

# KENDAL ON HUDSON RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL REPORT 2020-2021

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### **CHAIR'S REPORT 2020-2021**

As of the October 2020 Quarterly Meeting, the Residents Council consisted of 13 members: Margo Berger, Arthur Brady, Gretchen Engler, Muriel Fox, Jennifer Gardy, Maria Harris, Edith Litt, Jeffrey O'Donnell, Peggy Pennell, Hank Schacht, Mary Alice Walker, Anne White

The following were elected Officers for the 2020-2021 year:

Chair Hank Schacht
Vice Chair Jeff O'Donnell
Secretary Peggy Pennell
Treasurer Len Andrew

The following were appointed Chairs of Standing Committees:

Executive: Chair Hank Schacht

Association Audit:

Association Budget:

Budget Advisory to KoH:

Consultation:

Arthur Brady

Gretchen Engler

Mary Alice Walker

Fundraising: Staff Appreciation:

Maria Harris

Annual Appeal: Muriel Fox

Election: Janet Schloat Investment Committee: Len Andrew Local Charities: Harriet Barnett

Ad Hoc Archives Review: Edward Kasinec & Gretchen Engler

Ad Hoc Bylaws Review: Jeff O'Donnell & Len Andrew

The majority of the fiscal year was dominated by the impact of COVID on resident life. The most important outcome was that we were kept remarkably safe and healthy throughout the year. This was helped by the fact that vaccinations (first, second and booster) were provided at KoH.

The year was marked by a gradual reduction on the COVID restrictions. The pace of reduction was influenced by both the Governor and the State Board of Health. We saw gradual easing all during the year: dining, travel, visitors, meetings, space restrictions, distancing, masking, etc. all trended slowly toward pre-COVID days. The Delta variant set us back a bit but only a bit. Educational programs expanded, Monday night lectures resumed as did Wine and Cheese, music on the Terrace/in the Gathering Room, Sunday afternoon concerts, meetings in the Gathering Room. In Summary: Very close to what appears to be the "new normal."

Two important Ad Hoc Committees were appointed.

- 1. Ad Hoc Committee for Residents Association Bylaws: Len Andrew & Jef O'Donnell Co-Chairs; Fran Kelly, Gretchen Engler, Bob Sanders. The existing bylaws required a review at least every 5 years, 2021 being the required yeaer. The review produced an updated version of the Bylaws. The changes were designed to make sure they were consistent with current laws and regulations. The proposed revised Bylaws were reviewed at a scheduled Residents Council meeting and subsequently approved by ballot with well over the required two thirds majority.
- 2. Ad Hoc Committee to review Archives: Edward Kasinec and Gretchen Engler, Co-Chairs, and Fran Kelly. The purpose of this Committee was to assess the condition of our Archives and to take remedial action as required. This turned out to be a complex and large task and the Ad Hoc Committee was formally changed to a Resident Council Committee to allow it to continue with its important work. During the year it became apparent that the Archives did not contain any formal description of the forming of KOH. A plan to interview long standing residents to create an oral history which would serve as a record of the early work. A plan of action was completed and approved by the Resident Council covering, selection of a professional group to do the recording and preserving, funding and a time table. The plan was approved by the Council and successfully implemented. (The funding was a joint effort by the Council, the Administration, and individual donors.)

The Executive Committee recommended and the Council approved changing the official calendar year from a fiscal year ending in September, to a year ending on December 31 making it consistent with the other calendars used in the KOH family. This was followed by a recommendation by the Executive Committee and approval by the Resident Council to move the Association accounting from a single provider to the KOH Administration. This allows in house continuity and takes advantage of an arrangement already in place for other parts of the KOH community.

We welcomed Lois DiStefano as Director of Marketing and Kim Carpentier as Resident Care Manager who filled two critically important Administration positions.

The Strategic Planning Committee Co-Chaired by John Sorice and Pamela Klapproth decided to postpone the development of a long term plan in favor of developing a three part plan for areas in need of immediate attention: Refresh of the Common Spaces, Dining, & IT; a plan for each that would not block any future longer term plan. An Architect, Amenta Emma, was hired to assist. Residents continue to be an important part of the Committee.

The Association met its required 4 times; the Council met its required 11 times and added an additional informal private session held two weeks after the formal session 4 times.

Hank Schacht, Chair

# RESIDENTS COUNCIL STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS

# **ASSOCIATION AUDIT COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Reporting: Jeff O'Donnell, Vice Chair and Treasurer

The Association Audit Committee's purpose is to assure the integrity of the Association's financial statements and to report its findings to the Residents Association.

With the transition to using the Kendal on Hudson Finance Department to provide bookkeeping and reporting services to Residents Association, the decision was made to also transition to using a professional audit firm for the Residents Association accounts. The Association Audit Committee will cease to exist and its role will fall to the Residents Council to review the Audit statements prepared by the auditor.

The Residents Association moved to using a calendar year for reporting purposes, therefore the audit will take place the first quarter of 2022 and will be reported at the next Residents Council meeting.

# **ASSOCIATION BUDGET COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Arthur Brady Member: Jeff O'Donnell, ex officio

Per the Association Bylaws, the Association Budget Committee prepares the budget for the Residents Association upon receiving the budget request for each Activities Committee from that committee's Chair.

The Association Budget Committee, together with the Treasurer, monitors expenditures for each Activities Committee to assure that Association funds are spent in accordance with the budget.

After consultation with each of the individual committee chairpersons, and working with the Association's bookkeeper and Executive Committee, the Budget Committee developed the Association's 2021 budget which was submitted to and approved by the Residents Council in December 2020. Throughout the year, the budget has remained in balance. A new budget for 2022 will be prepared in December 2021.

# **BUDGET ADVISORY TO KoH COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Members: Gretchen Engler, chair; Jeff O'Donnell (Treasurer & member); Edith Litt, Janet Schloat, Pat Taylor. Ex officio: Hank Schacht, Residents Association Chair; John Sorice, KoH Board member.

The Committee lost two key members this year: Len Andrew and Bob Sanders. Their many contributions over the years are deeply appreciated and their loss keenly felt.

According to the KoH Residents Association Bylaws, adopted May 10, 2021, the Committee is required to "engage in quarterly discussions with the Kendal on Hudson Executive Director and/or the Chief Financial Officer regarding Kendal on Hudson's finances..."

Meetings were held on October 20, 2020 to preview the 2021 budget, April 20, 2021 to review the 2020 audited financials, on July 21, 2021 for an initial discussion of the 2022 budget, and October 21, 2021 for the preview of the 2022 budget. The clear and comprehensive information provided by Jean Eccleston, CFO and Bridget Reilly, Director of Finance have ensured a continual bridge between management and residents.

### **CONSULTATION COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Mary Alice Walker

Members: Jacky Cummings, Eugene DuBow, Jennifer Gardy, Jackie Wilke

**Purpose:** The Residents' Consultation Committee is responsible for receiving and handling the issues and concerns of KoH residents in a timely manner.

Issues that the Committee considers of general relevance to the community are brought to the Council for discussion and disposition. Issues that are sensitive in nature are treated with complete confidentiality and anonymity.

Follow-through may include bringing the issue to Council, taking it up with Administration, referring it to a relevant Residents Association Committee, or just discussion with individuals involved—whatever is appropriate to the situation.

During the past year, eleven concerns were brought to the Committee. All were resolved.

### **ELECTION COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Janet Schloat

Members: Fran Kelly (Vice-chair), Joe Bruno, Annette Leyden, Susan Lichten,

Dennis Mallach, Deb Wood (Secretary)

# **Committee Purpose:**

The Election Committee manages the recruitment and election of candidates running for the six open seats or the seven open seats on the Council in that year. The Committee ensures that a fair election and fair count of ballots is held each September.

### **Committee Activities in late 2020:**

The Committee sponsored Candidates' Night on September 14, 2020. For the first time, this was presented on Channel 970, without a live audience, in response to continued pandemic restrictions. Candidates' Night was followed by the election on Wednesday, September 16 and Thursday, September 17. Seven seats on the Council were filled for a term beginning on October 1, 2020 and ending on September 30, 2022. The Chair then maintained the results of the election for one year and gave the Kendal Archives documents pertinent to the 2020 election.

# **Committee Activities in 2021:**

To prepare for the 2021 election, the Committee met for the first time on April 8. At that time, we reviewed our purposes and role and the fact that Committee members are ineligible to run for the Council.

In 2021, there were 6 seats open for election, with three current Council members eligible to run for a second term. Hank Schacht agreed to do so; Edith Litt and Anne White declined. Council members currently completing two consecutive terms are Margo Berger, Muriel Fox, and Jeff O'Donnell. Len Andrew, a currently serving Council member, died in the summer of 2021. His seat was filled at the October meeting of the Council in accordance with the revised Residents' Association Bylaws. The goal of the Committee was to recruit 10-12 candidates to run for the open seats. Committee members volunteered to assist in the recruitment process.

It was stressed that all Committee members should be available during the week of September 20-24. Specific assignments were: computer assistance and timeline—Fran Kelly; Secretary—Deb Wood; Spotlight articles and posters—Fran Kelly; Election Poster—Joe Bruno (Arthur Brady was asked to take candidate photos). Janet, Fran, Annette, and Susan handled various aspects of the actual voting. Janet moderated Candidates' Night. Dennis Mallach acted as consultant for the election poster and as timekeeper for Candidates' Night.

