

The Collingtonian

~ News and Views ~

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COLLINGTON VOLUNTEERS: THE HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE, PART 1 (1985-1988)

Early in 1985, Ed and Anna White and other prospective residents of Collington's community-to-be began coming to the staff office on Martin Luther King Highway (at that time known as the George Palmer Highway). They were helping prepare the marketing material then being mailed to some 5000 addressees. They also had advance notice of the plans for monthly meetings at which prospective residents would find out more about what life at Collington would be. Since Ed had been Chief, Office Services, Redevelopment Land Agency, had subsequently had his own catering service, and had worked at the White House as a professional butler, it was natural that he would offer some help with these meetings. He was enlisted to "meet and greet."

Then at the September meeting, the presidents of the residents' associations at Broadmead and Fairhaven life care communities described their organizations. At the October meeting, prospective residents set up the Collington Future Residents Association and elected officers. Later, a Steering Committee was selected, necessary subcommittees were identified, and chair persons were picked. Surprise: Ed White was asked to chair a "hospitality" group.

By April 20, 1986, the day of the Ground Breaking ceremony at the Collington site, the Hospitality Committee included, among others, Ed and Anna White, Ethel Belinky, Betty Clark, Anna Dougherty, Jessie Richardson, Ruth Stewart, Penny

Vickery, Joyce Warren, and Marion Wilson. Members had advised and assisted on an ongoing basis with plans for refreshments at this first on-site event, and "all ... were present and helped out with meeting and greeting." Anna Dougherty remembers best the "Collington apron" she wore while serving champagne in the refreshment tent.

There was the 1986 Christmas party. Future residents donated ornaments for the tree; they are still used each year.

Construction was underway. In October 1987, the cornerstone was laid, and members of the Hospitality Committee were asked to act as hosts/hostesses. Also, about that time, the Committee was asked to make suggestions for a **Welcome Book** to hand to move-ins when it was time. Ed White picked Anna Dougherty to produce the copy, and she did it in early 1988, with the help of Helen Eisenhart, Penny Vickery, Ruth Stewart and Isabelle Gerhard. Irving Dow, a volunteer who was not a Committee member, suggested including preprinted change of address cards in each move-in's orientation packet.

Meanwhile, the Hospitality Committee was participating for the first time in a function that would presently become one of its major tasks -- the sponsoring of parties. It started when Marion Camp, a relatively new member, suggested that the Committee help with a project she and her husband John had in mind, a party to honor the Collington staff. The result was the transition luncheon held at Andrews Air Force Base on March 16, 1988, after some 3 months of planning.

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It was sponsored jointly by the Collington Board of Directors and the Future Residents Association and handled by the Hospitality Committee, especially Marion Camp, Chair, Ed and Anna White, Al Folop, and Junius Jeffries. Bishop John Walker, the Rev. John Evans, Gail Kohn and the Rev. Larry Harris attended as did well over 169 future residents. The proceeds were such that a sizable sum was donated to the Fellowship Fund. Bob Willing took pictures as he would do from then on at Collington events.

Now, however, spring had come, and the moving in had really begun. So meeting and greeting were of major importance. In May, Ed White fell ill, and Marion Camp had to fill in for him for awhile. With her help, the move-ins were greeted, and the **Welcome Book** was handed out. Whenever staff asked for assistance, it was upcoming from Committee members and others. For example, if furniture was needed for awhile, someone would scrounge enough to help the newcomer get by. And Virginia Sinclair, now a Committee member, contacted new residents, asked what she could do, and then tried to do it. On June 16, the Committee, still chaired by Marion Camp, sponsored an on-site luncheon for staff and residents.

Obviously things were changing. And they were to change even more. For instance, when Ed White got well, he (and soon Jim Reilly) began the sponsoring of a **community** activity, which was to become another major function of the Hospitality Committee. (In this case, it was croquet, which was set up despite the rock-hard (no rain) playing field.

October -- and the Dedication. Again Committee members served as hosts/hostesses as requested by staff. Then, shortly, December, and a Christmas party was held in the Community Center. Once the ornaments for the tree had been located, everyone, staff, Committee members, residents, went to work to get the decorations in place. The

task was quite something since the proper procedures had yet to be worked out. In the end, the party was a great success with residents bringing gifts for the needy and donating goodies.

