

Sequoia Village

Welcome to the Sequoia Village Newsletter, serving residents of Belmont, San Carlos, Redwood City, and Redwood Shores.



Oct/Nov 2015 Vol. 1 #7

Upcoming Events

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| Oct 10, 2015
10am - Noon | Information Session
Belmont Library, 1110
Alameda de las Pulgas,
Belmont |
| Oct 13, 2015
10 – 11:30am | Information Session
Veterans Memorial Senior
Center, 1455 Madison Avenue,
Redwood City |
| Oct 22, 2015
1 – 2:30pm | Information Session
Twin Pines Senior Center,
20 Pines Lane, Belmont |
| Nov 7, 2015
Begins at 10am | Free Flu Shots
Belmont Library, 1110
Alameda de las Pulgas,
Belmont |
| Nov 10, 2015
10am – 3pm | Seniors on the Move
San Mateo County Event
Center, RSVP required |
| Nov 12, 2015
10 – 11:30am | Information Session
San Carlos Adult
Community Center, 1245
San Carlos Ave, San Carlos |

A SENSE OF BELONGING

I just read a book, “Community: the Structure of Belonging” by Peter Block. It spoke clearly to me about the need to volunteer, “to acknowledge that we belong to each other, that we need each other to fulfill what we really care about... We need to reclaim our humanity and place more value on the power of relationships.” He writes, “Community (i.e., Sequoia Village) offers the promise of belonging and calls for us to acknowledge our interdependence. To be welcome even if we are strangers, to give generously of our time and talent with no expectation of return.”

But here’s the deal...volunteering may not expect “return,” but the truth is that you receive return a hundredfold. You act as an “investor, owner and creator” of this place (again, Sequoia Village) when you respond to someone’s need for help. Read in these pages where your gifts can make all the difference in someone’s life. You will truly experience a renewed sense of belonging.

By Nancy Grandfield, Newsletter Co-Chair

The mission of **Sequoia Village** is to enable its members to continue living in their homes and communities as they age by providing access to support services.

DID YOU KNOW: If you are physically unable to take your trash receptacle from its permanent location to curbside for pickup, you can contact your local Recology center to have an application sent to you. All you need to do is fill out the form and indicate there is no one in your home to help you and have your doctor verify and sign the document. The drivers will be the “angels” to move them for you. day. Simply call 650-595-3900 to receive a form requesting this service.



SPOTLIGHT ON SEQUOIA VILLAGE'S FIRST MEMBER: MARISA MALATESTA

Marisa Malatesta, a strong advocate for the village concept, became Sequoia Village's very first member. Many of you know Marisa by her winning smile, her love of life, and her upbeat and caring nature. You will see her engaged at the Advisory Group meetings, member get-togethers and often chanting, "I just love Sequoia Village!" Marisa was born in Marlia province of Lucca. Marisa and her parents immigrated to South San Francisco in 1932 and moved further north to McCloud, CA in 1935. According to Marisa, the town's winters were horrendously cold and snowy. Most of the residents lived in wooden cabins with little to no insulation. However, from springtime on the area was spectacular with beautiful springs and blossoms, that instilled in Marisa her love for hunting, fishing, and mushroom gathering that she should share with family and friends throughout her life.

In her young adult years, Marisa became known as the "Jill of All Trades." When she graduated from high school, Marisa took on a job at McCloud Mercantile and eventually became in charge of inventory and ordering of merchandise. Then she worked at the local hotel, to eventually the McCloud Lumber Company as a bookkeeper and purchasing agent. Knowing Marisa's love for the natural environment and her positive energy she soon fell into the role of a seasonal Forest Ranger, planting trees, harvesting them and then sending them around the world for the holidays.

Finding meaningful employment after high school was not the only high spot in Marisa's life. The night of her graduation she met, Pietro Malatesta, the man who would become her husband. They had two children, Rosanna and Michael. In 1965 the Malatesta family moved to San Carlos. Before Pietro's heart attack they decided to purchase a house in McCloud where Marisa and Pietro and their children could indulge their joint passions for the beautiful scenery. They divided the year by staying 6 months in each place--San Carlos and McCloud.

