



The Kanawha Valley Village People

# News from The Villager

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## NEED HELP?? RESOURCE REFERRAL SERVICE FOR MEMBERS BEGINS OCTOBER 1ST

*By Barbara Frierson, Resources Chair*

The Resource Committee (Mike Harman, Ellen Archibald, Karen Glazier, Fred Meyer, Marilyn Witbeck, and Barbara Frierson) is excited to announce a new service for KVVP members!

The group's mission is to assist members in making connections and building community networks that will enhance our lives and enable us to remain in our own homes for as long as possible.

Starting on October 1, 2014, members will be able to call one of our Referral Contacts for information about local businesses and individuals recommended by other members and friends. These service providers offer paid or volunteer assistance with home, yard, handyman, automotive, pet, health, transportation, personal services – and much more. Some offer senior or special KVVP discounts.

Our vendor list contains close to 120 entries, and continues to grow as members share their own recommendations for plumbers, veterinarians, massage therapists, mechanics and a wide variety of other reliable service providers. KVVP cannot guarantee their work and will not be liable for damages or other problems that might arise with a particular vendor. Members who receive a referral will be asked to provide feedback on their experience, and vendors will be removed from the list if they are unresponsive or unsatisfactory.

Two KVVP members have generously volunteered to provide phone or e-mail assistance to members seeking referrals. They will respond to requests, use the vendor list to provide referrals, note to whom it was given, and ask for feedback on the service providers. Our Referral Contacts are

KATHRYN STONE (304) 342-1161 e-mail: [xkatwalkx@aol.com](mailto:xkatwalkx@aol.com)

JOAN WYSONG (304) 755-7551 e-mail: [4lighttouch@gmail.com](mailto:4lighttouch@gmail.com)

We will notify members if there is a change in this contact information. If you cannot reach either of them, please leave a message and they will respond as quickly as possible. In an emergency, contact

BARBARA FRIERSON (304) 722-4731 email: [b03b13f@msn.com](mailto:b03b13f@msn.com)

Contact Barbara Frierson or another member of the Resource group if you would like to add a referral to the master list. We will provide an intake form at most KVVP events.



The Croquet Players aka KVVP members in July at the Lennox in the Berkshires, a time-share event for the adventurous thanks to Karen Glazier and James Thibeault! Meanwhile, the KVVP wine and cheese social on Saturday, Sept. 13 was enjoyed by those attending, including Liz and Quentin Nix (below). More on the September event inside...



### Our Calendar

**Sept.29 – Oct. 1** – Village to Village Network (VtVN) Gathering in Washington DC

**Oct. 1 – MEMBERS ONLY** – the KVVP Provider Referral List becomes available!

**Oct. 4** – public reading of...*The Mystery of the Lost Memory* at Unity Church in So. Hills

**Oct. 11** – KVVP Board of Directors Retreat

**Oct. 18 – MEMBERS ONLY** Symphony and Buffet, invitation by member Bunny Crockett

**Oct. 19** – Sacred Aging Fair at Temple Israel

**Nov. 1** – KVVP General Meeting – Briefing on the VtVN gathering, light refreshments, 2 - 4 p.m. at the South Charleston Library

**Nov. 20** - PEL Summit (Christine Daugherty will be the KVVP speaker)

**Dec. 14** – KVVP Holiday Party with Dr. Hale (enactor) at the Hale House in Malden

Kanawha Valley Village People  
The Hale House in Malden, WV

Contact us

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Tel (304) 767-5774 or see us on the web:

[www.kvvp.org](http://www.kvvp.org)

### Want to find a Service Provider?

Starting on Oct.1, if you are a KVVP Member, call:

KATHRYN STONE (304) 342-1161 e-mail: [xkatwalkx@aol.com](mailto:xkatwalkx@aol.com)

JOAN WYSONG (304) 755-7551 e-mail: [4lighttouch@gmail.com](mailto:4lighttouch@gmail.com)

...If you are NOT a KVVP member, now would be a good time to join! You can find a membership application online at our website: [www.kvvp.org](http://www.kvvp.org) or you can contact us via email at [kvvillagepeople@gmail.com](mailto:kvvillagepeople@gmail.com) and we'll send you the form!



Left to right - Carolyn Rodis, Phil Schenk, Karen Glazier, and Jack Young; Karen is with the KVVP; Jack and Carolyn were from SAIL

## KVVP and SAIL Joint Presentation at First Annual WV Housing Conference

By Karen Glazier

"Aging in place is a consistent theme we are hearing throughout workshops at this conference", Moderator Phil Schenk reminded attendees as he opened the session on the Village Concept at the First Annual WV Housing Conference held 3 – 5 September 2014, at the Charleston Marriott. He then introduced Jack Young, Vice President of SAIL (Shepherdstown Area Independent Living), Carolyn Rodis, SAIL Board member, and me, representing the KVVP.