1989 was coming. The new order was about to begin. The Hospitality Committee was ready.

Jane Wall

To Be Continued

BIRDS

Even as autumn's chill has driven many of Collington's favorite birds southward, others have arrived on schedule to spend the winter hereabouts -- and their variety and numbers are helping to maintain Collington's reputation as a wildlife refuge.

Long gone, of course, are our hummingbirds, egrets, kingbirds, woodthrushes and other summer residents. In their stead have come old friends including juncos, white-throated sparrows and cedar waxwings and certain scarcer birds such as yellow-bellied sapsuckers.

While no one has taken a tree-to-tree census of the returnees, casual, unscientific observation so far indicated that the autumn influx of land birds roughly matches that of 1989. Small bands of juncos and white-throats are almost everywhere around the edges of the Collington campus. Cedar waxwings have lately been roosting in dead trees and feasting on berries here and there. One or two sapsuckers -- a kind of woodpecker apparently becoming less common -- have been spotted in a big oak along the entrance road.

What's more, a few more unusual visitors to Collington have turned up this fall. More than once, a pair of purple finches has been sighted; the male, once described as resembling "a sparrow dipped upside down in raspberry juice," tends to outshine the more familiar house finch. Both kinds of kinglets, the ruby-crowned and the golden-crowned, have been seen flitting along our paths; along with the hummingbirds and the war-

blers, they are among the butterflies of the bird world. Another tiny visitor, the aptly named winter wren, has shown up along the loop trail. None of these four, apparently, was here last fall.

As for water birds, the picture so far appears somewhat disappointing. The autumn migration of ducks has largely bypassed Collington, and the shrinkage of the lake may be a reason why. Only one duck, a female hooded merganser, was recorded by late November, and that bird was on the well-filled drainage pond. The green-backed herons that roamed the Lake shore earlier this year seem to have left.

However, a great blue heron did reappear recently after a lengthy absence. A kingfisher has lately taken up a lakeside perch, while a pair of killdeer has been faithfully patrolling the mudflats. And the Canada geese, often 20 or more, keep returning from time to time.

In any case, comparisons of one year's sightings will inevitably remain spotty until we have more complete records to go by. The Sightings Book kept at the Clock Tower reception desk, where bird observations are recorded, was started only this year. To help make meaningful year-to-year comparisons, residents should diligently record their sightings in the Book.

Whatever the exact numbers of this fall's immigration, we can feel confident that our permanent bird population is holding up nicely. Our bluebirds have been multiplying, at least three kinds of woodpeckers dwell year-round in our neighborhood, our resident red-shouldered hawk often soars and screeches overhead, a male kestrel (sparrow hawk) is regularly using the purple-martin house as a launching pad for his depredations, and we surely have all the house finches and mourning doves that anyone could want.

Edward Behr

LECTURE ON ADVANCE DIRECTIVES

The third in our series of talks on advance directives was recently given by Nancy Cummings, M.D. Her talk was titled, "How to Talk With Your Physician About Advance Directives." Dr. Cummings began by saying that all those 18 or over should have their wishes on record. These documents exist so that people will talk about difficult topics: How they would wish to be treated if they were unable to participate in medical decisions regarding their own treatment and what medical options might have to be faced. Talks should be scheduled with physicians about these things. However, there is a widely held perception that physicians are reluctant to engage in such conversations.

Dr. Cummings clearly had it as part of her goal to help us better understand our doctors at the same time as she gave us some suggestions about how to listen to and understand their messages to us. She began by pointing out that the practice of medicine has changed dramatically in the course of this century. The result is that there has been a major change in the role of the physician. Until the beginning of the twentieth century doctors could do little but stand by when a patient was seriously ill. The last several decades have seen advances which make the situation quite different. Vaccines, IV fluids, blood transfusions, sulfa drugs, and antibiotics each made formerly fatal illnesses treatable. In addition, since the Second World War there have been a number of technical advances, including dialysis machines and respirators, which have further expanded our ability to sustain life. Today, unlike those of earlier generations, doctors can do something, and they tend to keep trying.

