

Georgetown C I T I Z E N S



CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
of GEORGETOWN

VOLUME XXVII / ISSUE 2 / FEBRUARY 2013

WWW.CAGTOWN.ORG

Georgetown ARTS 2013 Opens February 7 at House of Sweden

Georgetown ARTS 2013, the 4th annual art show of the Citizens Association of Georgetown, will showcase talents of Georgetown's artists at House of Sweden, February 7 – 10. The grand opening reception is on Thursday evening, February 7 from 6 until 9pm at House of Sweden, 2900 K Street NW. Following Thursday's opening reception, Georgetown ARTS will be open Friday, February 8 through Sunday, February 10 from 11am to 5pm. The show is free and open to the public.

The event will feature artwork by local Georgetown residents and artists who have studios in Georgetown. Media will include oil and watercolor paintings, prints, sculpture and photography. Most works will be for sale, with a few on loan from private collections. All art will be suitable for viewing by adults and families with children.

The show also will feature a curated walk-through of artwork on Saturday, February 9 at 2 pm hosted by Jennie Buhler, in addition to a special "Sunday Salon" on February 10 at 2 pm, when several artists will discuss their work, inspiration and methods.

House of Sweden, itself a noteworthy destination for beautiful contemporary architectural design and Potomac river views, fronts on the water with footpaths to Georgetown's restaurants, parks, shops, theatres and galleries. Opened in 2006, it is home to the Embassies of Sweden and Iceland, and includes an event center and two floors of corporate office suites.



Art show exhibit designer, Jennie Buehler, and chair, Laura-Anne Tiscornia

Prior shows have garnered large and lively interest. According to *The Georgetowner*, the inaugural show "was packed" and offered Georgetown's "gentler contributions to the world of art" which are often eclipsed by its "political locus."

The Citizens Association of Georgetown invites all to come celebrate and view various types of art media and creativity of local artists at House of Sweden.

—Laura-Anne Tiscornia, *Chair*
latiscornia@gmail.com

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ROSS RUOT - CLARE SCRIMGEOUR - AMELIA SHACHOY

ROBIN SUTLIFF - LAURA-ANNE TISCORNIA - DARIUSH VAZIRI

MARY WAGNER - MARTIN WEYMANN

PRESIDENT'S LETTER

I hope your new year is off to a good start. At my day job I have the Congressional Swearing In and the Inaugural behind me. It's an exciting time to be in DC but it is exhausting. CAG also has many projects in the works. Georgetown ARTS 2013 returns to chic House of Sweden for our community art show Feb 7 – 10. Dirk Burghartz, the new general manager of the Four Seasons, has offered to host our March 19 program in his beautifully renovated ballroom. We will celebrate Earth Day at the new science building at Georgetown University. The Georgetown Gala Committee chairs, Colleen Girourd and Robin Jones, are recruiting new committee members and researching venues for the fall festivities.

The safety camera pilot program is underway and expanding. And we are always on the lookout for more block captains to help keep neighbors current on public safety issues. We are updating our website and data base which is a daunting project. CAG's zoning sub-committee has developed a draft "residential customized zone." This document was vetted by the Historic Preservation and Zoning committee and approved by the CAG Board of Directors. Please join us at St. John's church on February 6 at 6pm for a community discussion.

What do you think of the parking situation in our neighborhood? Is it easy in front of your house? Impossible? Depends on the time of day? A group of about 50 neighbors got together with the DC Department of Transportation (DDOT) to see if improvements can be made. DDOT explained the available tools and technology now available, some of which are already in place in other neighborhoods, providing a variety of options for communities such as ours. The emphasis was on identifying the park-



Giving out prizes at the Concerts in the Parks kickoff ice skating party

ing situations, issues, and priorities of all involved. Based on the discussions, DDOT will consider the possible responses and options for the community. The goal is to make conditions better for everyone and it will take community input and consideration.

The Concerts in the Parks kicked off their 11th season with an ice skating soiree. If this opening fundraiser is any indication of the concerts to come, it's going to be a fabulous summer. MRP Realty who runs the Washington Harbour and Tony and Joe's hosted over 100 revelers for ice skating and an incredible spread that catered to both the young and young at heart. Kids, parents, grandparents and penquins took to the ice and warmed up in the restaurant. There were arts and crafts, a face painter and an elaborate prize drawing with donations from all over the neighborhood.

