

Our Village VOICE

A monthly publication of Clayton Valley Village
October, 2021 Edition

A Message from our President. Check out our Events held in September, Upcoming Events, and more. Also in this issue, we present the 7th installment of the Girl with the Topaz Ring, a story by CVV member Gary Carr. CVV Member Judy Disbrow is busy making Christmas Ornaments.



Halloween or Hallowe'en, also known as Allhalloween, All Hallows' Eve, or All Saints' Eve, is a celebration observed in many countries on 31 October, the eve of the Western Christian feast of All Hallows' Day. **Happy Halloween!**



President's Message
Marilyn Wollenweber

Here are some facts about this month. The October name is derived from the Latin "Octo", which means eight, which it was on the Roman calendar until 153 BC. The Anglo-Saxons called it Winterfylleth, meaning "fullness of winter". Guess it began snowing in their region in October!

Some interesting celebrations occur in this beautiful fall month such as International Day of Older Persons (Oct. 1). Yea, let's celebrate! October 2 is Mahatma Ghandi's birthday. October 5 is World Teachers Day, October 7 is National Kale Day (it really is good for you!) October 12 is Indigenous People's Day, October 23 is Boston Cream Pie Day and October 28 is National Chocolate Day – two important celebrations, right? Of course, there is Halloween on October 31, so get your candy supply in.

We had a wonderful Ice Cream Social in Bhishma Lashkari's lovely back yard. Couldn't have asked for a more pleasant evening. The Events committee went all out on furnishing various ice creams, toppings, and soft drinks. Bhishma treated the attendees to Indian ice cream made of saffron and pistachios! Please put October 10 on your calendars for our annual Sunday Supper at La Veranda from 6:00 – 8:00 pm. It's a great time to get together. Check out our calendar for other interesting events as well. Enjoy this lovely month and join me in doing some rain dancing to bring us some very much needed rain! See you October 10!

Welcome

New Members!



Jeannie Rhodes



Lorey French

Did You Know?

CVV member, Judy Disbrow, is busy painting mini bird houses for Christmas. They are small enough to hang on the Christmas tree or just put on a table or mantle. The proceeds are donated to the Clayton Valley Women's Club for their scholarship fund. The price is \$10 each. If you are interested in purchasing one please text Judy at 925-286-5547. She will continue to make them through October.



Favorite Books/Movies from CVV Members and Volunteers



Movie Recommended by Jeanne Boyd

Academy Award winner Ellen Burstyn stars as a wonderfully independent senior forced to move to a nearby retirement community when her home undergoes repairs.

Available on Amazon Prime, Redbox, AppleTV and others.

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The Girl with the Topaz Ring
by Gary Carr

Chapter Seven

The story so far

Josh recruits his coworker Myrna, a research specialist, to help him in his search. Afraid to reveal too much to Myrna at this point, he tasks her with looking for the red-haired quarterback. He tells Myrna that he is asking this favor "for a friend."

Josh was sitting at his editor's desk when he felt a tap on his shoulder. He turned and came nose to nose with Myrna.

"Follow me," she whispered and walked out into the hall.

Josh followed her down into her office

She closed the door and turned to him.

"Dead end, Dude. I tracked Leffler, your red-haired quarterback, to college back East. Went to Dartmouth, but never got to play football. He crashed his motorcycle into a tree, wasn't wearing a helmet, died instantly."

The guy just wouldn't wear protection, Josh thought. With this lead gone, he realized he'd have to open up to Myra with the whole story.

"Where do we go now?" she asked.

Josh liked the sound of the word "we." Sounds like she's into this. That's good, he thought.

"You got a minute to hear me on company time?" he asked.

"The door's shut and I'm not screaming, so H.R. won't care."

"O.K.," he said. "There's more to this than I first told you."

"I guessed that from the get-go," she said. "You're not much of a liar with this red-haired quarterback story. I figured there's more to it. And, by the way, don't ever say you're asking for a friend when it's you who wants the answer. 'For a friend' is the lamest cover-up of all."

"Guilty," Josh admitted. "That's why you're a researcher and I'm a dumb shmuck."

"But a nice schmuck."

"Thanks." Josh couldn't help smiling as he realized he liked this girl.

"Well, here's the story. Yes, I'm the one who's looking for someone. The quarterback was only what I thought would be a first step."