Although it is clear that each of us will die, today's doctors find it difficult to lose a patient; it feels like failure. Sometimes important questions about

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the costs of prolonging the process and how people can be helped to have a good death get lost. Concerned with their own feelings, doctors may fail to understand the wishes of a patient.

Medical ethics became a field about a quarter of a century ago, begun not by physicians but by theologians and philosophers. It raises a number of questions. Given the technology available, why use a particular procedure? Is it overused? Should one try it; can it be stopped if started? Is too much being promised? People should try to learn as much as possible of the potential of technology while they are healthy. Then it is appropriate to draw up a durable power of attorney. This is a good excuse to become involved in discussions with family, friends and physicians.

There are several problems relating to communication between doctors and patients. When confronted with serious illness, everyone is afraid and may not be able to hear what is being said. When talking to a physician, it is wise to take pencil and paper. Write down what you hear. It may be possible to repeat it back right then to be sure you heard correctly. If you are really not prepared for what you are told, it may be better to go away and digest the information. Then make an appointment for the purpose of discussing what you have been told. If your doctor will not talk with you about these things, you should probably find another who will.

Doctors today are being trained to protect themselves. Patient expectations are high and there is always the possibility of lawsuits. They may do too many tests and fail to listen to what is going on with the patient. We, however, have an obligation to inform ourselves. This process should involve discussing the issues not only with our physicians, but also with family friends, lawyers, and clergy. It is a wonderful gift to let your family know what you want.

Dr. Cummings made it clear

that neither patients nor doctors find it easy to talk about these issues, and she told a number of anecdotes to illustrate how each may misunderstand the other. Her own field is kidney dialysis, and when she said that she would have to have a real reason for living before she would undertake that particular treatment, it became graphically clear how important it is for us to try to inform ourselves and to keep as current as possible about the nature of treatments available to us.

Mary C. MacLean

REPORT ON THE AAHA CONVENTION NOVEMBER 5-8, 1990

On November 1, Resident Association President Judy Kidney called to report that severe back pains would prevent her from attending next week's AAHA convention in New Orleans, and asked if I could attend. After a night of pondering pros and cons, I called Judy on Friday morning to accept the assignment in my capacity as newly elected Vice President of the Association.

Thanks to effective telephone actions by Kay Whittington essential convention registration, and plane and hotel reservations were changed. Thus, early Saturday, November 3, along with Gail Kohn, P. Gail Whitehead, and Dr. Sandra Charles, a member of Collington's Board of Directors, I departed BWI airport for the flight to New Orleans via Atlanta. (Collington Board President Robert Gosset, travelling separately, also represented Collington at the convention.)

From enroute briefing, I learned that AAHA is the acronym for American Association of Homes for the Aging, the professional trade association for non-profit retirement communities and their staffs. AAHA is an association of some 3500 members, with a national headquarters and staff in Washington, D.C. Attendance at the convention was around 5,000, including spouses and exhibitors.

The convention made me increasingly aware of the importance of health care and retirement communities in our current and future economic and political life, and also, that such conventions are an essential feature of all professional, social, educational, and commercial societies and associations.

The convention program consisted of General Sessions, Continuing Educations sessions, a plethora of seminars, evening social events, receptions by various commercial organizations, tours, an exposition with more than 250 exhibitors, and even a tennis tournament and a jogging race.

Speakers at the three General Sessions (which were, incidentally, sponsored financially by commercial organizations) included Patricia Aburdene, coauthor of the book **Megatrends 2000**, who spoke on that subject, Frances Hesselbein, President of the Peter F. Drucker Foundation for Non-Profit Management and former head of the Girl Scouts, whose topic was "Managing for the Mission," and Edward Asner, actor and activist, who advocated "Leading the Way With the Spirit of Volunteerism."

There were some ninety or more Educational Sessions, dealing with such diverse subjects as "A Laughing Matter, the Value of Humor in your Facility," "Debt Financing for Start-Ups and Expansions," "Leading the Quality-Driven Organization," "The Do's and Don'ts of Direct Mail Marketing," "Providing Residence Centered Care: Guidelines for the Administrator," "OBRA '87: Nursing Home Reform Inside-Out, Upside-Down," "Loss and Theft in Residential Facilities," and "Here Come the Baby Boomers: Designing Today for Tomorrow's Consumers," among others. Most of these, as is apparent, were designed for administrators and staff, rather than for residents. In fact, the focus of the convention was on these two groups, with minor consideration for residents, of whom there was only a small number present.