Jack and Carolyn opened the presentation by giving a brief history of the Village movement. Next, they discussed the evolution of SAIL, triumphs and challenges. Jack mentioned how difficult it is for members to ask for help, yet the organization has worked hard to put volunteer services in place for members. He talked about how most folks will generally look first to friends and family for support. Next, they might consider their faith community to assist. He sees the **Village** as part of the third ring of support for individuals as they age.

I followed their presentation by giving a brief review of KVVP's start-up and the challenges and opportunities we face moving forward. I stressed the value of grass roots solutions in an era when Federal resources and workforce resources are dwindling. Jack, Carolyn and I reinforced the notion that personal connections we develop through our social interactions in our villages are essential to our success.



The Conference brought together a cross-section of housing organizations and service providers. Our workshop generated a lot of questions and interest. Many thanks to KVVP member Phil Schenk for giving us this wonderful opportunity to spread the word about our village here in the Kanawha Valley.

# TIME BANK MARCHES ON

The Kanawha Valley Time Bank, an unofficial offshoot of the Kanawha Valley Village, continues to expand a pilot program of exchanging volunteer services among its members. The project began in April 2014 with 8 members, and has grown to 19 over the summer.

Time Bank members earn "credit" for each hour of volunteer service they perform for other members, for the KVVP organization, or project administration. Those credits can be exchanged for services they need and receive from other time bank members. Time banking benefits a community by connecting unmet needs with unused resources. It provides some of the services that people need in order to maintain themselves and their homes, and can be a true "isolation buster" for the elderly. People of all ages are welcome and encouraged to share their skills to assist others while building credits they can use to meet their own needs.

Recent service exchanges include reading assistance to a member who is visually impaired, gardening work, plant care for a member who traveled out of state for several weeks, developing recording forms for tracking volunteer hours, connecting a member with a group of volunteers to work on her house, and daily check-in calls to an elderly person living alone. Each member records his or her hours, and sends those to the administrator at the end of the month.

Our Time Bank is still very small, so some of the requests posted go unanswered. With 80 or 100 members, the Time Bank would be humming with activity and many more services could be provided.

The next Time Bank get-together will take place at 1 p.m. on Monday, September 22, at the South Charleston Public Library, Meeting Room A. If you would like more information please contact Barbara Frierson at 304 722-4731.

## NEXT GENERAL MEETING OF THE KVVP Saturday, 1 November in South Charleston

There will be a KVVP General Meeting for the membership on Nov 1. It will be open to the public. Marilyn Witbeck and Barbara Frierson will present information learned at the Village to Village Network (VtVN) gathering in Washington DC – where they represented the KVVP among all the congregated Villages from across the United State. The meeting will be at the South Charleston Library, from 2 to 4 p.m. Please come! Learn more about our organization and have a voice in its future. We encourage you to meet other members, form a group and enjoy the evening at a local ethnic restaurant after the meeting!





Part of Judy Neal's display of Technology for the Visually Impaired; for qualified persons, this is all available through her office.

# It's a Mystery!

**Why did Dr. HH suggest she anesthetize a night watchman? Which one of KVVP's prominent members never lost an opportunity to sermonize on sin and hell's fire? Why are the seniors living at Cliff Edge Summit (senior home) concocting a criminal enterprise? What is the shadowy and nefarious "Church of the Mean and Greedy" and might they replace Cliff Edge's management? If an order of nuns finally takes over the management of Cliff Edge, how will they handle a situation in which some of the gentlemen residents get hold of a medicine that corrects erectile dysfunction?**

Confused? Think all of the above is the product of possibly demented minds? You might be right!

As you may remember, some intrepid (or demented, or both) KVVP members have banded together to write a serial novel—and now it is done!

And you, dear reader of this strange piece are in it! Yes, the name of every Charter member of KVVP has been woven into the (so called) plot, so if you come and hear the reading of this strange tale, you will find out if you have been cast as a doddering senior, a not-so-naïve nun...or something else.

**The reading will occur Saturday, October 4, beginning at 2:00 p.m. at the Unity Church, at Bridge and Myrtle roads in South Hills. Mark your calendars now so that you do not miss the debut of the first (and likely the last) public reading of...*The Mystery of the Lost Memory*.**

## Mystery of the Lost Memory



**DISCLAIMER:** Many of the names of people and places in this story are real. However, the story is the result of nine imaginative (demented) authors who are charter members of the Kanawha Valley Village People.

## DO YOU HAVE A VISUAL IMPAIRMENT? HELP IS AVAILABLE!

On September 13, the KVVP general meeting was a wine and cheese social following a wonderfully informative presentation by Judy Neal, Director of Visions: Visually Impaired Seniors In-home Outreach and Networking Services, which is part of The West Virginia Department of Education and the Arts, Division of Rehabilitation Services.