The Committee met again on May 6 and June 24. A final meeting on September 9 was held just before the election. At these meetings the Committee drafted a letter

to residents encouraging their participation as candidates, an Intent to Run form, and a request for biographical information, to be distributed once the slate of candidates is settled. In 2021, 8 candidates filed Intent to Run forms. Their biographical information was distributed to residents in early August. Throughout the entire election process, timely notices and reminders were placed in *Spotlight*.

The Committee spent considerable time throughout 2021, with Administration assistance, adapting election procedures to the remaining restrictions placed upon us as the pandemic continues. As usual, a large poster with photographs of the candidates was displayed on Main Street beginning on September 9. Candidates' Night was held on Monday, September 20, with Janet Schloat as moderator. Each candidate was given up to three minutes to speak, with Dennis Mallach as timekeeper. As residents could not attend in person, the event was televised live on September 20 at 7:30 PM on Channel 970. A rebroadcast was made available on the following three days at 3 pm.

In 2021, voting again took place in the Residents' Lounge from 5-7 pm. This is in keeping with past practice, except in 2020. Voting was conducted on September 22 and 23. Ballots were counted on September 24, after which the results were shared with the CEO of Kendal on Hudson and the current Chair of the Residents' Council. The names of those elected were announced to residents via posters in the elevators, on the bulletin boards, and on the election poster. They are Llyn Clague, Aubrey Hawes, Hank Schacht, Peter Seldin, Hanan Watson, and Victor Zonana. Stan Amberg, as runner-up, was appointed by the Council to fill the remainder of Len Andrew's term.

The Committee finished its 2021 work with a meeting on October 14, at which we reviewed and critiqued the election process. The Chair of the Committee will maintain the voting results and ballots for one year. The Chair of the Council will also keep the vote count for one year. Those newly elected will take their seats on January 10, 2022, at the first regular meeting of the Residents' Council in the new year.

During the year, the Election Committee made periodic reports to the Council and gave a full report to the Residents' Association at the September 13 regular meeting.

# FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE — ANNUAL APPEAL 2020-2021

Chair: Muriel Fox

Co-Chairs: Annette Leyden, Roberta Poupon, Fran Slote

The 2021 Annual Appeal began on February 1, 2021 and lasted one month as usual. Independent Living residents were asked to make tax-deductible contributions to support the work of the Council, its committees and local charities.

Our sincere thanks to the many residents who contributed so generously to this appeal, which is vital to the continuation and expansion of the Association's programs.

# <u>FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE – STAFF APPRECIATION FUND 2020-2021</u> (September 1, 2020, through November 31, 2021\*)

Chair: Maria Harris

Members: Jacky Cummings, Eugene DuBow, Jane Hart

The highlights of September 1, 2020, through November 31, 2021, are best described as Pandemic Era, when restrictions were placed on all aspects of resident life at Kendal. Some restrictions were lifted and Kendal, as a community, is in the process of establishing a new norm knowing the old is the past.

Since the tradition at Kendal is a strict no- tipping policy, twice a year, we thank and reward Kendal's employees, those we see and those behind the scenes, with a Staff Appreciation Fund appeal. Proceeds are divided among the staff by virtue of a formula based on the number of hours worked during the period of six months each.

During each appeal, more than 95 percent of all residents donated to each drive. Some contributions came with notes indicating how important the staff was to them and to the resident community. Some residents gave more than the recommended amount, showing their willingness to support the staff.

This year, the results of the fund appeals exceeded those of previous years. Over 95% of residents contributed.

We are deeply indebted to Kendal's CFO, Jean Eccleston, and her staff, particularly Olga Linetski, for assuming the hard work of identifying eligible staff, including and calculating the number of hours worked, that led to each staff member's check amount. The Staff Appreciation Fund has been a meaningful way to assure staff members how much their hard work is appreciated by Kendal residents, a community that cares.

**Significant Plan for 2022**: A temporary subcommittee has been formed to review the parameters/guidelines of distributing the funds. It was decided to form the subcommittee since some residents have been questioning the distribution method, thus requesting a review of the parameters/guidelines

and possibly formulating a more equitable equation of the funds. These meetings will be scheduled in January 2022.

<u>Subcommittee members are:</u> Administration: Susan Crowe Executive Council Members: Hank Schacht and Jeff O'Donnell Residents: Jennifer Gardy, Maria Harris, Roberta Poupon, Arnold Tanner,\*\* Mary Alice Walker, Jackie Wilke

In conclusion, it is rewarding to be a council member with the responsibility of the Staff Appreciation Fund. Residents, especially during the appeals, talk about how fortunate we are to be part of the Kendal Community. We not only appreciate the beauty of our surroundings; but, have an awesome staff which keeps the "wheels, well oiled and running" as smoothly as possible even during the difficult time due to the unfriendly disease of the century, Covid-19.

\*Since the switch to Jan 1–Dec 31 time frame, the "annual + three-month" report includes three appeals.

# **INVESTMENT COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Len Andrew (October 2020- July 2021)
Chair: Hank Schacht August 2021-present.

Members: Eugenie Havemeyer; Peter Seldin; Jeff O'Donnell (as of 1 November-Treasurer); Bob Sanders (until May 2021); Bill Smethurst (Observer)

Investment Policy Statement: Preserve capital while achieving modest returns.

History: The funds were invested, first with Charles Schwab, then with Vanguard with Fidelity Investments (2017) and then with Friends Fiduciary's mutual funds where they now reside.

The change to Friends Fiduciary was occasioned by desire to align our investments closer to our Kendal Values . This recommendation was supported by the analysis that showed the yields from these funds were equivalent to the yields we achieved from our Fiduciary mutual funds. This switch was recommended by the Investment Committee and approved by the Resident Council at 5/8/2017 meeting. Further, the Council granted the Committee authority to change the relative balance in the managed funds between equities and fixed income securities as it saw fit provided these changes were reported to the Council at its next meeting. In accordance with that authority, the Committee has chosen an allocation of 70% fixed income and 30% in diverse equities.

<sup>\*\*</sup>Arnold Tanner and his wife, Helene, moved in during the pandemic. He expressed interest in knowing how the fund is distributed, so was recruited to be on the subcommittee.

Recent: During a subsequent meeting it was discovered that Friends Fiduciary was not a registered investment manager. Discussion with Friends Fiduciary revealed that while they have been in business since the late 1800's they never felt it necessary to register even though they abided by the policies; and have never had a problem because of not being a registrant. However other investors and potential investors are now raising the question and Friends Fiduciary have decided they need to become a registrant. However the date is uncertain which troubled the Committee. Even though the risk is felt to be close to none, it still is a risk the Committee did not want to run. Therefore the Committee decided to look for an alternative investment opportunity that would be consistent with our investment policy, had a record consisted with the historical yields and consistent with social goals that caused us to move to Friends Fiduciary. Len Andrew had not been able to find a new fund that matched our criteria when his untimely death occurred. Since the risk of having the funds at Friends Fiduciary, is felt to be de minimus, and given the satisfactory performance to date, it was decided to leave the funds where they are for now.

As soon as the new Investment Committee is in place, they will be asked to undertake a complete review of the policy including the Policy Statement, the Asset Allocation, the decision to manage the funds in-house, the decision to co-mingle, the decision to automatically rebalance, etc.

# **LOCAL CHARITIES COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Harriet Barnett

Members: Marilyn Bottjer, Barbara Bruno, Sally Kellock, Susan Lichten,

Ruth Singleton, Nancy Schacht

**Mission**: To recommend to the Residents Council worthy tax-exempt organizations serving the residents of Tarrytown and Sleepy Hollow and an allocation to each of a portion of funds raised through the Council's Annual Appeal.

It has given me great pleasure to once again serve as the Chair of the Local Charities Com. We reached out to worthy tax-exempt local charities and invited them to submit a proposal for a specific project with which we could help financially. The groups are roughly divided into two categories, those that serve us directly, and those that serve other residents of Sleepy Hollow. As you know, Sleepy Hollow is a very diverse community with many of its citizens needing financial and other help.

We met first to decide which organizations we would approach, based on their missions and eligibility and sent letters in January inviting them to submit proposals. Responses were received from 17 organizations. Their projects were all worthwhile. The committee met and decided which projects we would support.

We thank the residents for their contributions since the more you give, the more we have to share with our Sleepy Hollow/Tarrytown Community. The recipient organizations appreciate your generosity and hold Kendal on Hudson in high regard.

# RESIDENTS COUNCIL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE REPORTS

# **ADVOCACY COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Sue Phillips

Members: Muriel Fox, Fran Kelly, Annette Leyden, Frank Neuwirth, Harry Phillips,

Martin Smolin, John Sorice, Jim Wood

**Mission:** The Advocacy (Government Relations) Committee promotes and advances, through continued relationship building in the community and the halls of local, county and state government, the strategic initiatives and goals of Kendal on Hudson, and serves as Kendal's central source of contact with public policy makers, government officials and community leaders.

On May 17, 2021 Sandy Galef, New York State Assemblywoman since 1992, gave a talk via Zoom in which she updated residents on matters facing the Assembly. On September 27, 2021 Westchester County Executive George Latimer gave a presentation in the Gathering Room on issues facing the County.

Committee members Annette Leyden and Martin Smolin continued their work of educating residents about various County and local elections and facilitating absentee voting.