Several sessions dealt with problems and challenges relating to OBRA (Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1987), which is concerned with periodic inspections of retirement communities by Federal investigators. It was apparent that OBRA, and its requirements, are being taken seriously by retirement community administrators.

Affiliated with AAHA is the Continuing Care Accreditation Commission (CCAC) with which Collington will be concerned as it seeks accreditation during the next several years. A Task Force consisting of Board Members, Staff, and Residents will be named shortly to carry out this program.

To the question, is it worthwhile for Collington to have representation at AAHA conventions, I would reply with a definite "Yes," provided that future conventions have more educational sessions concerned directly with the needs and problems of all residents, rather than being limited to those of the "frail and feeble elderly."

The Exposition displayed items ranging from cotton swabs to thirty-seat busses, and included various types of retirement and nursing community furniture and equipment.

AAHA will sponsor its Nineteenth Spring Conference, in Washington, D.C., from April 10-12, 1991.

Walter W. Ristow
Vice President, Collington
Residents Association

LIBRARY NOTES

Recent book gifts from residents are in the process of being incorporated into the Library collection. In this way the original Library gifts will gradually be supplemented with up-to-date books for all to read. Of special interest is the acquisition of **Who's Who in America 1984-1985**, a gift from a resident.

Anna E. Dougherty
Librarian

CHANUKAH

Chanukah, the Jewish festival which falls this year on December 12, commemorates a famous incident in the history of the ancient Jewish kingdom of Judah. It is of general interest also as one of the earliest instances of the struggle for the right to practice monotheism, in defiance of the state's requirement of conformity to the prevailing religion of polytheism, preceding by several centuries the persecution of the early Christians by the Roman authorities. It is unique, too, in being one of the few stories out of Jewish history with a happy ending.

The time is the second century B.C., roughly 800 years after the founding of the kingdom of Israel by David and Solomon. Many calamities had afflicted the land and its people since. Rival claims to the throne had led to the division of the country between the northern kingdom of Israel and the southern kingdom of Judah. Israel was conquered by the Assyrians and its people deported, to disappear from history (the "lost ten tribes"). Judah fell to the Babylonians, the Temple in Jerusalem was destroyed and its inhabitants were exiled. A remnant returned after Babylon was conquered by the Persians and the Temple was restored.

Later wars brought in their wake other foreign rulers. In the second century B.C. it was Antiochus Epiphanes, who governed what is today the greater part of the Middle East, an imperium where the official language was Greek, and the cultural values and religious practices were those inherited from the classic days of Athens and Sparta, but distinguished from them by a severe religious intolerance. Jews, the principal target, were not only forbidden to affirm in prayer their belief in one God, and denied the right to practice circumcision and other requirements of the Mosaic law, but were ordered to offer sacrifices to the Greek gods.

These oppressions were climaxed by the destruction of the Temple

in Jerusalem in 168 B.C., the looting of the Temple treasures, and the rededication of the site to the Greek god Zeus.

In Modin, a town in the Judean highlands, a pious Jew, Mattathias, refused to comply with the orders of the Greek authorities, and fled to the hills, taking with him his five sons. They were soon joined by other resistance fighters, outraged like Mattathias by the fetters imposed on their freedom to worship God. They were offended, too, by the desertion of many Jewish youths from the traditional ways of their forefathers and their attraction to pagan Greek ways, including participation, in the nude, in athletic contests. They fought for a restoration of the worship of God in the Temple, but also for a rejection of worldly standards and a return to the traditional simpler values of an earlier period.

Antiochus, besieged by more serious troubles elsewhere in his kingdom, neglected the Judean revolt, and after years of desultory responses to the hit and run tactics of the guerrillas, was induced by his advisors to make peace with them. In the meanwhile Mattathias had died and the command had devolved upon his oldest son, the charismatic Judas Maccabeus.