Judy Neal, Speaker

Everyone agreed that Judy's explanation of technological devices to assist the visually impaired was very useful information, several members button-holed Judy over the wine and cheese, to get more

information or discuss friends and family members who might qualify for these items and services. If you did not attend but want to learn more or contact Judy's office, Contact VISIONS at 1-900-642-3021. If you are age 55 or older and have a permanent visual impairment that makes daily living activities difficult, Judy and her team can help!

## Hooray!!! 501(c)(3) – that's us!

We were awarded our non-profit 501(c)(3) status by the Internal Revenue Service in very short order. I submitted the completed application, mailed it in, and three weeks later; the letter from the IRS arrived. Amazing! On Wednesday, August 6, 2014 5:17 PM, I was able to write: "GOOD NEWS!!! In our PO Box today, was a letter from the IRS saying that we have our 501(c)(3) status. We are tax-exempt!!!! I can't believe how fast it went! This is very exciting!!!!" Getting this "status" is very important to all non-profits as the designation enables donors to give money to an eligible organization and take their donation off as an income tax deduction. And/or it makes us eligible for grants from foundations. I think the time frame was so short because there are Villages all over the U.S. and almost all of them have their non-profit status. Thanks to Marilyn Witbeck and Sue Westfall for writing parts of the rhetoric. *By Chris Daugherty, KVVP Treasurer*

## READ ALL ABOUT IT IN YOUR NEW E-BULLETIN

A new service for **MEMBERS ONLY**: The KVVP begins an Electronic Bulletin Board in late September, early October. The e-mail "E-Bulletin" format will be for our KVVP announcements, member announcements, and general senior concerns announcements which Mel Cann, our KVVP Secretary and email manager, will accumulate and send to members once a week. It will include items that meet one or more of these criteria:

- Events organized by and for KVVP members -- meetings, social events, etc.
- General events of specific interest to seniors -- demonstrations, lectures, etc.
- Offers to KVVP members only -- free concert tickets, rides to KVVP events, special services, etc.
- Needs posted by KVVP members that other members might be able to fill -- rides, crisis casseroles, other needs a volunteer might be able to provide.

Here's how it works: Looking at the Woody Hawley series as an example of a recent request, the Board decided that just announcing it as a general piece of information didn't meet the criteria. However, if a member or group of members put out an invitation to KVVP members to get together for a meal and to attend one of the concerts, for example, which could be posted as a general invitation in the Bulletin. Or if you had some free tickets for one of the concerts, you could post that as a special offer.

Have something you want placed in our E-Bulletin? Contact Mel Cann with your announcement through our email [kvvillagepeople@gmail.com](mailto:kvvillagepeople@gmail.com) today!

## A SPECIAL OFFER

### FROM ONE OF OUR MEMBERS!

**MEMBERS ONLY**: Would you like to gather as a Village People group at 6 P.M. on Saturday, October 18 for an excellent meal, and then the "*Celebrating Lyricism*" concert with Julie Albers, cello? Embassy Suites caters a fine buffet dinner downstairs at the Clay Center before the West Virginia Symphony's 8 P.M. concerts.

If we reserve two weeks in advance, the meal cost is \$24.95 per person.

Phone Bunny Crockett at (304) 727-5371 by October 1 and she will make dinner reservations for our group.

If you do not have concert tickets, you can reserve them on your own at (304) 561-3570.

Want to learn more about the Concert? Here is the West Virginia Symphony's website link with information about *Celebrating Lyricism*:

<http://www.wvsymphony.org/concerts-and-tickets/symphonic-series/222-celebrating-lyricism>

Publication of the KVVP *Villager* newsletter is sponsored by Good Living LLC of Malden., WV.



KVVP honors WVSU for making the Hale House available to us.



## THE PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Lucky me, in the last few weeks I have met with the Membership and Resources Committees and the pilot Time-Bank group. From this perspective, we sure are moving forward and growing! Welcome to our three new members, although all are familiar faces: Jack and Sue Hickok and Barbara Hutchison-Smith.

Our last *Villager* had some Help Wanted ads in it. I can hardly believe that we have not had a single response to this request. This is YOUR Village – please do step up and join the fun! We have had several tea parties at homes of members recently, and the only way for you to be invited to one is to serve on one of our committees. Members of the Board of Directors are all busy and doing a lot of work from committees to telephone answering, to planning for future get-togethers, maintaining our space in Malden, paying bills.... you get the idea. Feel free to give any of the Board a call to see what you can do to help.

Or, expect a call from someone asking for your participation since sharing the work is going to make things easier. Recent correspondence on the Village to Village Network was from a Village of 1,000 members that is entirely run by volunteers. We are part of a movement, the mission is important, and each of you is important to our mission.

We are still basking in the excitement of our recent 501(c)(3) status, allowing contributions to the Village to be tax deductible. This huge accomplishment was the work of several Board members, especially our Treasurer, Christine Daugherty. Our membership dues are not tax deductible because they are payment for services, but gifts to the Village are tax deductible. We hope this will assist in future fund raising efforts too.



*Have a wonderful autumn!* ~ Marilyn Witbeck, 304-347-8659