The ice rink at the Harbour is the greatest thing to happen to Georgetown in a long time. Since the canal never seems to freeze anymore this is the perfect alternative – and you don't need your own skates. The restaurants surrounding the rink are brand new and worth a visit in their own right. The beautifully renovated Tony and Joe's overlooks the rink and the river. It's not just for summer anymore.

I would like to thank everyone who helped make this fundraiser

such a success. Concerts Committee Chair Hannah Isles, Kick-Off Party Chair Colman Riddell, prize drawing duo Jennie Reno and Tina Nadler, and all the other Concerts Committee members outdid themselves. MRP's Shawn Kyle and Jenny DeMeo, along with Dave Pera, Greg Casten, and their team from Tony & Joe's, went above and beyond to give back to the community. It is much appreciated. Thank you to all of the local businesses who donated to the prize drawing. We will be visiting you soon. While the concerts are free to the public they cost quite a bit to produce so if you or your business is interested in sponsoring, please call the CAG office at 202-337-7313.

This year's concerts will be held on May 19th, June 16th (Fathers' Day celebration), and June 30th (Independence Day celebration and parade). Mark your calendars. You won't want to miss them.

CAG also weighed in on behalf of Jack's Boathouse. It seems there is a dispute over the lease with the National Park Service. We wrote of our concerns to NPS director Jon Jarvis. Jack's is treasured by both residents and visitors. We would like to see this Georgetown gem back in the spring.

—Jennifer Altemus

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ASPECTS OF GEORGETOWN

Oak Hill Cemetery: The Next Chapter

This is to bring you up to date on a place we care about. Lately some good things have been happening.

Remember Joe and Ella Pozell, of course you do — we do. We remember them with affection. What happened to Joe remains hard to deal with. Life is indeed capricious. Ella has now moved back to North Carolina, where she grew up and still has family. Their son got married and also lives there. So what was next for Oak Hill?

Enter David and Darla Jackson, Darla is Joe Pozell's niece. David has a background in managing country clubs and city clubs. Ella asked them if they might be interested in the position of superintendent. They were. They then met with the Board, things went well, happily it was turning out to be a good fit.

To make a long story short, they moved here in September, they are pleasant and accessible people. Along with the Jacksons came Vinny, the cemetery dog. Vinny's job is to take on the deer, of which as you know we have too many. So far it's not clear who is winning that battle. Maybe it's a stand off.

Oak Hill, our most splendid and visible cemetery, is a jewel of a park, beautifully maintained, set on a wooded hillside above a rushing stream. Vaults and obelisks, with carved angels hovering and Greek temples glimpsed, all gently infiltrated by winding paths beneath elemental oaks through a glorious landscape. What a place to spend eternity!

It was part of the nineteenth century Romantic Movement to make graveyards less purely functional and more park-like. Mount Auburn Cemetery in Boston is another example of

this idea of blending with nature rather than imposing rigid forms upon it. Andrew Jackson Downing was a great proponent of this natural approach.

Contrary to what you may have heard, Oak Hill Cemetery is not full. In the Willow Columbarium, completed in December 2011 down by Rock Creek, 432 niches have been created. Niches around the Renwick Chapel can receive 80 or 90 more. A restructuring of some of the paths provided even more spaces.

While it may seem awkward to say come and take advantage of the new spaces, it is easy and appropriate to say walk in this lovely place, now and in a few months when carpets of small white flowers called spring beauties carpet the ground. Oak Hill is another of our treasures.

—Edith Schafer

CAG Proposes a Residential Customized Zone

Draft Summary of Residential Zone Proposal on CAG website and Community Discussion Meeting on February 6

On November 22, 2010 CAG held a community meeting to bring to the attention of Georgetown residents the city's "Zoning Rewrite." The DC Zoning Commission had charged the DC Office of Planning (OP) with reviewing and rewriting the 50 year-old zoning regulations.

The rewrite will have an impact on our historic community for years to come. Therefore, CAG believes it is important for Georgetown to participate in this rewrite exercise in order to preserve the historic character of our village — DC's only National Historic Landmark District. The charm, the vibrancy, the green spaces, the ease of living and the

presence of both young and old residents are important elements that make us want to live here.

From the 2010 introduction to the community, a CAG zoning sub-committee was formed. The group is comprised of CAG members, the chair of ANC2E and a member of the Old Georgetown Board — residents knowledgeable in zoning law, architecture, historic preservation and holding a wide variety of views. The current draft 'Residential Customized Zone' being proposed by CAG was developed by the sub-committee during dozens of meetings, vetted by the CAG Historic Preservation and Zoning committee of 24 members, and discussed and approved by the CAG Board of Directors.