A triumphant Judas oversaw the rebuilding of the Temple in 166 B.C. and its reconsecration to the worship of the God of old. And it is here, as legend has it, that the miracle of the cruse of oil took place. Included in the consecration ceremony which took place on the 25th day of Kislov in the Hebrew calendar, a day which generally falls in the middle of December in our calendar, was the lighting of a small cruse of sacred oil. Instead of being consumed by the end of the day the oil lasted eight days.

The miracle of the oil has been commemorated since in the eight day Festival of the Dedication of Lights, Chanukah in Hebrew, marked by the lighting on

on the seven-branched, sometimes nine-branched, candelabrum called the Menorah.

Jacob Fisher

HOW GOES OUR WORLD?

This is one major question that for the past two years has caused more than sixty Collington residents to join our "Great Decisions" programs of 1989 and 1990; we are now planning and organizing the 1991 program. We shall continue using materials published annually over the past thirty years by the non-governmental, non-partisan Foreign Policy Association (FPA), materials widely used by educational and civic organizations. More than 250,000 people each year have participated in this highly-regarded program centered on major problems of international relations, with emphasis on optional policies being considered by American leaders.

The cornerstone of the program is the FPA's annual briefing book **Great Decisions, 1991**, a personal reference book useful in conducting group discussions centering on eight policy issues selected as of primary urgency and significance. Each of its eight chapters includes background, policy options being considered by our leaders, recommended readings, questions for discussion, maps and illustrations - ten-page summaries of major international questions currently facing our country. The FPA book used by each participant in our Collington program will become available here in January, 1991.

Topics for Great Decisions, 1991

As previously announced in **The Collington Courier** issue of October 12, 1990, the topics for 1991 will be:

The New Europe: What Role for the US?

Nationalism's Revival - USSR and Eastern Europe

Middle East - New Frontiers and Alliances

Re-Thinking Foreign Aid - What? How Much? To Whom?

Japan-US Trade: Teapot Tempest or

Showdown?

Women, Population and Environment: The Relationship, The Challenges

Cuba: What Future for Castro and Communism?

Media's Role in Shaping Foreign Policy

Getting Our Views to Our Leaders

When each group ends a session and participants have clarified through discussion their personal views regarding the issues considered, all members will execute the opinion ballots appearing at the close of each chapter. Ballots are tabulated by the FPA in New York City as a significant national poll of thousands of well-informed and concerned citizens. Poll results are transmitted to the White House, and to the Departments of State and Defense, to Congressional committees concerned with foreign affairs, and to the national media for comments and publication. These national polls have gained wide recognition over the many years of this program, causing participants to feel that they have had some small voice in the formulation of national policy.

The Program at Collington

In late December or in January 1991, the Collington Courier will report to all residents the weekdays in February and March when each of our three or four discussion groups will meet. When joining our program, you will be asked to indicate which scheduled days you prefer; our program coordinators will try to promote active participation by all members. The discussions are lively and often entertaining: because many members of our groups have lived or worked abroad, their personal observations and experiences usefully supplement other available sources.

Courier articles also will tell you how interested residents can enroll in this stimulating activity and obtain a copy of the essential FPA briefing book. Costing not over \$10.00, the book is the only charge for the program, which is sponsored by the Collington Residents Association.

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Further details about our Great Decisions program can be obtained from its coordinators, Carroll and Conna Shaw (ext. 7239).

Supplemental Programs

Supplementing the Collington program are other activities in the metropolitan Washington area, on dates to be announced in the public press. 1.) Persons enrolled in the Great Decisions program are welcome guests at an Annual Reception and Forum sponsored by the World Affairs Council of Washington, D.C., and the **Washington Post** newspaper in a downtown hotel. For this event, the **Post** brings several of its foreign correspondents to this city to speak on topics related to Great Decisions. 2.) Public television (WETA - TV Channel 26) has regularly scheduled, on Saturday morning programs, speakers recruited by the Foreign Service School of Georgetown University to discuss Great Decisions topics.