# **ARCHIVES COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Edward Kasinec Members: Gretchen Engler, Fran Kelly

The KoH Residents Archives Committee was founded in 2005 on the initiative of Resident Juanita Carmi. According to a Committee policy statement of the following year: "the aim..is to establish, maintain, and preserve a unified record of Kendal on Hudson's history." The Committee remained active until about 2016. In October 2020, under the chairmanship of Henry Schacht, the Committee was reconstituted as an *ad hoc* Committee of the Residents Council with Edward Kasinec and Gretchen Engler as members and Fran Kelly serving as Counselor.

Despite the exigencies of Covid-19, the *ad hoc* Committee proceeded to physically re-arrange and re-key the five filing cabinets housed in the Hudson Room, begin a systematic review of the contents of hundreds of individual files, work towards the

compilation of a first Register of the contents of 23 file drawers, and, with the kind assistance of RC member Arthur Brady, begin the long process of digitizing a portion of the photographs housed in the collection, and, finally, symbolically laden artifacts from the Residents Association have been restored and placed in public areas.

As a consequence of the creation of the *ad hoc* Committee, a number of residents have begun to both donate relevant materials to the Archives (a recent notable gift from Prof. Nick Robinson, one-time of the Sleepy Hollow Planning Board) as well as to consult Resident Committee files and architectural schema. The Chair has also begun to reach out to professional colleagues at the Rockefeller AC (Pocantico Hills), the Westchester Historical Society Archives (Elmsford), and the Sleepy Hollow Historical Society to alert them to the existence of the Residents Association and the present work of the *ad hoc* Committee.

The *ad hoc* Committee was also charged by the Residents Council to develop an Oral History program of capturing in word and recorded image the historical memory of a sampling of the founding residents and staff of KoH. After a process of vetting professional oral historians, "Sound and Story" was engaged, and monies raised (from private individuals, KoH Marketing, KoH Administration and the Residents Council), the first stage of interviewing and video recording was carried out in September, 2021.

It is hoped that this will be a first step towards the commissioning of a first history of Kendal on Hudson that serves as a worthy complement to those which already exist for other Kendal communities.

### **ART COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Co-Chairs: Gretchen Engler/Lynn Brady Secretary/Treasurer: Gretchen Engler

Publicity: Catherine Trapasso Exhibition Curator: Lynn Brady Historian: Priscilla Holmgren

Members at Large: Mary Lou Alpert, Judy Baker, Sheila Benedis, Rita Benzer, Barbara Bruno, Mona Dukess, Marian Dunn, Nancy Frieden, Barbara Gochman, Jane Hart, Ann Holloway, Deena LaMotta, Ann Lasusa, Gloria Lewit, Maggie Limburg, Jerry Litner, Carol Lyons, Sondra Miller, Marvin Mitchneck, Betty Morefield, Dianne Morris, Haruko Ogasawara, Renata Rainer, Shelley Robinson, Cecily Selby, Norman Sissman, Netta Sloboda, Martin Smolin, Jody Spellun, Mariet Van der Heide, Alfred Wallach, Jackie Wilke, Shirley Wu Zanger.

**Mission**: The Art Committee's mission is to facilitate and inspire creative expression for personal enjoyment and community enrichment.

Finances: Our programs are supported by an allocation from the Residents Association as well as fees charged for workshops taught by outside teachers, two sales of note cards produced by Art Committee members and shelf rentals for storage of individuals' art supplies.

Activities: During the last quarter of 2020 and throughout 2021, in spite of continuing pandemic restriction, we were able to maintain • quarterly meetings of members • well-equipped Art Room, with built-in air filter, available 24/7 • two resident art exhibitions • classes and workshops taught by both resident and outside artists • Saturday Open Studio, which offers the opportunity to work with others and an artist adviser • Tuesday & Thursday Drop-in Salon where resident artists work together without an adviser • monthly Critique, a "show and tell" for those seeking constructive feedback.

After a COVID hiatus, in the fall of 2020 we were able to resume our Saturday Open Studio and monthly Critiques. We initiated a drop-in salon. Workshops taught by residents also returned on a limited basis. All quarterly meetings were held on schedule.

Notable accomplishments in 2021: January-sponsored Zoom presentation to all KoH residents about the Sleepy Hollow Mural Project. April—exhibition "Creativity in Solitude" and Spring Card Sale. May—art book workshop by outside teacher. June—questionnaire about art experience and wishes for KoH art programs distributed to all residents; art book workshop by resident artist. July—celebratory dinner for Committee members in the FDR; drawing workshop by outside teacher. August—Art Committee overview published in Spotlight. October—art show "Anything Goes" opened, watercolor workshop by resident artist; Paul Jeffries series returned; Residents Council agreed to support a 6-month trial art program with an outside teacher onsite once a week. November—Holiday Card Sale. December—ceramics workshop with outside teacher.

Looking ahead: Our current focus is on finding a teacher and planning the trial art program that will start in early 2022. This program is a direct response to feedback gathered in our June questionnaire to residents. We hope to introduce more members of the community to the joys of creating art, while still appealing to longtime Art Committee members.

Another initiative will be to inspire interested residents to join us on the Art Committee and help with the running of its programs. Although we have a large membership, many are now "retiring" from years of active service. We are grateful for the strong foundation they have built, and for their continuing guidance and advice. In order to share more information more frequently with more residents, the Committee will increase the frequency of its meetings to six per year. Guests will be

welcome to come and sample a meeting to learn about our activities. Our goal is to open our resources to all KoH residents who might enjoy them.

# **AUDIO-VISUAL COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Arthur Brady

Members: Joe Bruno, Sheila Darnborough, Eugene DuBow, Fran Kelly, Jack

Miller, Marcia Sprules, Jeffrey O'Donnell

**Mission:** To provide and maintain the operation of Audio-Visual equipment in support of the Resident Activities Committees, primarily in the Gathering Room, although not limited to such. Normally a trained member of the committee is present at each event and assists by setting up and operating the A-V equipment.

Before the pandemic shut-down, the A-V Committee assisted a number of other Kendal committees, including: Education, which sponsors weekly lectures and classes as well as the Great Decisions and National Topics discussions; Loss, which assists families with memorials; Social Events, which sponsors the Fourth of July and New Year's Eve programs.

The A-V Committee works with the Channel 970 Committee during these events. (Note: the name was changed in 2021 from Channel 1970 to Channel 970.) Most events are recorded on one of the two Sony video cameras. Videographers include Sheila Darnborough, Eugene DuBow, Jack Miller, and Arthur Brady. The videos are then copied to DVDs and are telecast, via closed-circuit TV, on Channel 970. We look forward to welcoming additional resident volunteers to assist us in our mission.

A ceiling camera was installed in the Gathering Room during Project Renew. It is operated by a dedicated iPad, which is stored in the 970 room. Eventually, this camera will replace the Sony video cameras which currently record events in the Gathering Room. This video technology is not only for the Gathering Room but also for the PDR and for the Clearwater Dining Room.

A new committee, a special GR technology committee consisting of residents as well as staff members, has been meeting to review current technology and possible needed improvements and enhancements. We have been speaking with several tech companies, and they will present their ideas for updating our total A-V system.

# **BELL RINGERS COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Peggy Pennell

Ringers: Jane Beers, Barbara Bettigole, Dot Bone, Alice Clague, Sharry

Lukach, Peggy Pennell, Marge Phillips, Judy Spellun, Deb Wood

Director: Eiko Cornelius

**Mission:** To provide an opportunity for amateur ringers to play handbells using a variety of techniques and to enjoy making music in this unique way. In the future, we hope to become skilled enough to provide more entertainment for the community.

We have lost three ringers since last year's report, and two new ringers have joined us. We always welcome additional players.

Because of the Covid pandemic we were unable to ring for most of 2021, but finally were able to begin again in October.

Eiko Cornelius, our conductor, will continue to introduce us to new techniques as well as to new music. We meet weekly on Wednesdays at 11:00 am until early June, pause for the summer months, and pick up our bells again in September. We encourage everyone to come, listen to a rehearsal, and even ring a bell!

# **CHORALE 1920-1921**

**Board**: Bob Singleton, Chair; Deb Wood, Treasurer; Norman Sissman,

Sylvia Hawes, Jody Spellun, Members-at-large

Singers: Soprano: Doris Appleby, Deb Wood, Jody Spellun, Barbara

Doss, Cecily Selby, Keiko Hirano

Alto: Deena LaMotta, Jane Beers, Rema Sessler, Dot Bone,

Adele Trupin, Sofia Wentz, Camille Hopkins, Marcy

Shover, Sylvia Hawes, Marian Dunn

**Tenor**: Charlie Persell, David Sampliner, Chris Mitchell, Nancy

Frieden, David Shover

Bass: Bob Singleton, Art Lukach, Norman Sissman, Nick

Robinson

**Director**: Nell Macdonald

Mission: The mission of the Kendal Chorale is to make the joy of choral music available to everyone, and thus enrich the life of the community. If one likes to sing, there are two opportunities: first is a traditional chorus for those who can read music, carry a tune, and attend weekly rehearsals for the semi-annual concerts. The second is the Sing-alongs, for anyone who wishes to sing in a more informal way.

Since September 23, 2021, we are rehearsing again, wearing masks, and we have a date for our next concert, January 17, 2022. We are happy to have nine new members: Marian Dunn, Cecily Selby, Keiko Hirano, Marcy Shover, Sylvia Hawes, Chris Mitchell, Nancy Frieden, David Shover, and Nick Robinson. We have traditionally done two concerts a year. We have traditionally held three summer Sing-alongs in June, July, and August, with a great deal of help from Sue Anderson

at the piano in the Residents' Lounge. These Sing-alongs, however, fell victim to the Covid-19 pandemic, and were not held in 2020 or 2021.

