

Our Village VOICE

A monthly publication of Clayton Valley Village (March 2018 Edition)

Welcome to the March 2018 edition of Our Voice. In this issue you will find photos from our past events as well as news of our upcoming events.

We have also added a new monthly column called [Member Spotlight](#) where we will feature a short bio of a CVV Founding Member with the intention of helping all our members get to know one another a little better. After all the founding members have been in the spotlight, we will start featuring our other amazing members.

Did You Know?

Clayton Valley Village is part of the Village Movement that started with Beacon Hill Village in Boston over 15 years ago and today there are over 200 open Villages and more than 150 in development in 45 states and the District of Columbia. The Village to Village Network is the essential tool that enables community members to build and sustain thriving Villages. The Network creates interactions that connect Villages with resources, education and expertise.

VILLAGE TO VILLAGE NETWORK CORE PRINCIPLES:

- Practice consensus and transparency at all levels of the community
- Support the practice and principle of reciprocity and the intentional exchange of ideas, approaches, learnings and shared wisdom
- Create innovative programs that help develop Village leadership
- Provide a forum for member Villages to share knowledge about their issues and successes.

CVV Board Members

Sonja Wilkin, President

Jim Whitfield, Past President

Sue Manning, Secretary

Joanne Wasak, Treasurer

Diane Berger

Fiona Hughes

Kathy Geddes

Pete Bardea

Neil Brennan

President's Message



by Sonja Wilkin

Like most of us, my life is a balancing act.... with one foot in the past and one into the future while at the same time enjoying all “moments” possible right now. As it pertains to Clayton Valley Village, I have been trying to purge files that I have accumulated in the five years during its development and now open phase, appreciating the history and each step taken along the way. I even made use of my status as a member and put in service requests answered by three wonderful volunteers helping clean up paper and digital files!

I am very excited about the future for CVV as more and more people learn about our Village and realize how it might benefit them and become a valuable part of their lives. We urge all present members to participate in our many events and volunteer opportunities and submit your service requests! They don't have to be for a critical need—it can be just to make your life a little bit easier, remove anxiety, and free up some of your time.

We look to each of you to encourage others to join our growing community of members and volunteers—enjoy many moments of socializing and learning at mixers, movies, potlucks, coffees, and bocce as our “circles” expand. CVV works very closely with Lamorinda and Walnut Creek Villages that we have named **Diablo Villages**. This collaboration enhances our ability to have great **Lunch 'n Learn** programs, act as sponsors (Savvy Seniors) and exhibitors (East Bay Women's Conference) with the common goal of promoting the Village Movement at regional, state and national levels.

We have been actively involved in the National Gatherings organized by Village to Village Network in different parts of the country increasing our own visibility and providing a us with a wealth of information. Start making plans to attend the next National Gathering that will be taking place in our backyard.... San Diego on Oct. 7-10, 2018!

As I get ready to renew my membership for the following year, I am fully confident that my daily investment of under \$2.00/day is worth every penny!

Do you purchase items through Amazon.com? If so, we wanted to make you aware of a program that Amazon offers called **AmazonSmile** that donates a small percentage of every eligible Amazon purchase you make to a non-profit of your choice. Clayton Valley Village is registered as a non-profit with Amazon, so this is an easy (and painless) way you can help raise funds for Clayton Valley Village. All you need to do to set this up, is to log in to <https://smile.amazon.com/>. On your first visit to **AmazonSmile** you will be prompted to select a charitable organization from their list of eligible organizations. That organization will then show up on your menu (see screenshot below). Then, an easy way for you to remember to log in to your **AmazonSmile** account (rather than the regular Amazon account) is to bookmark <https://smile.amazon.com/> and always use that to link to log in.

Supporting: Clayton Valley Village Inc ▾

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Clayton Valley Village Volunteer Services



Minor plumbing, home repairs, landscaping, transportation

Members, do you need help with Spring Cleaning, Minor Plumbing, Home Repairs, Landscaping, Transportation? Whatever it is you need; your volunteers are here to help you. And... It is so easy to get help. Just follow one of the steps below:

1. You can call the Clayton Valley Village phone ((925) 626-0411) and leave a message or you can email us at village.clayton@gmail.com and to let us know that you want to submit a Service Request and what it is for. One of our call managers will call you back.
2. Or, you can log in to the CVV website (www.claytonvalleyvillage.org) and fill out a service request on your own. The rule of thumb is a 3-day lead time for your request, but we will consider emergency requests.

Instructions for filling out a Service Request

1. Login at the CVV website with your ID and Password (NOTE: *If you do not have an ID or PW please call us at the above number and we will send you an email on how to setup your ID and PW.*)
2. Click on Members
3. Click on New Service Request
4. Search Name: Type in your name, Click on your name in the list below.
5. Type of Service: Click, scroll down till you find the serviced needed and click it on.
6. Purpose: Type in purpose (ie., Doctor Appointment, Grocery Store, Landscaping Help, etc.)
7. Service Date: Type in date of Service or select from calendar.
8. Service Time: Click on time and scroll down to enter correct time. (NOTE: Make sure you change this time, from 9:00 AM to correct time. The default is 9:00AM and if used on your request when the nightly process is run, the request will be marked as a past due and an email will not go out to volunteer.
9. Flexible Date: Check if flexible
10. Flexible Time: Check if flexible
11. Is there an appointment time: Click box and type in the appointment time
12. Approx duration: Type in duration
13. Check if important: Click if it is important request.