Carroll Shaw

BENEFIT CONCERT

On Sunday, November 25, a benefit concert given by the Chesapeake Trio marked the culmination of a long campaign to raise enough money to recondition the Steinway piano in the Auditorium. Bob Wil-ling, Chair of the Music Committee, presented a check to Gail Kohn, the final amount being \$7,150, that will pay not only for the work on the Steinway but also necessary work on some of the other pianos donated to Collington. Our warmest congratulations to Bob for his indefatigable efforts that resulted in this splendid success. Congratulations as well to the loyal members of his Committee who have converted the Music Room into a pleasant refuge where residents can enjoy the large collection of records and the record player, as well as two pianos. Congratulations also to the anonymous donor of \$3,000 that really started this project. And our congratulations to Collington residents for their generous response to this appeal. Congratulations also to all members of the Administration for their enthusiastic support and cooperation.

Last but not least, our warmest congratulations to the Chesapeake Trio who very generously offered to perform a benefit concert. This Trio, consisting of Ann Joseph, pianist, Geraldine Mann, violinist, and Veronica Adams, cellist, has performed before at Collington and knew all too well our need. They are all well-trained, proficient musicians, with well-established careers as performers and teachers. Their many appearances as soloists as well as with chamber music groups and well-known orchestras give them a wealth of experience and versatility. And what a program they presented, starting with the "Archduke" Trio in B-flat, Op. 97, of Beethoven. This is a long work in four movements demanding great technical mastery as well as mature musicianship. It is a delight, illustrating the genius of Beethoven in (cont. on next page)

SING ME A SONG

Sing me a high song borne on the
wind
Sing of the stars and the rain,
Carol the clouds that course
through the skies
Moons as they wax and they wane.

Soft, sing me soft, those stories
of old,
Whisper of babes born on earth,
Sing me how one Child's coming
foretold
Legend of high Holy birth.

Sing me how Kings rode far on that
night
Guided by light from above.
Rode through the storms, rode on to
the Babe's
Manger, encircled by love.

Sing if you will how men of today
Find such a light from above.
Carol the chords men need while we
build
One world encircled by love.

CBS

combining his complete mastery of the sonata form with his own individual style and warmth. The graceful and even haunting themes of the Allegro were stated by the piano, typical of Beethoven. A brilliant pianist himself, he seems to favor the piano, though in the Scherzo it is the cello and violin that introduce the thematic material in a lovely duet, ending with a brilliant finale.

Then came a Passacaglia, the Third Movement of a trio by Ravel. This is fiendishly difficult music to perform without losing the delicate nuances of its constantly shifting tonalities and the fragility of its uninterrupted flow. All three musicians took their turns in creating this charming, shimmering music.

The program ended with another four movement Trio, by Mendelssohn, No. 1 in D-minor, Op. 49. Here our Trio seemed more relaxed and somehow happier, which, of course, was also the mood of the composition. To his classical upbringing Mendelssohn added a romantic inclination, imparting to his music a poetic elegance. This Trio has a fast tempo, well handled by the performers, with the theme frequently stated by one instrument, then taken up by each of the others in turn. It is happy, sprightly music and served as a delightful, sparkling climax to a daunting program. So, again, we congratulate the Chesapeake Trio. We look forward to their return in the spring to enjoy our reconditioned Steinway with us.

Emily Abouchar

will please you and persons interested in residing here.

Seasonal Finery

Residents who have not placed a favorite ornament on the Christmas tree in the Living Room are urged to add one soon for the enjoyment of all of us. In 1985, Collington began collecting ornaments from future Residents. Each one has a story behind it that the contributing resident can share.

An Afternoon at Collington

A new series of interesting programs that are to be provided by residents will begin soon. Rosalie Young will make the first presentation "Adult Learning Problems and What Can Be Done," on Saturday, January 19, at 1:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. **How to Help Students Overcome Learning Problems and Learning Disabilities**, coauthored by Rosalie Young, can be perused in the Creighton Center Living Room. Feel free to invite your friends and relatives to attend An Afternoon at Collington with you.

The Fellowship Fund

Please contribute. The Year End Appeal is underway. Your help is needed to build this important source of resident financial assistance. Janet Jenkins (x2121) is ready to assist you in arranging contributions of cash, stock or securities. Speak with Art Longacre (x7291) about planned giving alternatives that benefit you and the Fund. Join me in offering Marion Rafferty special thanks for her recent gift of \$25,000.

Best wishes for a pleasant holiday season!