We are delighted that Sue Anderson (and her husband Cris Groenendaal) who moved to South Carolina for several months in 2020/2021, have moved back to Westchester County, and will have given two concerts at Kendal as of December 19, 2021. We hope the summer Sing-alongs will be possible again in 2022, and we will ask Sue to return to the piano.

We are delighted that we are rehearsing again, with a somewhat enlarged chorale, and we look to even more opening up next year.

# CO-PILOT PROGRAM 2020-2021

**History/Mission:** The Co-Pilot Program was established in 2008, based on a concept conceived by Kendal resident Katherine Sinclair. She, Peter Davies, and Norman Sissman were facilitators during most of its history.

The program received an award in 2010 from Leading Age for being an innovative CCRD resident-initiated service.

Volunteers are on call 24/7 to accompany residents who go to the Phelps Hospital Emergency Room. There they act as companions, offering emotional support and assistance as needed, until the resident's family arrives or the resident is admitted to the in-patient service. The Co-Pilot service is available only to residents in Independent Living.

This program has perforce been inactive during the pandemic; it is hoped that it can be reactivated in the near future.

# **COMMON AREAS FURNITURE AND ART (CAFA) 1920-1921**

Chair: Marilyn Bottjer
Treasurer: Barbara Bettigole

Members: Mary Lou Alpert, Barbara Gochman, Ann Holloway, Betty Morefield, Jan

Myers, Nancy Schacht, Bix Smethurst

**Mission**: The CAFA Committee's mission is to help provide as welcoming, attractive, interesting, and comfortable surroundings as possible in our many shared use spaces. To this end we place resident-donated or loaned pictures, furniture and decorative accessories, as well as art bought with funds from the Residents Association in lobbies, corridors, and functional rooms throughout the four buildings. The Committee meets the third Thursday of the month at 4 pm in the Residents

Association Office on the C level of Mary Powell. All residents are welcome to attend.

Due to COVID, meetings during the last quarter of 2020 were haphazard. Regular meetings were able to resume in January of 2021 and we were able to meet with new residents who wished to lend or donate art. We received several large donations of art – 40 art posters from Priscilla Holmgren, 8 paintings from Haruko Ogasawara, and 8 needlepoint pieces from Ed Hanin which were made into pillows. The T-level elevator lobby in Alida was redecorated and made more attractive with new pictures and plants. Adirondack become more open and we were able to furnish 13 pictures for the walls there. In an effort to better use available space, a new puzzle area was created at the 1st floor elevator lobby in Alida and a card table and chairs were placed in the 4th floor elevator lobby of Robert Fulton for game players.

For several years we have been discussing the need to catalog the pictures in the halls and this year we researched it with the idea of hiring an intern from Pace who would create a computerized inventory. Anthony Bradford who had been an intern here was a great help and after compiling all the information it was met with a consensus that this would not be a viable process and we would no longer consider it.

The Chair is a member of the committee creating a new master plan which includes refurbishing the main entrance and the elevator lobbies, and we look forward to assisting in that.

# **COMPUTER COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

**Chair**: Joe Bruno (Caroline Persell was chair for most of the year, with Joe Bruno as co-chair, until she retired as chair).

**Members**: Stan Amberg, Amelia Augustus, Arthur Brady, Joe Bruno, Pat Ciriello, Sheila Darnborough, Eugene DuBow, Aubrey Hawes, Lillian Hess, Marion Loemker, Jeff O'Donnell, Peggy Pennell, Caroline Persell, Roberta Poupon, Ann Marie Schneeman, Frances Slote, Marcia Sprules, Catherine Trapasso, Mary Lou Wells **Mission:** The Computer Committee has been in operation since the opening of Kendal in 2005. Its mission is to help residents solve their issues with information technologies or start on the road to digital literacy, with workshops and one-to-one coaching.

### **Activities for 2021:**

1. Maintained the computers and printers in the resident computer room and the library. Recently, Art Brady and Marcia Sprules volunteered to join Joe Bruno in this task.

- 2. Removed one printer in the library at the request of librarians. May be replaced with a simpler printer.
- Surveyed of residents about technology assistance desires.
- 4. Several committee members continued to help individual residents with their computers, smart phones, tablets, scanners and printers.
- 5. Established "Zoom neighbors" and conducted Zoom help sessions with a number of residents.
- 6. Conducted workshops including: helping residents understand how to stream information and entertainment to their technology devices, assist with email issues, and how to update or upgrade the operating system of their computers.
- 7. Responded with ideas to assist the KoH Administration achieve their communication goals.

# Planned Activities for 2022:

- 1. After initial discussions were mostly skeptical about CATIE, since staff selected it anyway, some members will assist in educating residents on how to use the system.
- 2. Continuing to offer digital help to residents. (While there is less need now that Anthony is on staff, we frequently get calls on off-hours or for items Anthony has trouble fixing, or doesn't have the time.)
- 3. Continuing to run workshops for residents, hopefully on a monthly schedule.
- 4. Re-institute group hands-on help sessions, which had to stop during the pandemic.
- 5. Continuing to explore ways digital technologies can help people with visual, auditory, and related issues.
- 6. Continuing to maintain the resident computers and printers at KoH.
- 7. Continuing to learn about new software and equipment.
- 8. Review older equipment and possibly replace.
- 9. Continuing to recycle printer cartridges.
- 10. Formally institute a collection of old computers, securely erase drives, and get repaired if needed, then distributed for reuse by non-profits. (Currently done by Joe, given to the Westchester PC Users Group who refurbishes them.)
- 11. All residents are cordially invited to join the Computer Committee.

# **DINING ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Margo Berger

Members: Cynthia Amberg, Betty Albertson, Amelia Augustus, Hank Berger, Alice

Clague, Muriel Fox, Muriel Hahn, Maria Harris, Annette Leyden, Jan Myers, Ludlow (Bix) Smethurst, Hanan Watson; RA Council Rep: Gretchen Engler; Zoom Meister 2021& Honorary Member: Stan

Amberg

Dining Services: Fred Coppola, Director; Executive Chefs: Jonathan Carafa, Cliff Saladin; Dining Room & Catering Managers: Mika Burgos; Luis Xavier

**Mission**: To provide a channel of communication with Dining Services for optimum dining satisfaction through the constructive exchange of resident food service needs and preferences. The Committee interfaces with all Dining Services members to achieve maximum resident satisfaction. The Committee met monthly to review resident comments on food service issues and quarterly with the Dining Services team. Residents were invited to open meetings to exchange information with the Dining Services team.

**Dining**: Because of the Covid pandemic, "Safe" dining was the priority. Careful guidance was given by the KoH Administration to follow NYState & Department of Health regulations. Initially, an expanded Dining area was created to include the FDR, Transitional Area and Bistro for reserved seating through Open Table and the Front Desk. The Bistro reopened with cafeteria style service for seating and takeout as well as casual seating during breakfast/lunch.

Safe dining included mask-wearing for Residents and Staff in all common areas and dining facilities. Residents were asked to wear masks until seated and to reapply them as they exited dining areas. Spacing was increased between tables with thorough table cleaning after each seating. A traffic plan was created for hot and cold foods and beverages. During the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2021, adult guests with proof of vaccination were permitted, vaccinated children were invited to join the Thanksgiving Day tables, and unvaccinated children were asked to join their families in their apartments.

# **Highlights:**

Theme Dinners: St. Patrick's, Caribbean, Chinese, Smorgasbord, Hawaiian, Southern. African, Indian Nights, Lobster Dinner, Octoberfest Coffee Hour 2-3 pm in the Bistro during weekday afternoons. A tent was installed on the terrace, providing a more comfortable seating area for residents to enjoy during warmer weather. Wine and Cheese Receptions on Wednesdays and Fridays were reintroduced, some being held on the Terrace. A well attended ZOOM seminar on the Mediterranean Diet was held with Pace University faculty in March in cooperation with the KoH Education Committee. The Residents Virtual Comment Line facilitated communications between residents and Dining Services. Menus with enlarged print were posted, as well as the luncheon sandwich menu. Several popular additions were made to the Also Available Menu. Two large community tables were placed in the Bistro. A Staff person took orders from residents in the Sunday brunch line improved traffic flow.

# Appreciation is extended to:

- Fred Coppola and Dining Services for creativity in meeting the multitude of food service challenges
- KoH residents for their cooperation and suggestions

**Current Challenges**– Replacing the many Staff lost during the pandemic. The current labor market is limited and highly competitive. Menu planning has been faced with a significant increase in food costs and frequent food market outages requiring last minute menu changes.

**A New KoH Dining Team**: KoH has welcomed Cliff Saladin, Executive Chef; Sherve Simeon, Sous Chef & Luis Javier, Dining Room & Catering Manager to the Culinary & Dining Team.

### Issues for 2022:

**Nutrition:** In addition to scheduling additional seminars on nutrition, the Committee continues to recommend engaging a licensed registered dietician/nutritionist to evaluate KoH menus for nutritional values, calories, sodium, salt, sugar etc., protein content of vegetarian entrees, correct labeling of menu items to alert residents with food allergies and sensitivities

**Staff Training:** Luis Javier, Dining Room Manager is creating standards for service needs in the FDR & Bistro. Executive Chef, Cliff Saladin will orient the Bistro & FDR Staff daily to the preparation and content of each day's menu.

**Sunday Brunch**- Staff 'in' the Bistro to manage separate lines for special orders & the hot food line, increasing the rate of 'flow' by relocating other functions, i.e. packaging/bagging take-out, fresh fruit and flatware pickup.