Meetings with OP have given CAG reason to believe that the new DC zoning regulations will support the historic character of Georgetown.

A summary of the proposed customized zone is available to read on the CAG website www.cagtown.org and will be discussed at an upcoming community meeting on February 6, at 6pm at St. John's Church, 3240 O Street, NW. Please read the 5-page draft on our website and attend the February 6 meeting at St. John's Church.

—Pamla Moore & Richard Hinds
CAG Historic Preservation
& Zoning Committee

A Foggy but Fabulous Family Ice Skating Party Benefits CAG's Summer Concerts

Concerts committee chair Hannah Isles and kick-off party chair Colman Riddell organized a fantastic fundraiser for the 11th Anniversary season of the Concerts in the Parks Series. Prize drawing duo Jennie Reno and Tina Nadler, along with other concerts committee members, outdid themselves at the ice skating event at Washington Harbour. A big thank you goes out to Shawn Kyle and Jenny DeMeo from MRP Realty, the management company behind the Washington Harbour complex, and to Dave Pera, Greg Casten, and their team from Tony & Joe's Seafood Place for hosting the large group of Georgetowners.



Three generations at concerts party - Richard Thompson with daughter, Marguerite, and grandsons Meier and Piper



The Washington Harbour provides a beautiful backdrop for the skating party



Sophia Newkirk, Gabriella Walker, and penguins enjoy a whirl around the ice



Tony and Joe's provided the perfect rink side space for arts and crafts tables



Families enjoyed an afternoon on the ice (L-R): Sherry Cox and Andrew Farrell with Nancy Charlene, Kieran Donohue with daughter Molly, and Dan Sallick with Annabelle

Eco-Tip: That Cup o' Joe

Sixty per cent of Americans wake up with their morning cup o' joe each day. If you brew a pot at home, the waste is minimal — with benefits heretofore unclaimed: did you know that coffee grounds are the perfect fertilizer for acid loving plants like roses and tomatoes and azaleas? They can also be used to keep pests out of your garden, and are welcomed additions to any compost pile. Reusable filters eliminate the need for hundreds of paper filters thrown into landfills every day.

If you're inclined to get that caffeine boost on the go, know that foam and mixed paper cups are hard to recycle. It's estimated we throw away 85 billion paper and foam cups annually! Starbucks, the world's largest coffee shop chain, is seeking to reverse this trend by selling cheap (\$1), reusable "personal tumblers" which are cleaned with boiling water each time they are brought in for a refill. The company said that last year customers brought their own cups into stores more than 34 million times which means 1.5 million pounds of paper waste were saved from landfills!

—Lee Child

7-Eleven and the American Dream

As most of us know, the 7-Eleven on P Street has been enlarged and improved. After much discussion, opposition, and accommodation, Girma Hailu was finally able to get the necessary permits to occupy the space next door that formerly housed P Street Pictures.

Since it reopened in November the store has been doing great business, offering many new products, including a line of health food, a variety of breads, ice creams, canned goods, and other staples, along with the old standbys: hot dogs, pizza and the ever popular Slurpee.

As I was leaving with my fountain coke and newspaper the other day I had an opportunity to chat briefly with Girma and hear an astounding story. He told me he had come to this country from Ethiopia with a few dollars in his pocket, and very little else. His father had been a member of the Haile Selassie government, but when that government was toppled and replaced by a Marxist junta led by Mengistu Haile Mariam, Girma and many of his classmates who protested against the new regime were thrown in jail. Some were killed, others, like Girma, were tortured but survived. He was sent to Russia, then to East Berlin and by the skin of his teeth managed

to escape to the West and eventually to the American Embassy.

When he arrived in Washington, he got a small job at a 7-Eleven store in Silver Spring, lived in a basement where he slept on the floor, and drove a taxi. He climbed the ladder of success at 7-Eleven one rung at a time. In the intervening years he has become a father, an American citizen and a franchisee of two 7-Eleven stores. He and his wife Chu-Chu, who manages the store on P Street, employ newly arriving Ethiopians, giving them what Girma says America gave him — “a chance to succeed.”

—V V Harrison

Historic George Town Club Undergoing Re-invention



**Front row: Amy Gross, Elizabeth Powell, Kier Peterson
Second row: Annie Lou Berman, Elizabeth Miller, Elena Tompkins,
Bo Blair, Ashley Bronczek, Sarah Cannova**

A group of friends, social leaders, and locals have banded together to reinvent the George Town Club. The group has been meeting for several months to transform the club into a hip, chic gathering place once again. The vision is to take this historic building and make it a destination where art, politics, design, technology, food, and wine come together with passionate and interesting people. At night it will be like Annabel's or Loulou's in London - a gathering place for the bright young (and young-ish) things in our city. No gym or pool or

hockey program - but a sophisticated place where our brains can be fed and the food and ambiance is unmatched.