Gail Kohn

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S CORNER

Expanded Cottage

As our many holiday visitors come here from far and near, show them expanded cottage 1114. You can arrange entry by contacting Resident Services (x2250). The spacious closets, high ceiling and unusual window give this cottage a different feeling that we expected

RESIDENTS COUNCIL MEETING NOVEMBER 21

This was the first Council meeting of the new term. Three members of the Executive Committee were elected by the Council for one year: Cynthia Hannum, Committee Registrar; Elma Tidwell, Communications Director; Burt Dougherty, Volunteer Coordinator.

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John Jay, Treasurer, indicated a healthy condition of the Association's finances. (Details may be found in the Library.)

President Kidney announced:

a scheduled December 4 meeting of the Resolutions Task Force with the Board of Directors Task Force appointed to pursue the Collington residents' request for representation on the Board. The Board group has been seeking information from other life care communities about their resident-board arrangements;

the appointment of an advisory committee of residents to join staff and Board members in long-range local transportation planning. Members are Ed Behr, Erwin Hannum, Judy Kidney, Mary MacMartin, Kelsey Saint and Dick Van Wagenen;

an accreditation process expected to begin at Collington in January under the auspices of the American Association of Homes for the Aging(AAHA). Included are a year of intensive self-study followed by review by an Association team and consideration by AAHA. Gail Kohn, P. Gail Whitehead and Walter Ristow recently attended a yearly conference of the organization in New Orleans;

regular weekly meetings of the Residents Association President and the Executive Director.

Morris Oxman, reporting for the Health Care Committee, announced that Virginia Conley will take on the new role of "ombuds person," to deal with problems in the Health Care Center. Her approach will be to search out the basic cause of each problem in order to arrive at a solution, rather than to deal with its individual anecdotal aspects. For example, is it possible that inadequate supervision rather than lack of training is the root cause? A subcommittee of the Health Care Committee will meet with the Health Committee of the Board of Directors on December 12 to present suggestions for short and long range improvements in Collington's health services.

The Lake and Trail Committee has a new Chairman, Lib Wilson. The Committee is devising a professional-quality map of Collington's woods and trails which they hope the administration will reproduce and use. Charles Trammell will continue to work with County authorities and the administration on restoration of the lake.

Malcolm Wall, new Chairman of the Fiscal Review Committee, announced that the proposed Collington budget for the next fiscal year will be given to the Fiscal Review Committee for its comments before the Board of Directors approves the budget, which must be 45 days before April 1. Kathryn Brode, Comptroller and Finance Director, is preparing a fiscal orientation paper to aid the Board, staff and the Committee in interpreting budget terms.

Fund raising for the restoration of the Steinway piano in the Auditorium has been successful even before the planned benefit concert, Bob Willing, Chair of the Music Committee, told the Council.

A Housing Representative questioned the requirement that inquiries to the staff for the Community Meetings be signed, since they are concerned not with individual problems but with community-wide concerns. Following discussion, with pro and con opinions on the subject, President Kidney said she would discuss the matter with Gail Kohn.

As the meeting ended, President Kidney declared the participants "a great group." "I really appreciate your comments and suggestions," she said.

Margo Labovitz

RECOMMENDED RESTAURANTS

The Inn at Pirates Cove-Restaurant and Oyster Bar: Galesville, MD. Phone: 867-2300. There is a charming little restaurant about a half-hour drive from Collington on a marina on the scenic West River in Anne Arundale County at Galesville that serves good seafood.

It's called **Pirates Cove**. The atmosphere is very informal, and there is a picturesque view of the river with many little boats docked along the inlet. The restaurant is open daily from 11:30a.m. to 10p.m. with a Sunday Brunch served from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Dinner begins at 4p.m.

Marion and I were greeted by three other Collington residents as we were being seated at a window overlooking the inlet. They, too, were trying the restaurant for the first time. Being in the mood for seafood, we both selected the Golden Fried Oysters served with steak fries and a garden salad at \$7.95 per entree. The entree was quite good.

Other luncheon entrees included: Fried Shrimp, Crab Imperial, Broiled or Fried Fresh Filet of Flounder, Sautéed Maryland Crab Cake, Catfish Creole, Seafood Stir Fry with fresh crabmeat, shrimp, scallops, mushrooms and scallions sautéed in butter and laced with garlic and Cognac.