That is all it takes for one of our volunteers will contact you to confirm.

SPOTLIGHT Member



Welcome to our **Member Spotlight**, the newest feature of **Our Village Voice** newsletter. We are beginning this column by featuring one of CVV's Founding Members each month. We decided to add this feature to our newsletter so that our members could get to know each other a little better and also to share the wealth of life experiences that our members bring to CVV. This month we feature founding member Carol Hansen Grey.

Carol is an author and a graphic designer. She designed the CVV logo as well as all the graphics we used on our website and in our promotional flyers. With her husband, Victor Grey (also a Founding Member), she is co-owner of Open Heart Press, a small independent publishing company they founded in 1996. Her latest book, ***Know You Are Loved***, is a graphic memoir to her daughter Liz. You can read more about Carol on her website at carolhansengrey.com

March 8: Recycling Pickup for CVV Members Only

by Fiona Hughes

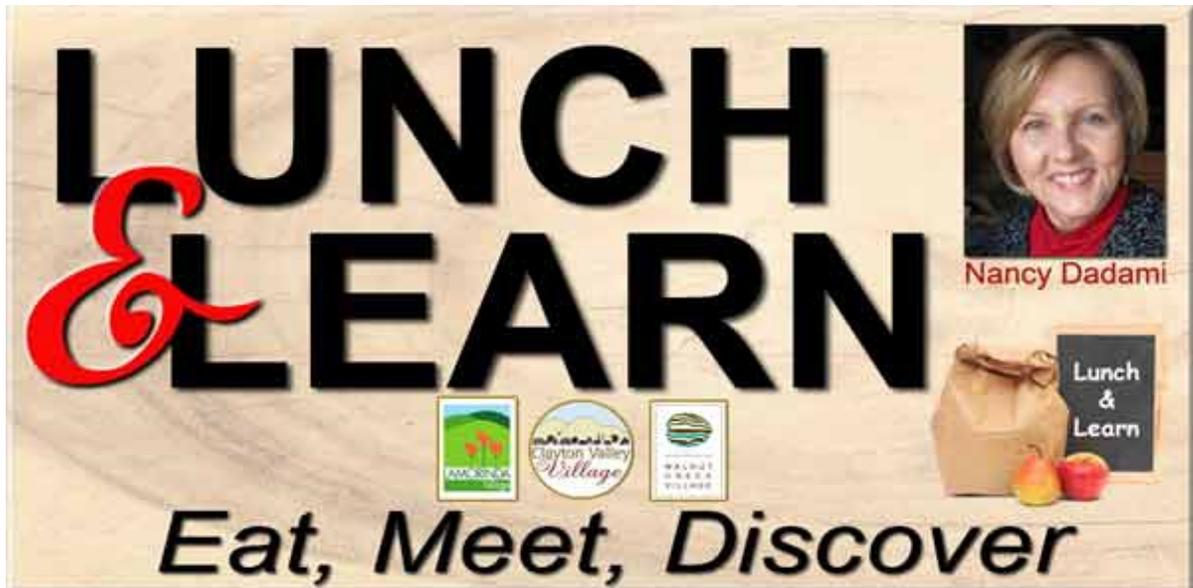
What better way to kick-off the Spring cleaning bug than by having CVV offload you of those pesky recyclables you've been meaning to get rid of? Think: old household sprays, solvents, paint cans, used oil, batteries, etc. It's part of a new Member Benefits program here at Clayton Valley Village. And you get VIP service, since we'll pick up your items at the front door on a specified day. Not only are you getting rid of those annoying recyclables, but can rest assured they'll be properly disposed of, and not added to a landfill.

Mark your calendar for Thursday, March 8, when, by arrangement, a CVV volunteer will come to your door and pick up any of the following recyclable items:

Acids, caustics, solvents; Aerosol cans, paint cans, sprays; Batteries (hearing aid, flashlight, Ni-Cad, rechargeable, or even auto); Bleach cleaners, chemicals, drain cleaners; Fluorescent light bulbs, tubes; Glues; Gasoline; Herbicides, pesticides and fertilizers; Oils (motor, household, oil filters, or cooking); Paint cans (acrylic, latex, oil, and also spray cans, and paint thinners).

To participate, just enter a service request for "Recyclables Pick Up 3/08" at the CVV collect and dispose of the items you have ready for pick-up. NOTE: Items must be in a box or website, www.claytonvalleyvillage.org (or call 925-626-0411) to arrange for a volunteer to come to other suitable container.