A series of “learning lunches” are in place for

February. Non-members are invited to visit the club for a luncheon on Wednesday, February 6 from 12-1pm featuring father and son modernist architects Hugh Newell and Simon Jacobsen.

Jacobsen apprenticed with Philip Johnson in 1955 before setting up his own practice in Washington, DC. Jacobsen is widely known for his modern pavilion-based residences - composed of simple, gabled forms, rectangular in plan. Unlike second generation modernist architects who revisited the

iconic European houses of the 1920s or the American shingle style of the nineteenth century, Jacobsen drew inspiration from the vernacular architecture of the American homestead. His large but intimately scaled pavilions recall the barns, detached kitchens, and smokehouses of rural America. Jacobsen designed Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis' Martha's Vineyard home in the early 1980s. His son Simon is now working with his father to keep this important modernist architectural vision alive for years to come.

Ticket to this “learning lunch” are \$25 per person — to purchase please email membership@georgetownclub.org, credit cards and checks are accepted.

An exciting program schedule is underway, as are a series of informational coffees (complete with inspiration boards!). For more information and a list of non-member events open to the public and dates for the informational coffees please email membership@georgetownclub.org.

—Elizabeth Miller

Fun February Events at the Georgetown Library

Georgetown Library Film Series

Learn more about African-American history with these films!

The movies begin at 6 p.m., with the exception of *Miracle at St. Anna*, which will start at 5 p.m.

Tues. Feb. 5 — *Rosewood* (1997, R)

Tues. Feb. 12 — *Miracle at St. Anna* (2008, R)

Tues. Feb. 19 — *Glory* (1989, R)

Tues. Feb. 26 — *For Colored Girls* (2010, R)

Paper Craft Club: Celebrate Valentine's Day, February 14th, at 7pm

Make simple heart decorations from pieces of paper. All materials are provided and registration not required. All ages and skill levels welcome. Light refreshments will be served.

Coming soon in March: Sock Knitting Classes

Be on the lookout for a totally free sock knitting class at the Georgetown Library starting in March. There will be two four-week sessions.

Visit the library's website for more events:
www.dclibrary.org/georgetown

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Georgetown History Comes to Life at CAG Meeting

On the cold and rainy night of January 14, over 100 Georgetowners gathered at Dumbarton United Methodist Church to hear tales of skinny dipping, ghosts, and the detailed planning that goes into inviting the President to dinner. The evening featured Tom Birch, Ed Emes, Kevin Delany, Cooby Greenway, Selwa “Lucky” Roosevelt, and Ann Satterthwaite, each of whom participated in CAG’s on-going oral history project. Melany Burrill welcomed the crowd to historic Dumbarton Church and gave a history of the building and sanctuary. The church was founded in 1850 and, during the Civil War, was transformed into a hospital for soldiers and welcomed President Abraham Lincoln to its services.

CAG’s oral history project boasts almost fifty interviews which can be read on CAG’s website. “In the world of oral histories, these numbers are quite impressive,” said Annie Lou Berman, one of the project’s founding committee members. She applauded the hard-working and dedicated volunteers who have gathered these interviews with Georgetowners and, because of the project’s ever-growing list of needed interviews, called for more volunteers. Project Coordinator Elizabeth Maloy introduced each of the six panelists and handed the microphone over to the stars of the evening.

Kevin Delany, a multi-faceted participant in the oral history project as both an active interviewer and an interviewee, arrived in Georgetown in 1952 as a Navy ensign on Potomac



Project coordinator Elizabeth Maloy chats with interviewee interviewer Kevin Delany

Street. In 1971, Kevin settled on O Street and used his journalism skills to publish a walking tour book, *A Walk Through Georgetown: A Guide to Charming and Historic Georgetown*, now in its fourth edition and still available in local book stores.

Cooby Greenway remembers growing up in a Georgetown with only two stop lights — one at M Street and Wisconsin Avenue and the other at R Street and Wisconsin Avenue — and no stop signs. She delighted the crowd with stories of the ghost who still paces the halls of the family’s old Dumbarton Street home.