**Collaboration**: Dining Services and Marketing to incorporate KoH Dining features into Marketing communications

**Improved sustainability** - Working with management and the Sustainability Committee to reduce recycling need for packaged foods

**Completion** by Administration of an alternate resident dining program option with declining point system.

A Winter/Cappucino/Coffee Bar (Space choice: PDR or Bistro)

**Remaining engaged** with the Administration's Master Plan for the redesign of KoH's Dining Facilities with Amenta Emma.

This has been another year of discovery and meeting challenges for our Committee. Through generous access to and frequent communication with Dining Services and by listening to each other, we found the 'secret sauce' to create many workable solutions!

# **EDUCATION COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Fran Kelly

Members: Barbara Bettigole, Llyn Clague, Ellen Lagemann, Priscilla

Liebowitz, Edith Litt, Deborah O'Keefe, Harry Phillips, Michael Rapaport, Nancy Schacht, Peter Seldin, John Sorice, Jerry

Trupin, Jim Wood

**Mission**: To provide opportunity for intellectual stimulation through lectures, short-term courses, seminars, and discussion programs.

This year, the committee welcomed Ellen Lagemann, Priscilla Liebowitz, and Peter Seldin to its membership. Edith Litt, former Co-Chair, remains an active member of the committee. Our thanks to retiring members Shirley Miller and Sue Phillips for their service. We will miss Don Eder who served for many years before his death.

# **Effect of the Pandemic:**

During the COVID-19 pandemic, courses and lectures were offered via Zoom. The committee is grateful to the Residents Council for underwriting the cost of instructor fees while courses were delivered virtually.

Between March 2020 and December 2021, the committee sponsored 40 lectures on a variety of topics: architecture, art, artificial intelligence, criminal justice, conservation, cybersecurity, education, environmental issues, film, horticulture, law, literature, national and world affairs, politics, science, social services, and theater. Speakers have included authors, conservationists, economists, educators, journalists, lawyers, physicians, poets, and politicians.

In April 2021, the Chair reported on the committee's activities at the Association Quarterly Meeting. In May, it issued a survey asking residents for their suggestions on speakers and courses with excellent response. In cooperation with Channel 970, selected Great Courses lectures were offered on weekends with topics including: *How Winston Churchill Changed the World; Greece and Turkey-from Athens to Istanbul; Experiencing Medieval Europe; France through the Ages; England, Scotland and Wales; Ireland and Northern Ireland; Essential Italy; The Greek World.* A new course, *The Middle East in the 20th Century,* begins in January 2022.

# **Resident-led Discussion Programs**

The seventh Great Decisions Discussion Program was held in 2021 via Zoom. Topics were: Increasing Tensions in the Middle East; Brexit and the European Union; The Melting Arctic: Opportunity or Conflict?; China in Africa: Development or Colonialism?; Tensions in the Korean Peninsula; Roles of International Organizations in a Global Health Crisis; The End of Globalization. Discussion leaders were Len Andrew, Hank Berger, John Cannon, Llyn Clague, Sheila Darnborough, Gene DuBow, and Victor Zonana. Plans for the 2022 program are now underway.

# **Special Seminars**

In October 2021, 15 residents participated in a four-week poetry seminar led by Llyn Clague. The topic was *Five American Poets: Whitman, Eliot, Stevens, Williams, Hughes.* 

# Courses – September 2020-December 2021

The Science of Climate Change (Paul Olsen) Sapiens (Yoel Magid)

September September America's Search for a New Voice (Kate Farrington) October Middle East (Jean-Marc Oppenheim) October China and the Future (Marjorie Miller) November History of Paris (Edward Berenson) January Religion and Society (Jean-Marc Oppenheim et al) February American Impressionism (Jill Kiefer) March Food and Nutrition (Cristin Cooper Couples/Mary Opfer) April Planet Mars and Perseverance Exploration (Matt Ganis) April History of New York City (Edward Berenson) May Criminal Law (Bennett Gershman) June The Plays of August Wilson (Kate Farrington) July Musical Reckonings (Michael Boriskin) September Athenian Drama (Maude Meisel) October China (Marjorie Miller) November

History of Afghanistan (Jean-Marc Oppenheim) December

Courses and lectures for 2022 are being planned.

# **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Ursula Hahn

Members: Jane Beers, Barbara Bettigole, Maria Harris, Claire Koh, Gloria Lewit,

Annette Leyden, Norman Sissman, Martin Smolin, Deborah Wood

**Mission**: The Environmental Stewardship Committee is committed to furthering Kendal's environmental stewardship of conservation, sustainability and leadership. It will continue to promote "reduce-reuse-recycle" by residents and encourage all staff to commit to recycling. The committee will urge reduction in the use of plastics and of energy; and support the use of renewable energy sources and measures to lower interior and exterior pollution.

# Sorting/Recycling

The quickly worsening Covid-19 pandemic in 2020 had mandated the closure of dining facilities and delivery of pre-packaged meals to IL apartments, resulting in huge amounts of plastic and aluminum containers and paper bags. By mid-2021, the mandates were eased and the mountains of recyclables diminished. By and large, IL residents adhered to cleaning and sorting them.

In the fall of 2021, coinciding with the start of a newly contracted trash carting company hauler, we were informed that our recyclables are co-mingled after pick-up and delivery to several waste management companies. The reason given is an overabundant supply of recyclables nationwide, which means that their sale to manufacturers is no longer profitable. The exception is said to be cardboard.

As the public is required by law to clean and sort recyclables, residents are being advised to continue to do so. All trash rooms will receive replacements of the illustrated sorting guides, where needed. As many new residents have moved into Kendal during the year, a text guide will be included in the Spotlight early next year.

# **Renewable Energy/Solar Panels**

In the fall of 2020, Maria Harris and Ursula Hahn attended the inauguration of a solar panel array on the roof of the Tarrytown Self Storage building at the corner of Cortland and Wildey Streets. The building's owners drew on the guidance of Sustainable Westchester, a nonprofit consnsortium of Westchester County local governments, which fosters collaboration on sustainability initiatives, but purchased the panels and had them installed at their own cost. County Executive George Latimer was the principal speaker. Afterward, one of the owners showed us the conduits, which feed the produced energy into the Con Ed distribution system. This addition to the power supply results in discounted electricity charges.

Martin Smolin has followed renewable energy production by solar panels and has submitted data to the CEO and the Director of Facilities Management. He has ascertained that KoH, as a not-for-profit organization, is not eligible for financial support from NYSERDA (New York State Energy Research and Development Authority). We understand that the 2022 budget contains funds to investigate the feasibility of solar panel installation.

# **Clothing Collections**

This year, clothing collections were resumed, and residents donated very generously to two drives to benefit the National Foundation of the Blind and Midnight Run in Dobbs Ferry. Jeff O'Donnell again lent his time and automobile to transport men's clothing to the latter. In addition, Maria and Ursula established contact with the Horsemen PTA, an umbrella organization of Sleepy Hollow and Tarrytown PTAs. During its periodic "Community Wardrobe" events, indigent families are provided with free clothing. Again, KoH residents stepped up and donated for the winter project.

Norman Sissman joined the committee in early 2021. Ruth Laudor relocated to Sunnyside during the year and no longer participates.

### FIBER ARTS COMMITTEE 2020-2021

Co-Chairs: Marilyn Bottjer and Barbara Bettigole

**Mission:** The Fiber Arts Group is a small interest group which meets on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays from 2-4 pm in the Crafts Room. We have met fairly regularly this year as COVID dictated and share each other's interest in weaving, knitting, needlepoint, rug hooking, etc. In an effort to make the Craft Room more inviting we cleaned out one corner of the room which had been used basically as a storage place for craft materials which were no longer being used. We also received funds from the Residents' Association to purchase eight new chairs which replaced an assortment of odd chairs. Tables were moved to make room for a new quilting group.

In November we sponsored with Priscilla Holmgren a "pop-up" one day exhibit of the Art Books created by her late husband Edwin Holmgren. The exhibit was in the Private Dining Room and attracted a huge number of Kendal residents who were

awe-struck at the creativity and talent used to make a wide variety of these works of art.

# **HEALTH AND WELLNESS 2020-2021**

**Chair:** Jennifer Gardy, succeeding Margaret Ann Roth

Members: Cynthia Amberg, Stan Amberg, Rita Benzell, Barbara Bettigole,

Dorothea Bone, Joseph Costa, Eugene DuBow, Barbara Gochman,

Catherine Trapasso, Hanan Watson

Health Service Liaison: Lisa Wacht

**Mission:** It is the mission of the Health and Wellness Committee to support our residents' physical, emotional, social, spiritual and intellectual well being.

To this end, we establish programs designed to support and enhance the quality of life of independent living, assisted living and nursing care residents. We arrange educational programs and lectures on related subjects of interest to them and provide conduits for mutual assistance and support during times of need. We work in close coordination with the Health Services Department, which includes the Resident Care Center, Swimming Pool, Fitness Center and the Outpatient Physical Therapy facility. We have a special interest in the Tuesday Morning Club, the Friday Morning Club, and the Co-Pilot Program.

This year was a year of transition. In August 2020 our long-serving chair Dot Bone stepped down. The Committee greatly appreciates her guidance and devoted service to health and wellness at Kendal, and is glad that she will remain actively involved in a non-administrative capacity. Dot was succeeded by Margaret Ann Roth who resigned in July, 2021 to be succeeded by Jennifer Gardy.