Josh pulled the photo out of the pouch of his hoodie and handed it to Myrna.

"I'm looking for her. She's my sister, my half-sister, actually."

Myrna peered at the photo for what Josh felt was a long time before raising her eyes to him.

"She's got red hair, just like the quarterback, who is – was – given the records, probably seventeen years old. I'm guessing he's the father. And since you don't have red hair, I figure he's not *your* father."

She looked at the photo again.

"So, why don't you ask your mother?"

"My mother's dead. Died bringing me into the world."

"I'm sorry. What about your father?"

"He died recently. Never was part of my life. That's how I got this photo, kind of a deathbed bequest. The last thing he said to me was, 'You have a sister.' My curiosity is eating me alive, and I've got to find her, talk to her."

"So you're an orphan now?"

"Not really. I have my grandparents."

"Welcome to the club. Me, too. Foster parents. They were old when they took me in, and now they're even older. They live in Marin. Nice people, but I don't see them much now. You have other siblings?"

Josh chuckled. "Not that I know of, but who knows what my father was up to over the years. That's why I want to find the only sister, O.K. half-sister, that I know I have."

"How old you think she'd be?"

"Four or five years older than me. Close to thirty."

"The cap and gown," Myrna said. "High school or college?"

"I'm sure it's college. She looks too old for high school."

"Any idea what college?"

"Not a clue."












"Very cool. This is the kind of research that turns me on."

Myrna's eyes widened in excitement,

"And you're lucky," she said. "I don't think this will be boring, so there's no charge. But you can take me to dinner sometime."

Next time: The topaz ring reappears.



YOU ARE WHAT YOU EAT					
Foods That Resemble The Body Parts They're Good For					
					
Carrot	Eyes	Walnut	Brain	Grapes	Lungs
					
Tomato	Heart	Ginger	Stomach	Figs	Scrotum
					
Citrus	Breast	Sweet potato	Pancreas	Kidney Beans	Kidney
					
Bones	Celery	Hearing	Mushroom	Avocado	Uterus



Upcoming Events

Tues, Oct 5th - Board Meeting
 Tues, Wed, Thurs, Oct 5,6,7 - Village to Village National Conference
 Sun, Oct 10th - Annual Sunday Supper (Members, Volunteers & Guests)
 Mon, Oct 11th - CVV Explorers Hike (Members and Volunteers)
 Fri, Oct 15th - Clayton Library Book Sale (Library Members Only)
 Sat, Sun, Oct 16-17 - Clayton Library Book Sale (Open to Public)
 Mon, Oct 25th - Member Services Meeting
 Fri, Oct 29th - Events Committee Meeting
 Sun, Oct 31st - Halloween

See all Events <https://claytonvalley.helpfulvillage.com/events>

Members on the GO CVV TRAVELOGUE

Jim & Marilyn Travel to Walloon Lake Michigan



Trappers Cabin at Walloon Lake Michigan

Walloon Lake sunset through the evening haze.

The trappers cabin at Walloon Lake Michigan. Marilyn and I enjoy the hospitality of her cousin who retains the last parcel of the family farm that borders this beautiful lake. The sparkling clear water beckons us each morning for a quick swim before breakfast. Note the blue sky! No smoke!



Concert in the Park - Sept 11

Eight of us attended the CVV picnic on the front porch of the Clayton Post Office, enjoying the music of East Bay Mudd, perfect summer weather, camaraderie and some dancing too!



Ice Cream Social - Sept 21

The Events team spoiled us with Ice Cream and all the trimmings.

Bhishma accommodated our party of 23 on her spacious, shady deck.
She also introduced us to Saffron-Pistachio Ice Cream, a popular treat in India !



QUOTE OF THE MONTH

"Be yourself, everyone else is already taken."

- Oscar Wilde



Standing & Ad Hoc Committees

2021 CVV Board of Directors

Executive Committee:

Marilyn Wollenweber (President), Joanne Vanis (President Elect) Sue Manning (Past-President),
Mary Esther Loranger (Secretary), Joanne Wasak (Treasurer)

Executive Advisory Committee:

Jim Whitfield (Past President)
Sonja Wilkin (Past President)

Members-at-Large

Diane Berger, Arlene Lewandowski, Kathy Geddes,

Volunteer Representative Member

Pete Bardea

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