The panel shares a laugh before sharing fascinating tales of Georgetown's past: (L-R) Ed Emes, Ann Satterthwaite, Kevin Delany, Cooby Greenway, Tom Birch, Lucky Roosevelt

As Chief of Protocol during the Reagan administration, Lucky Roosevelt hosted many heads of state for dinner parties in her N Street home. She shared numerous details of inviting the President for dinner — secret service installing new wiring in the dining room, accommodating the entourage traveling with the President, and handling a request to install a protective shield over the front door.

Current ANC commissioner Tom Birch is committed to protecting and preserving Georgetown’s community feel. Shortly after arriving in the District, Tom was a last minute addition to a dinner party where he was dramatically introduced to Washington’s political and social scene — his mentor Dick Holbrooke invited him to Mrs. Polly Fritchey’s home as a stand-in for Joseph Alsop who was detained in Vietnam. At the party, Tom wined and dined with



Tom Birch, Ann Satterthwaite, and Ed Emes share a laugh

Alsop’s wife Mary, Stewart and Tish Alsop, Tom and Joan Braden, and Les Aspin. Tom pointed out, however, that the invitation was offered only after he had assured Holbrooke that, yes, he did own a good suit.

Creating green space in a city is no easy task — as Ann Satterthwaite quickly found out after signing on to transform the commercial Georgetown waterfront district into a park. Thirty-five years after committing to the park project, Ann succeeded in realizing the current beautiful Georgetown Waterfront Park.

Ed Emes ended the evening with tales of skinny dipping in Dumbarton Oaks pool and later joked he received his paper on time only when Ben Bradlee lived down the street. On a more serious note, Ed claims “Through my time in Georgetown, I met more unbelievable people than you can ever imagine.”

Guests continued their conversations about Georgetown as they enjoyed a champagne and dessert reception. Baked & Wired provided an array of delicious sweets including brownies and their famous honey “Bee Stings.” The oral history project is looking for new volunteers to be interviewers. The next training session will be Wednesday, February 13 at 6:30pm in the CAG office (1365 Wisconsin Ave, Suite 200). Please contact the CAG office if you are interested in participating in the project by emailing cagmail@cagtown.org or calling 337-7313.

—Elizabeth Maloy

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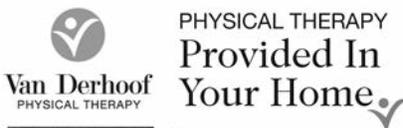
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FEBRUARY COMMUNITY EVENTS AND CALENDAR

- Wed. Feb. 6** CAG's Proposed Residential Customized Zone: Community Discussion Meeting; 6pm; St. John's Episcopal Church, 3240 O Street NW; draft proposal and summary available at www.cagtown.org.
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- Wed. Feb. 6** *East Coast Premiere of From Obscurity to Excellence: The Story of Grapes and Wines of the Russian River Valley*; meet and greet filmmaker Maurice (Joe) Nugent; wine reception featuring wines of the Russian River Valley at 6pm, film presentation at 7; Letelier Theater, 3251 Prospect Street NW, Upper Courtyard; tickets \$15, RSVP at <http://leteliertheater.com>
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- Thurs. Feb 7** CAG Presents Georgetown ARTS 2013; opening reception 6-9pm, regular show hours 11-5 Friday, Feb. 8 through Sunday, Feb. 10; House of Sweden, 2900 K Street NW; see cover.
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- Sun. Feb. 10** Georgetown Concert Series: Washington Bach Consort; 5pm; internationally acclaimed baroque ensemble delights with selections from Johann Sebastian Bach; tickets \$30, students/seniors \$15; St. John's Episcopal Church, 3240 O Street NW; purchase tickets online at www.stjohnsgeorgetown.org.
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- Tues. Feb. 12** History of Chocolate; 7pm; learn how chocolate has changed through time followed by a tasting of chocolate through the centuries – Aztec through modern day; admission \$12, \$10 for members; Dumbarton House, 2715 Q Street NW; www.dumbartonhouse.org for more information.
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- Wed. Feb. 13** CAG Oral History Project: Interviewer Training; 6:30pm; CAG office: 1365 Wisconsin Avenue NW Suite 200, the corner of Wisconsin Ave. and O St., enter via the black external staircase; RSVP: cagmail@cagtown.org or 337-7313.
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- Sat. Feb. 23** Dumbarton Concerts Series: *Jazz Clarinetist Ken Peplowski and the Chuck Redd Trio*; 8pm; tickets \$32, seniors/students \$28; Dumbarton Church, 3133 Dumbarton Street; call 965-2000 or visit www.dumbartonconcerts.org for more information.