The Committee's first task was to adopt a new mission statement that encompassed the five dimensions of wellness: physical, emotional, social, spiritual and intellectual. Subsequently, we have worked on re-opening programs that had been suspended during the pandemic lockdown. The Tuesday Morning Club under the guidance of Sally Costa, Fran Slote, Judy Baker and Nancy Schacht is now running at full speed, providing conversation, music and singing, games, puzzles, crafts and exercises for IL and Adirondack residents.

The music program of the Friday Morning Club for Sunnyside residents is in place and Pace University occupational therapy students are spending 5 days a week for 13 weeks providing Sunnyside residents with social interaction and exercises. Now that Phelps Hospital is open for visitors we hope to restart the Co-Pilot Program with new leadership to take over on Norman Sissman's retirement. The Committee very much appreciates Norman's many years of dedicated service.

In April, Margaret Ann Roth ran the successful visit to Sunnyside and Clearwater residents of a charming pair of miniature therapy horses, Aiden and Pearl.

In July, Lisa Wacht, Health Services Administrator, gave an in-depth discussion of the IL Emergency Response System. In September she gave a very informative talk on the Levels of Living: what the Health Service consists of and

what care it provides at each level of Kendal living. In addition, Joe Sullivan, Director of the Health Services Physical Therapy unit, gave a talk about Balance and Falls Prevention. This was the first of a planned series of talks based on the Discovery Series, a program designed to help senior living residents stay healthier, more active and confident in their ability to enjoy life. This series of talks will also be adapted for Adirondack residents.

Coffee Klatches with Chris Appel, Director of Nursing, have started again. These highly popular informal sessions provide an opportunity for residents to ask questions, express concerns and share ideas about health care, new rules and state policies. In future it is planned to alternate them with "educational" coffee klatches addressing one topic, such as Lisa's talk on the PET system, noted above.

Future plans include a discussion of dementia by Dr. Kandarappallil in January. Joe Sullivan will talk about maximizing attention and memory. Other topics of interest, such as hearing and vision, are being explored.

In a fruitful partnership with the Health Services Administration, the Committee is looking forward to revisiting important topics and planning new initiatives in the future.

# **HORTICULTURE COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

**OFFICERS**: Peter Limburg, Chair; Anna Mae O'Leary, Vice-Chair, Treasurer; Janet Schloat, Secretary

MEMBERSHIP AS OF 11/15/21: Barbara App, Sirkka Barbour, Hank Berger, Barbara Bettigole, Selma Clark, Maria Harris, Lillian Hess, Claire Koh, Annette Leyden, Peter Limburg, Linda Mahoney, Shirley Miller, Anna Mae O'Leary, Cynthia Sammis, Iris Sampliner, Dianne Schlair, Uriel Schlair, Janet Schloat, Peter Seldin, Marcy Shover, Fran Slote. Mary Alice Walker, Anne White We are fortunate not to mourn the deaths of any members this year. Four members have retired; four new members have joined.

**OUR MISSION:** To promote knowledge and love of gardening. Our goals are to enhance the environment of the Healing Garden, located on C level; to support residents in cultivating the 10 raised planters on the Terrace overlooking the Hudson; and to care for the plantings at the north end of the cul-de-sac. We work with the landscape contractor in a consultative capacity, in close collaboration with KoH Management. We are also happy to advise residents on their plantings on their balconies and patios.

**MEETINGS:** Meetings were held in April, May, June, September, October, and November, usually with the valuable participation of Bob Michael and Monique Dewar. At these meetings Bob reported on the work done by Facilities on the campus and plans for future projects, and received questions and comments from members. We also discussed purchases and other expenditures and the work on the Healing Garden and the planters on the Terrace.

### **ACHIEVEMENTS:**

Healing Garden: Thanks to dedicated volunteers who did the unglamorous but necessary work of weeding and deadheading, the Healing Garden was given a major refreshment. The improvement in its appearance was noted by Lisa Wacht, who commented on its contribution to the morale of patients in Clearwater. A professional horticulturist was engaged to consult periodically with the Healing Garden subcommittee and assist with tasks too heavy for the volunteers. The worn-out and long inoperative irrigation system is slated for replacement next spring.

Walkarounds: Monthly walks around the campus were conducted for interested members by Bob Michael and a representative from BrightView. On these walks Bob and the BrightView representative explained the plans for the public spaces and entertained questions and comments from members. This made for a very fruitful exchange of ideas. The walkarounds were conducted from April through October.

Terrace: The 10 Terrace planters were created for residents who love to garden. Some plant flowers; others plant vegetables and herbs. Planters can be shared by two or more individuals. Those assigned a planter sign a contract to plant, water, weed, and fertilize their assigned planters and clean them up in the fall. The kitchen maintains one planter for its own use. Another produces a variety of herbs for residents' personal use. The remainder are left to the personal choices of their holders and are much appreciated by visitors to the Terrace.

Other: We worked with BrightView to select a replacement for the spruce trees, intended to screen the generator from view, that obscure the view from the Terrace, a major source of complaint from the resident community. They will be replaced by trellises on which English ivy will be trained. We also consulted with BrightView on trimming the trees and shrubbery on the campus. Substantial trimming was done on the trees between Alida and Fulton. The Committee installed several artificial rocks as landscape features in the planting bed at the south end of Alida, and BrightView revitalized the blueberry bushes.

Martin Smolin continues to care for the wisteria vines on the Pergola, with the aid of Facilities. He is now training the vines to cover the top of the structure.

# **KENDAL VIEW 2020-2021**

Editor: Pat Taylor Managing Editor: Llyn Clague

Editorial Staff: Eugene DuBow, Doris Eder, Muriel Fox, Hubert B.

Herring, Carolyn Klinger, Edith Litt, Deborah O'Keefe,

Norman Sissman

Photography Editors: Arthur Brady, Caroline Persell

Advertising Director: Peter McCuen

Through sixteen years of uninterrupted publishing, *Kendal View* has stuck to its original commitment: to reflect the many facets of life at KoH through the writing and photography of residents. Each issue has magnificent, four-color covers that capture the beauty of the nature that surrounds us and sixteen pages of editorial on a wide variety of subjects. Topics in 2021 included comprehensive interviews with individual residents, the recounting of personal experiences (whether quotidian or pandemic-oriented), World War II from the trenches to a cockpit, observations on our local community and the occasional poem.

Kendal View has a great asset in its hard-working staff who meet monthly to plan a new issue. This past year saw several changes. We shall miss Sue Phillips who wrote many articles in the early years, then later became a proofreader. Sue joins a former proofreader, Gloria Cooper, as alumnae we can depend upon for advice when a thorny publishing decision arises. We will also miss Pat Seldin, who was the magazine's administrator for over a year before she died. We are pleased to welcome new resident Hubert B. Herring as a staff writer whose two decades as an editor for *The New York Times* is already proving invaluable. Carolyn Klinger has also joined the KV staff. As administrator, she assists Pete McCuen, now in his second year as Advertising Director.

From the beginning, the eight-page advertising section has been an important aspect of KV. The ads from local businesses not only cover the cost of printing each issue, but also provide a surplus that is donated to the Residents Association.

The distribution of each issue is also key. In addition to being placed in the cubbies of all Independent Living residents, each issue is distributed in Adirondack and Clearwater, as well as to senior staff members, and the Kendal Board. Copies are also placed in the staff recreation room, the Archives, the Library, and the Wellness Center. In addition, the magazine is used as a marketing tool: that department has a standing order for 25 copies of each issue that will be given to prospects.

# **KoH TV CHANNEL 970 2020-2021**

Chair: Sheila Darnborough

Technicians: Arthur Brady, Sheila Darnborough, Sally Kellock, Mariet

van der Heide

Film Selection: Annette Leyden and the Movies Committee

Filming and Editing: Sheila Darnborough, Eugene DuBow, Jack Miller

Photography Editor: Arthur Brady

**Mission:** KoH TV is Kendal on Hudson's internal TV channel that transmits on a public TV Channel, 970. Its mission continues to be ensuring that Kendal residents,

irrespective of their level of independence, have access to Kendal events in their own homes.

Regular program service comprises a nightly movie (which used to be shown in the Gathering Room the night before), recordings of two KoH events each afternoon (a weekly cycle), round-the-clock still photos of Rue des Artistes exhibitions, and occasional live broadcasts of key events.

The content of this format, which changed to culling from the archives early in the pandemic because in-person events were suspended, is now almost back to normal with the return of those events.

Resident feedback regarding the introduction of the Great Courses lectures on weekend afternoons has been very positive. However, their schedule was reduced to only Saturdays with the return of live concerts on Sundays. The nightly movie continues to be shown only on Channel 970.

Service interruptions have increased due to the burgeoning, but small, issues associated with aging equipment. Most of the problems were with the movie not starting on time caused by malfunctioning dvd players. This has been solved in the past by replacing those players but is now increasingly difficult to achieve because the used market for our model is drying up.

Many other issues have been solved by using the creative "workarounds" developed by our tenacious Consultant, Ira Malek.

As to the future, it is possible that CATIE, the communications portal under review, could deliver much of Channel 970's programming to residents' apartments with improved visual quality. (We would bypass Verizon's public tv channel which delivers at only standard definition quality.) Other technologies can probably deliver any Channel 970 programming that CATIE cannot.

It remains to honor our splendid volunteers, Mariet van der Heide and Art Brady who have now, regrettably, left the Committee, as well as those listed above, and our Consultant, Ira Malek. They have all kept Channel 970 going for another year, day in and day out, while facing the problems that arise with equanimity and learning Ira's creative workarounds to solve them. Thank you.