**March 22 Lunch 'n Learn Sponsored by CVV
Featuring Feng Shui Expert, Nancy Dadami
Clayton Community Library (Hoyer Hall)
6125 Clayton Road, Clayton**

**TOPIC:
How Your Home Impacts Your Health
Peace and Tranquility in Your Home**

Each month the Diablo Villages hold a **Lunch 'n Learn** rotating sponsorship each month between the three villages. Each event features an interesting speaker. This month the Lunch 'n Learn is being sponsored by CVV. Our guest speaker is Feng Shui Specialist, Intentional Living Strategist and Speaker, Nancy Dadami.

Vibrant health is influenced by more than regular exercise and good food. Your beliefs, surroundings and your "stuff" affect your health, too. Imagine having a healthy body and more personal energy to use any way you choose. Discover the design details in your home that drain you of your vitality, confidence and joy. Learn the secret messages to vibrant health that are hidden in your home. RSVP for this event on our website at ClaytonValleyVillage.org/Events.

CVV will have its first quarterly Birthday Luncheon for members at the home of Gloria Utley on Friday, March 9th 12-3 pm. The birthday "kids" won't need to bring anything.... it's listed on the calendar.

Come join us for the March mixer on Tues. March 20th at La Veranda 4-6 pm. Carol Hansen-Grey will be there promoting her published book, "Know You are Loved".



PAST EVENTS

CVV Monthly Mixers

We enjoyed another well attended mixer recently at Inca Grill. The restaurant gave us the large back area so 21 of us could enjoy being together. The food was very good and the staff was very attentive and friendly.

Our next mixer will be at La Veranda; La Veranda is one of our favorites due to wonderful staff and food. Again, we enjoy the back room which easily accommodates all of us and the appetizers, cocktails, beer and wine prices very affordable. The portions are delicious and generous.

Please join us on Tuesday, March 20th, 4-6 and enjoy all of the above plus enter a free raffle drawing. Hope to see you.



Feb. 20, 2018 CVV MIXER (Incas Grill, Concord)



Potluck and Book Event with Special Surprise for CVV

By Sonja Wilkin



Sergio and Gaye Lub hosted a Potluck and Book Talk at their office in Martinez on Tuesday, February 13th. The speaker, Carol Hansen Grey, our CVV member and very early supporter, has published a very personal book, "**Know You Are Loved.**" Carol fully engaged us with the reason and background leading up to the book. She passed out copies and asked each of us to read a page and express its significance.

Sergio Lub has for years invited a broad circle of friends and acquaintances to such events... and collects a fee from each to be given to the charity of choice by the speaker. Carol chose Clayton Valley Village and by end of evening had turned over \$170 in cash as her donation... what a wonderful and welcome surprise!

I encourage you to support Carol as she promotes her book.... I actually bought 4 copies to share with my own family. She will have copies available at our March Mixer at La Veranda on Tues. 3/20.

Rachel Dunn Chocolate Workshop (Feb. 9)



One of the highlights for some of us in February was attending the Rachel Dunn Chocolate Workshop on Friday, February 9th at their factory at 1021 Detroit Ave., Concord (near Costco). Arlene Lewandowsky coordinated the event for us including making use of a Groupon coupon to cut the price in half. Arlene, Gloria Utley, Lynn Hadley, and Sonja Wilkin from CVV were part of a large group of 40 people who participated in the 1-1/2 hour workshop all decked out in our aprons, hair nets, and closed shoes.

Michael Dunn gave an informative presentation and his staff passed out individual trays with bowls of the very excellent chocolate for dipping and sharing with decorations and proper tools to make our own creations. Michael and Rachel Dunn strive to make Concord the chocolate capital with their high quality chocolates amply displayed for sale in their showroom. It was great fun to learn more about the art of chocolate making and eating our "beautiful" confections! As a bonus, we received a "thank you" email from them including recipes.



Standing & Ad Hoc Committees

The Events Committee meets on the last Friday of the month between 1-3 pm and we welcome anyone to our hardworking team! We enjoy our meetings and the satisfaction of pitching in to make sure our events run smoothly.

The CVV Tech Committee meets on the first Wednesday of the month and also participates in the monthly 3-Village Tech meeting.

The Member Services Committee meets on the third Friday of the month.



Movie Circle Activities

by Jeanne Boyd



On Tuesday Feb. 27 the Movie Circle saw "**The 15:17 to Paris**" based on the true story from 2015 when three Americans thwarted a terrorist attack. A review of the movie will appear in next month's newsletter.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, March 27. Details will be sent out in the CVV Weekly Blast.

FYI! We always carpool and if needed will arrange for pickup of non-drivers.

Our Village Voice is a free, electronic publication of Clayton Valley Village.

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The editors welcome all submissions and reserve the right to include or edit all material. Unless otherwise specified, other publications may reprint

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www.claytonvalleyvillage.org

**Submissions, Questions or Comments about
Clayton Valley Village or Our Voice Newsletter**

Email: Village.Clayton@gmail.com or **Phone:** 925-626-0411