Studies department of Corcoran Art School. David is a writer editor and a woodturner. The Frys live off MacArthur Boulevard.

Potomac Outdoors is now open. The store is on MacArthur where the Wild Bird Center used to be. The aim of Potomac Outdoors is to offer everything needed for cyclists, canoe/kyack enthusiasts, hikers, mountain climbers, and naturalists. **David Smith** is the owner; **Sunny Pitcher** is manager.

Scott Lewis participated in the Make A Wish Foundation Triathlon in Bethany Beach. The race included a 1.5km ocean swim, 36 km bike ride and 10km run. He raised over \$1000 for the foundation which provides "wishes come true" for seriously ill children.

Do you know of any births, deaths, marriages, honors, new neighbors, news of former residents? Please call Barbara Martin at 301-229-3482 so that we can share our news with our neighbors.

This is one way to keep Cabin John the friendly small town we love.

Local Harvest/Halloween
activities listed on page 5

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CITIZENS ASSOC. RECAP*Continued From Page 1*

- to repair/desilt nearby portions of the C & O Canal in order to return water to the Canal adjacent to Cabin John,
- the Summer Lecture on "The Splendors of the Universe",
 - cleanup of the Cabin John Creek,
 - covering the Community Center's Heating/Air Conditioning unit with more scenic cedar latticework,
 - continuing the free swim days for Cabin John residents at the Palisades Pool during the summer,
 - funding worthwhile local projects, including support of the Village News;
 - coordinating the visit by Fox Channel Five News and the featuring of interesting aspects of the Cabin John community on the morning show in March 1998,
 - generating an updated Community Directory for all residents and merchants of Cabin John.

And most importantly, the association represented citizen interest and majority positions to Montgomery County on the following issues, among others:

- support of maintaining/improving the MacArthur bike path and related safety issues,
- advocating that further study of the Anti-mansionization draft legislation occur,
- and supporting the Clara Barton Center for Children's successful request to Montgomery County for renewal of their lease.

-Burr Grav. CICA President

**LOOKING BACKWARD
IN CABIN JOHN***Building the Aqueduct*

By Andrew E. Rice

I went over to Rockville last week for the annual Montgomery County "birthday party" at the Beall-Dawson House at 103 W. Montgomery Avenue. This historic house is the headquarters of the Montgomery County Historical Society.

One picks up all kinds of fascinating historical tidbits at events like this one. For instance, did you know that the first TV station in the United States was in Montgomery County? W3XK, located at 10717 Georgia Avenue in Silver Spring, went on the air on February 25, 1928, with a 2-hour broadcast every night from 10:30 p.m. to 12:30 a.m. Although it had only 5 watts of power, it reportedly was well received (although who had TV sets to receive it in those days is not made clear).

A principal exhibit at the Beall-Dawson House — an exhibit that continues for another couple of months — covers the building of the Washington Aqueduct which lies beneath Cabin John's main street and carries water from Great Falls to Washington. It was a tremendous engineering project, of which the Union Arch is only the most dramatic component. Ground was broken in 1853 but the aqueduct was not completed until after the Civil War.

Not only did the war disrupt the construction, there were difficulties in getting landowners to give up a right of way. And there was a hassle about where the intake should be located at Great Falls; the original plans had to be changed because they would have reduced the water power available to the Great Falls Manufacturing Co.

Continued on Page 3

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LOOKING BACK
Continued From Page 2

There were also political and personality conflicts. Montgomery Meigs, the chief engineer, was removed from office in 1860 and sent off to a military post in Florida. After Abraham Lincoln's election, however, he was returned to his chief engineer position.

Meigs not only designed the overall aqueduct and the Union Arch; he was involved in every aspect of the project, even down to designing the fire hydrants installed in Washington. This was at a time when metal pipes were replacing the old wooden pipes, and the MCHS exhibit includes a 6-foot length of an actual wooden pipe, as well as an example of a Meigs hydrant.

Keeping the water clean was a problem. The new reservoirs built inside the District were a constant attraction to swimmers and an armed guard was required to keep them out. Another kind of "swimmer" were eels who easily made their way into the conduit and would unexpectedly emerge from the faucet in Washington residences. So special eel traps had to be installed.

If you're interested in knowing more about the Washington Aqueduct, the Historical Society is sponsoring a bus tour on Saturday, October 3, from 9:30 to 12:30 (price \$10, \$6 for Society members). The tour will be led by Tom Jacobus, Chief of the Aqueduct, and "will explore some areas not normally seen by the public as well as point out some sites that are readily in view they may not have known were part of the Aqueduct." For information on reservations, call 301-762-1492.

HOLIDAY GIFT GUIDE HIGH-LIGHTS LOCAL WARES

Are you a craftsman, artist, skill teacher, baker, babysitter, etc.? The November issue of *The Village News* will include a special "Holiday Gift Market" classified section designed to let Cabin Johners give Cabin John-made goods and services as holiday gifts.