We continue to have a need for resident volunteers even although the structure of Channel 970 could change in the coming year. The issue of the reduced availability of our Consultant reported last year remains, but changing the way Channel 970 programming is delivered may change our needs from a Consultant, and so resolve this issue.

# **LIBRARY 2020-2021**

Co-Chairs: Suzanne Adel and Sally Kellock

Secretary: Gretchen Engler
Treasurer & Tech Support Peggy Pennell
Training: Suzanne Adel
Carousel Chair: Lynn Brady

Assistants: Rita Benzer, Barbara Bettigole, Suzanne Sadler,

Mary, Alice Walker, Valerie Wallace

Special Collections Managers: Sally Kellock and Gretchen Engler

Other Members: Priscilla Blakemore, Jacky Cummings, Joan Curry, Eugene Dubow, Doris Eder, Nancy Frieden, Doris Gottlieb, Ed Hanin, Marge Heitbrink, Lillian Hess, Keiko Hirano, Ellen Lagemann, Susan Lichten, Maggie Limburg, Claire Limmer, Helen Lowenstein, Gwen Moffat, Chao Pan, Marge Phillips, Sue Phillips, Roberta Poupon, Ann Root, Ruth Singleton, Frances Sloane, Frances Slote, Betty Smith, Alice Weinstein.

The Library Committee sadly mourns the loss this year of Penny Brome, who was vital in the establishment of the Kendal library in 2005 and its continuation over the years. Her abilities and her positivity were an inspiration to us all.

**Mission:** The library is open at all times, and residents can borrow books by filling out yellow slips. From Monday to Friday, 10 am to 12 noon and 2 pm to 4 pm, a volunteer is available to provide information and assistance. Through an arrangement with the Warner Library, residents can also borrow books from the Westchester County system. Our goal: to maintain an excellent collection that is useful and up to date with a simple circulation system that all residents can use with ease.

# Accomplishments in 2020-21

- 1. Installed a new, simplified system to manage library functions which also enabled us to put the catalog online for the use of residents.
- 2. Instituted a 60-day loan policy, requesting the return of overdue books if others reserved them.
- 3. Added 238 new books through donations and purchases through October, including 31 large-print volumes
- 4. Added some 20 new mysteries/thrillers to the Special Collection
- 5. Screened donated books and DVDs/CDs
- 6. Updated catalog to remove missing or culled books
- 7. Posted lists of newly acquired books in the library
- 8. Culled the carousels and added new donated paperbacks
- 9. Welcomed and trained nine new desk volunteers
- 10. Provided additional orientation and software training to others
- 11. Updated the information circular on the library for distribution to new residents
- 12. Maintained association with Warner Library (access to the Westchester County Library System) and Better World Books (unwanted donations)
- 13. Continued reorganizing Special Collections and familiarizing residents with them through items in *Spotlight*
- 14. Continued to offer books to residents at \$1 each. Proceeds have been used toward purchase of books and essential office supplies

### Plans for 2021-22

- 1. Continue most of above activities, plus
- 2. Look for ways to improve the library's usefulness to newer, younger residents (Boomers)

# LOSS COMMITTEE 2020-201

Chair: Bob Sanders; Jeff O'Donnell (Acting)

Members: Betty Albertson, Sheila Benedis, Dot Bone, Joe Costa, Ed Hanin,

Ruth Laudor, Susan Lichten, Sue Phillips, Mariet van der Heide,

Jim Wood

Administration Ellen Ottstadt

**Mission:** The Loss Committee organizes occasional informative programs and films on end-of-life issues, sponsors an annual memorial service for residents who have died in the preceding year, and assists families in planning appropriate memorial services for their loved ones. It also distributes informative materials to families of deceased residents. A new initiative this year is creating a document to help residents plan for their passing and help their family understand their wishes and assist them in dealing with the deceased resident's affairs and access to their technology.

The Committee organized and participated in the ninth Annual Memorial Service held by the Residents Association by Zoom from the Gathering Room on January 27, 2021. Ed Hanin and Jim Wood read the names and short biographies of those residents we lost during 2020, while their photographs were displayed on the screen. Sadly, the Committee lost its chair, Bob Sanders in May 2021. The Committee welcomed the assistance of Ellen Ottstadt, Director of Resident Services and Communication.

Several memorial services were held during the year with members of the Committee acting as ushers where needed.

# **LOW VISION HELP COMMITTEE (LVHC) 2020-2021**

Chair: Amelia Augustus Co-Chair: Sara Cook

Join us in celebrating the accomplishments aiding the visually challenged which simultaneously benefit the entire community. In this current year, there are more accomplishments than since Kendal's founding years ago.

The limitation of space provided for this report requires a mere listing of the innovations and accommodations either in effect or that are imminent. They resulted from the suggests of a survey of all IL residents. It is important to note that we had the benefit of more responses from residents with normal vision from those with vision issues! These suggestions mostly include what I categorize as, the "3 Ls": Labeling, Letter size and Location.

- 1. Bigger print for management notices, posters, announcements, and *Spotlight*. *Spotlight* immediately not only increased the font size, but has also adjusted its layout, resulting in a more reader-friendly format. Also, Elle has larger printed copies for those who request them and she sends larger printed emails of administration announcements to anyone who requests them
- 2. Dining Services added two more large menus on the wall outside the Bistro with the first two marked "Today" and the next two marked "Tomorrow".
- 3. Residents' name tags: The first name on resident name tags is being printed in a larger font.
- 4. It was requested that residents with disabilities and professional accessibility experts be represented and/or consulted whenever building remodeling or restructuring are planned that impact residents' sight, hearing, mobility or tactile ability. *Unresolved*.
- 5. Installation of two automatic door openers in Adirondack entrances, scheduled to be installed in January.
- 6. Cubbies: larger name labels on all cubbies with residents' names and apartment numbers. Resolved with the invaluable help of Ellen Ottstadt, Maria Harris, and Fran Kelly.
- 7. Lighting: brighter lighting throughout the entire campus and an alternative to fluorescent lighting was requested. Resolved: Bob Michael, COO, had arranged to replace the lighting with LED lighting throughout the campus before this request was made.
- 8. The request for a bulletin board designated for larger printed announcements from management is unresolved at present because management wants to determine if CATIE will solve this concern.
- 9. Administration emails could be written in a 14-16 point font. *Unresolved*: this is a work in progress with uneven participation.
- 10. Our thanks to the Residents Council which approved a name change for our committee to better represent its mission: Low Vision Help Committee.
- 11. Brighter lighting in the Activities Alcove with an automatic switch activated when a person enters the area.
- 12. A brighter light above the ATM machine. Sara Cook worked with Bob Michael to accomplish this.

- 13. The Art Committee enlarged the printed description on the Rue des Artistes and offered to have special docent hours.
- 14. Library additions: Chuck Cohen's products; catalogue, current cost sheet for these products, and a book explaining several eye ailments.
- 15. Webinars: Thanks to Sylvia Hawes, we had access to two webinars: "Low-Tech: Hi-Tech/Low Vision Solutions 101" and "New Horizons in the Treatment of Glaucoma."

The LVHC is pleased to thank our CEO, Pamela Klapproth, and her team for their generous support. It is my hope that now we have successfully addressed enough low-vision needs for our community that we can establish KoH as a model throughout the other Kendal communities experiencing similar challenges.

# **MOVIE COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

MEMBERS: Annette Leyden & Roberta Poupon (co-chairs), Lailani Moody, Sara Cook, Jo Cameron

**Mission**: To choose and schedule movies to be shown to Kendal residents on a regular basis.

In 2021 the Movie Committee has shown over 350 movies on Channel 970.

The committee meets regularly to schedule two weeks of movies for showing. The schedule is provided weekly for printing on the front page of Spotlight.

In 2021 we created a manual for the use of future members. Also our Netflix account is now billed directly to the Resident Council.

Most of our movies are DVDs ordered from our Netflix account, funded and paid for the Residents Council. Some DVDs come from residents' personal collections, others from our Library, from Warner Library and from the LEONORE MEYER COLLECTION, given to us at Leonore's death by her children. We also arrange the showing of movies to coincide with Education Committee courses.

Also in Spotlight we ask for suggestions and for new members. With more members we can show more films in the Gathering Room.

Currently, movies are shown on Tuesday through Sunday evenings on our in-house TV Channel 970. We have re-started Gathering Room showings on occasional Sunday afternoons.

# MUSIC 2020-2021

Chair: Fran Kelly

Members: Arthur Brady, Lila D'Adolf, Sheila Darnborough, Eugene DuBow,

Ed Hanin, Linda Mahoney, Bert Pepper, Michael Rapaport, Janet

Schloat, Bob Singleton, Jody Spellun

**Mission**: To organize, coordinate, and provide musical programs for Kendal Independent Living residents, while also welcoming friends from other residential parts of the Kendal Community. The Music Committee maintains the Steinway piano, bequeathed by Clara Loomanitz, and the harpsichord housed on the Mary Powell balcony.

A resident's anonymous gift underwrote the first two chamber music concerts in the fall of 2006, leading to the formation of the Music Committee in January 2007. Our annual concert program is financed primarily through residents' gifts to the KoH Residents Association. Additional programming is made possible by concert sponsorships from individual residents or their families.