Cold platters included: Shrimp Salad, Crab Salad, and Chicken Salad. Egg dishes, served with French fries and fresh fruit, Eggs Benedict, Eggs Oscar - an English muffin topped with crabmeat and asparagus spears with Hollandaise sauce, Crab Quiche, Crab Creole Omelette, and Omelette Florentine. The menu also offers a Fried Oyster Sandwich, Shrimp Salad on a croissant, and an Eastern Shore Club - turkey and crab meat. For those who do not relish seafood, there is a Marinated Delmonico steak broiled to your taste and a Cove Club - a sandwich of turkey, corned beef, Swiss cheese, bacon, lettuce and tomato. The Speciality of the House is Gabby Crabby - a toasted English muffin topped with fresh tomato, crab salad, muenster cheese and baked. Prices for entrees range from \$5.95 to \$9.95. Cold and hot Appetizers, such as Steamed Oysters in butter, Cream of Crab Soup, and various salads, such as a Caesar Salad are also moderately priced.

The desserts, mostly under \$3.00, were outstanding. Marion chose Coconut Cream Pie, which was rich but delicious, she said. I selected an Apple Walnut Pie, which was superb - a crisp crust with apples baked in custard, walnuts and brown sugar. The recipe came from the famed Bookbinders in Philadelphia, according to Rich Baker, Head of Collington's Dining Services, who along with Terry Crist, once worked at **Pirates Cove**. Other desserts offered were a Key Lime Pie, Cheesecake, and a Hot Fudge Sundae.

More expensive, the dinner menu includes many entrees, such as a Broiled Seafood Platter, a Mariner's Platter, Seafood Fettucini and Flounder Longhorn - filet of flounder stuffed with crab imperial and jumbo shrimp. Dinner entrees range in price from \$15.95 to \$19.95. **Pirates Cove** has an excellent bar.

Directions: As you leave Collington, turn left on Lottsford Road, right on Enterprise Road (Rte. 193), and left on Central Avenue (Rte. 214) going toward Annapolis. Drive about 25 miles past Route 301 and Route 424 (Davidsonville) until you reach Route 468, where you turn right. Several miles beyond, turn left on Route 255. At the end of the road on the West River, you will come to **Pirates Cove**. It's an easy, pleasant drive.

Bob Willing

NAMES

When we arrived at our cottage 3014, at Collington on December eleventh 1989, it was snowing. The walk from the parking lot seemed long and difficult, but perhaps that was because I was using a walker at that time.

Soon after our arrival we found that we were busy learning the names of our neighbors and other residents.

Collington is helpful: each resident is given a name tag, attractively and clearly printed,
(cont. on next page)

bearing his name and his apartment or cottage number. (A pin is attached to the tag.) It is the expectation that he will wear this identification when he appears in public. The size of the name tag is four inches by three inches. The lettering is done with black ink on white cardboard. It would seem that it should be relatively easy to locate it at most times. However, a number of residents complain that they have lost, or perhaps, merely misplaced, their name tags. The name, my name, on the tag given to me was misspelled. I decided to be fussy about this and to insist on the correct spelling. The change was made promptly and graciously.

I suspect that everyone has his own system of remembering names. For example, when I met a new resident for the first time, I checked his name on the Residents' list. I assumed that by seeing the written name, I would have a better chance of remembering it. This system was partially successful, but there is still the need to match the name with the face.

A few times I found myself in the embarrassing position of re-

calling only the first name of a person. This is no help in locating the address or telephone number of an individual.

Few experiences are more satisfying, or pleasant, than being addressed by one's name. I believe this is universal. However, the truth is that for most of us, remembering names is not easy, especially if one is presented with a larger number of them at one time. Patience, repetition, and time are the qualities required for success.
Katharine Gay

STUPID RHODY

Rhododendron, what are you doing?
Buds all pointy, ready to burst...
Don't you know December's a cursed
month for flowering?
Get back in your shell!
You can't? You can't! Then why
the hell
Did you come out? You weren't even
thinking.

I'm shaking a finger.
When spring comes, you'll linger;
while other plants bloom.
You'll glower and gloom.
Stupid rhodody.

Betty Clark



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