Nowadays, Marisa's extended family includes many of the friendships she had made in McCloud as well as her community at St. Charles Catholic Church and SCACC. Her faith and family are extremely important to her. According to Marisa her faith is what led her to Sequoia Village. Marisa knew that soon she would need to give up her driver's license, and also knew that she **must** find a way get to and from the SCACC. When she heard of Sequoia Village, it was only a vision then, but she knew it was her "answer to a prayer." "The center is my lifeline," says Marisa, "I need the center for its people and its activities, especially the card games, in order for me to stay connected". It's a good thing Marisa didn't live near a RIVERBOAT at the turn of the 19th Century!

By Carol Cochran

Sequoia Village Chairs and Committees

Sequoia Village Chairs

Scott McMullin

Victoria Kline

Outreach Chair

Victoria Kline

Development Chair

Vacant

Newsletter Chairs

Nancy Grandfield

Nancy Winningham

Vendor Chair

Lisa Sharek

Volunteer/Service

Committee Chairs

Irene Liana

Randi Kutnewsky

A NEW PROGRAM TO KEEP YOURSELF AND YOUR HOME SAFE

One of the many services offered to Sequoia Village members is an optional Home Safety Walkthrough of possible home safety features compiled by the American Red Cross, Rebuilding Together Peninsula, Contra Costa County Fall Prevention Coalition, USC Davis School of Gerontology, and AARP.

Paying attention to everyday things outside your house i.e., walkways free of trip hazards, adequate lighting, steps in good condition, guardrails and handrails for porches can prevent injuries. Being knowledgeable about indoor safety will make you aware of appliances that may be faulty, windows that need added security, smoke alarm systems that need new batteries, functional bathroom and kitchen equipment updates, and many measures that you might not think of.

A list to prevent a risk of falls is provided to keep you safe in your own home, such as non-slip bathmats, grab bars, handrails for staircases, removal of throw rugs and clutter, and the everyday items that are easy to overlook.

A member of the home safety team will be contacting all of our members within the next three months to set up an appointment for your personalized walkthrough.

Note: *The Home Safety Walkthrough is not intended nor expected to be a comprehensive listing of all possible home safety features. When a home satisfies all of the items in the list, it will be considered safer than many homes, yet, there are no guarantees of complete safety. The ultimate responsibility rests with the homeowner and the renter, not Sequoia Village.*

WHAT AN ELEGANT PARTY IT WAS!

Sequoia Village celebrated its first Members' Social in August. It was a festive evening at the lodge at Twin Pines Park in Belmont. Guests listened and danced to music provided by Gary Neuman, enjoyed delicious food, greeted new members, chatted with long-time friends, and reacquainted with former colleagues. Throughout the event, continuous drawings were held, adding to the fun. Donors were Trader Joe's, Home Depot, Dollar Store, Lucky's, Safeway, Scott McMullin, Nothing Bundt Cakes, Kathy Fleming, Martha Mejia, White Oaks Flower Shoppe, Shon Miller, Daughters of the American Revolution, Presidion Chapter, Claudia Nadalin, RWC Adult Center, Victoria Kline, Sara Haller, and Joan Bell. A thank you from a participant: "That was a beautiful party! Everyone had such a good time, and the food was delicious. Sara, you are the best emcee, and I'm going to take up line dancing to compete with Rosemary. I met our volunteer driver, and I wish I could hire her permanently to take us to our various activities. I look forward to more years celebrating with our new Sequoia Village friends."

By Claudia Nadalin, Co-Chair, Special Events/Social Committee

Website: www.sequoiavillage.org

Find us on facebook and twitter!



Sequoia Village is Hiring!

Sequoia Village is bursting with many activities and new members, growing and changing all the time, and now requires the hiring of a part-time Services Manager and Concierge.

For more information, visit:

www.sequoiavillage.org

or email us at:

jobssequoiavillage@gmail.com

We are very grateful for the support received from our donors:



Sequoia Village

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Resident

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