Your ad in this section should describe the item(s) available including cost, and give information on where to call/write for ordering. Advertisers offering gift certificates for services such as lessons, babysitting, mural painting etc., should give the cost per unit (hour, sq. ft., etc.) Cost of an ad is \$10 for up to 25 words.

Send your ad and payment to *The Village News* c/o Lorraine Minor. Call Heidi Lewis at 301-320-3300 if you'd like more information.

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, MD 20818

The next deadline is 10AM Friday Oct. 16th for the issue mailing Oct. 23rd.

People who make The Village News possible: Barbara and Ger Quinn, Barbara and Reed Martin, Lorraine Minor, Heidi Brown Lewis.

Contributors: Burr Gray, Andy Rice, Diane Leatherman and Barbara Martin and Heidi Brown Lewis.



ALPINE VETERINARY HOSPITAL

Full Service Animal Hospital
Mon-Fri 7:30 am - 7:00 pm
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NEW BLOOD AT THE VILLAGE NEWS

by Ger Quinn

Since last June Heidi Lewis has served as guest editor of the Village News while I worked on a large long-term project. Now, in a bloodless coup, Heidi has generously agreed to take full-time responsibility for keeping the Village News presses rolling. I will join the distinguished ranks of Former Village News Editors. I also plan to contribute occasional articles focusing on the weird and enigmatic side of the tracks in Cabin John.

The thing that makes the Village News worth all the considerable effort is the contribution it makes to the strong community spirit present here. All our lives are richer because of the kind of neighborhood we have. When you have an opinion, a bit of news, or even just an old photograph that might be of community interest I hope you will send it to Heidi or to Barbara Martin for use in the Village News. It adds to the vitality of your neighborhood.

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If you would like to support the school by purchasing any of these certificates, please call Deborah Duffy at 301-229-4850. All orders will be delivered to you.

The Village News welcomes letters to the editor or to the community, but we will print only signed letters.

CLASSIFIEDS

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**LAMPLIGHT
OPEN HOUSE
AT CLARA BARTON HOUSE**
October 24, 7:00 - 9:00 pm

1998 marks the 100th anniversary of the Spanish-American War. Visitors to the Clara Barton NHS can discover how the events in Cuba during 1898 impacted Miss Barton and the American Red Cross.

During the Open House Program, National Park Service Volunteers and Rangers will discuss how Clara Barton's home served as National Headquarters for the American Red Cross and how Miss Barton led the war relief efforts in Cuba.

Visitors can experience the viewpoint of Spanish-American War soldiers and the scene of an American soldiers' encampment during living history presentations. Music of the Spanish-American War period, including songs popular with Teddy Roosevelt's Rough Riders and Red Cross workers will complement the visit through Miss Barton's home. FREE

**LOCAL AUTHOR GIVES
READING**

Tina's Gallery in MacArthur Square (near the Market and Post Office) will be hosting Diane Leatherman reading from her recently self-published book, *Crossing Kansas*, on the evening of Friday, October 23rd at 7 p.m.

Ms. Leatherman has written a fictionalized memoir which begins in Kansas but ends right here in "River City." The Gallery will have the paperback book available for sale at a cost of \$10.95 beginning in late October.

**WAMU-FM PICKIN' IN
THE GLEN BLUEGRASS
MUSIC FESTIVAL**

October 17, 2-5 p.m. Glen Echo Park

Sit back, relax, and enjoy an afternoon of old time bluegrass music, performed live at the park. Musicians, bands, and jam sessions are held in the picnic grove, Crystal Pool plaza, and the Cuddle Up Stage. FREE





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Learn to spin wool or turn a piece of wood on the carpenter's lathe. Stop by the Tavern for a cup of mulled wine before you begin your holiday shopping at the many tradesmen's and merchant's stalls.

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Fri. Oct 30, 7:00 - 8:30 all ages
Reservations required 301-299-1990
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FINANCIAL STATEMENT CABIN JOHN VILLAGE NEWS September 1, 1997 to August 31, 1998

Beginning Checkbook Balance
(9/1/97).....\$ 836.72

INCOME

Display Advertising	\$3,736.25
Classified Advertising	251.00
Neighbor Services	291.25
Donations	1,000.00
Subscriptions	130.00

Total \$5,408.50

EXPENSES

Printing Expense	\$4,050.90
Mailing Expenses:	
Monthly Mailing	940.95
Bulkrate Fee	85.00
Labels	204.75
P.O. Box Rental	40.00
Bank Fees	60.00

Total \$5,381.60

TOTAL OF INCOME MINUS
EXPENSES.....\$ 26.90

ENDING CHECKBOOK BALANCE
(8/31/98).....\$ 863.62

Submitted by:
Lorraine Minor
Business Manager, CJVN
17 September 1998

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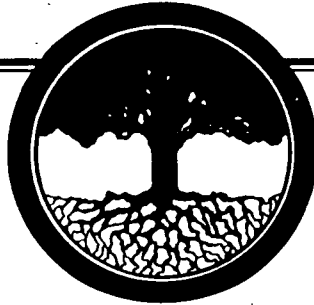


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