This year, Bert Pepper stepped down as Co-Chair; Sue Phillips retired after many years of service; and we welcomed Linda Mahoney to the group. Through 2021, the committee has coordinated almost 240 musical programs ranging from traditional chamber music to jazz, steel drums, bluegrass, popular music, and classical guitar. In 2020-21, we welcomed several new performers and groups: the Dixieland Express Jazz Band, The Elysian Quartet, The Raritan Trio, pianist Solomon Eichner, and The Erda Trio.

Seven concerts were held in the Gathering Room during the first half of 2020. Because of the pandemic, live concerts had to be postponed until May 2021 when we welcomed The Raritan Trio.Six live concerts featuring Mark Morganelli and the Jazz Forum All Stars were scheduled in June, July, and August 2021 under the tent on the Terrace. These lively presentations, sponsored by a resident's donation, were greatly appreciated by all. Live performances in the Gathering Room resumed in September, and our popular post-concert receptions in the Private Dining Room began again on November 7 but have been discontinued since.

# **Sleepy Hollow High School Student Award:**

In 2019, the Committee initiated a Music Award for a Sleepy Hollow High School student who plans to pursue postsecondary study in some area of music. In 2021, awards were given to Ben Poret and Luke Green who are continuing their music studies at the Berklee College of Music.

# 2021 Concert Series:

Sun., May 16 The Raritan Trio

Sun., June 13	Jazz on the Terrace – Jazz Forum All Stars
Sun., June 27	Jazz on the Terrace – Jazz Forum All Stars
Sun., July 11	Jazz on the Terrace – Jazz Forum All Stars
Sun., July 25	Jazz on the Terrace – Jazz Forum All Stars
Sun., Aug. 8	Jazz on the Terrace – Jazz Forum All Stars
Sun., Aug. 22	Jazz on the Terrace – Jazz Forum All Starts
Sun., Sept. 12	Cris Groenendaal/Sue Anderson, Broadway Cabaret
Sun., Sept. 19	Thomas Mesa, cello; Ilya Yakushev, piano
Sun., Oct. 3	Solomon Eichner, piano
Sun., Oct. 17	Erda Trio (Manhattan School of Music)
Sun., Nov. 7	Cuatro Puntos
Sun., Nov. 14	Ariel Horowitz, violin; Alexa Stier, piano
Sun., Dec. 12	Anthony Newman, piano; Emilie-Ann Gendron, violin
Sun., Dec. 19	Cris Groenendaal/Sue Anderson Holiday Concert

Programming for 2022 has begun with concerts already scheduled for January, February and March.

Thanks to our dedicated committee for their continued enthusiasm and invaluable programming suggestions -- and for serving so generously as concert ushers.

# OPERA COMMITTEE 2020-2021

Chair: Ursula Hahn

Members: Barbara App, Muriel Fox, Ed Hanin, Frank Neuwirth, Barbara Rachlin,

Jody Spellun

### Mission:

- (1) Offer Kendal residents opportunities to hear and see quality opera on DVD on the large Gathering Room screen, of particular importance for those without internet access when streaming was the only chance to enjoy a performance during the height of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- (2) Awaken curiosity and interest in opera among residents, in whose lives the art form may not have played a role prior to coming to Kendal.

# **Background:**

Muriel Fox and Amelia Augustus were instrumental in establishing an opera group with the members listed above (less Jody Spellun, who joined later). Operas on DVD began to be shown on Saturday afternoons in February 2019 under the leadership of Barbara App and drawing on her and Muriel's large collections.

When pandemic-mandated attendance was restricted to 17 persons, an interest list of residents received emailed program announcements and opera summaries were handed out in the GR. The attendance limit was reached almost every Saturday. No programs were presented between late April and late September 2020.

### **Activities:**

In January 2021, Barbara asked to be relieved as chairperson and Ursula agreed to take over with the group's consent. In May, the Residents Council approved the group's request to be recognized as an activities committee of the Residents Association. After Jody joined the committee, she suggested that lighter fare in the form of Gilbert & Sullivan and other operettas and musicals be offered occasionally as a change from the frequently heavy repertoire. A majority of members agreed, and her collection will be drawn from as well.

During the reporting period, 61 operas, operettas, and singer's documentaries were shown on 67 Saturdays. Because of their length, six works were presented on multiple Saturdays. Grand total shown since Feb. 9, 2019: 85.

Operas are announced in the weekly Spotlight, on five bulletin boards, and on Kendal's website. In addition, Adirondack residents receive an invitation by email. Attendance has remained stable, ranging between 18-23 persons, with occasional spikes to just under 30.

No changes are contemplated in the future. The committee is grateful for the support of the Residents Council and welcomes all music lovers to Kendal's Saturday at the Opera.

### **SOCIAL EVENTS COMMITTEE 2020-2021**

Chair: Muriel Fox

Members: Bob Singleton, Chair of Kendal Chorale, Sally Costa, head of New

Year's Eve party committee, others recruited as needed

**Mission:** Our mission is to produce two major social events, for New Year's Eve and the Fourth of July, and to assist the Residents Council with other social events as needed.

Because of the Covid-19 pandemic, the New Year's Eve celebration and the Fourth of July program were both canceled in 2021. A committee, headed by Muriel Fox was created to celebrate Kendal's "Sweet 16" anniversary. But that celebration was also postponed because of the pandemic. The fruits of the Sweet 16 committee's several meetings will be adapted for a celebration of KoH's 17<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2022 – perhaps on the actual anniversary date of May 9.

Before being canceled, plans were under way for the 2021-22 New Year's Eve celebration. Once again, Muriel Fox planned to produce a show to commence in the Gathering Room at 8 pm on December 31 and Sally Costa would lead a very active party committee to stage the reception after the show. Sally's co-chair was

Sharry Lukach. Dining chairman Fred Coppola weighed the possibility of producing a sit-down dinner for the occasion.

Bob Singleton organized two rehearsals of the Chorale for the Sweet 16 celebration. At least one of their songs would have been utilized in the 2021 New Year's Eve celebration.

### **SPOTLIGHT 2020-2021**

Chair: Mary Lou Wells (until July), Sally Kellock (starting July)
Editors: Jennifer Gardy, Ursula Hahn, Sally Kellock, Ellen Lagemann

(starting March), Peggy Pennell, Mary Lou Wells

Inputters/Reviewers: Sheila Darnborough, Fran Kelly, Jan Myers, Annette

Leyden

**Mission:** To publish the *Spotlight* weekly as a source of information for residents about current KoH news and forthcoming events. We hope to keep it clear, interesting, as brief as possible, and, above all, accurate.

The editors take turns assembling the copy supplied by residents and the Administration into a newsletter, which is usually 4-5 pages long and traditionally printed on yellow paper. One of the editors also prepares a monthly calendar of events, with assistance from Fran Kelly. At the request of the Low Vision Help Committee, efforts have been made to increase the font size of *Spotlight* and use a sans serif typeface. While the first two pages follow a standard format, editors vary the layout of the other pages depending on the material, and often add clipart.

The Administration produces the needed number of copies of each issue. The week's editor distributes them to the cubbies of Independent Living residents and posts them on bulletin boards in all buildings. Our thanks to Ellen Ottstadt and her team who do the actual weekly production, distribute issues to Adirondack, Clearwater, Sunnyside and the Administration, and provide extra-large copies for residents who request them.

# TRANSPORTATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE 2020-2021

Chair: Anne White

Members: Harriet S. Barnett, Jacky Cummings, Joan Curry, Muriel Hahn, Ed

Hanin, Barbara Rachlin, Ann Schnog.

**Mission:** The Residents Transportation Advisory Committee works with Kendal on Hudson Staff and Administration to arrange regularly scheduled trips to doctors' offices, shopping centers, the Tarrytown train station, and community events, as needed. In 2021, transportation services were mainly limited to medical appointments and other essential activities during the winter and spring, but began

to expand again over the summer, as residents were vaccinated and vehicle occupancy limits increased.

**Description of Services:** As described in the Residence and Care Contract, Kendal on Hudson offers transportation for medical appointments (within a 15-mile radius), shopping and other activities, based on a weekly schedule. The Transportation Advisory Committee provides information on available services to residents and serves as a forum for residents' concerns and questions.

**2020-2021:** The Transportation Committee began the year with high hopes of expanding transportation opportunities for residents, especially for those who do not have access to a personal vehicle. Responding to residents' requests for more Saturday trips to local events, the Administration had allocated supplemental funds in the 2021 budget for additional driver hours and for the purchase of a new bus that would be more comfortable and easier to get in and out of. But as COVID-19 levels rose after the 2020 holidays and vehicle occupancy restrictions remained in place through the spring of 2021, expansion plans were put on hold.

**Survey and Open Forum:** In June of 2021, with all residents vaccinated and weekly shopping schedules back to normal, the Transportation Advisory Committee began considering how to phase in additional services in late 2021 or 2022. A survey was circulated to assess resident priorities, with 116 responses received. There was widespread interest in weekday evening and Saturday transportation services to allow for later pickup from doctors' appointments and trains, and more trips to local restaurants, malls, hair/nail salons, farmers markets and special events.

A majority also indicated they would be willing to pay a small fee for transportation beyond the 15-mile limit. As a follow-up, the Transportation Advisory Committee hosted an Open Forum in the Gathering Room, attended by approximately 50 people. Ellen Ottstadt presented the results of the survey, and the resident Q&A generally reinforced those priorities. The committee was also alerted to a serious safety issue for residents returning from the City by train in the evenings — that there is no longer a queue of taxis waiting at the Tarrytown train station or available by phone. With support from the committee, this issue was resolved by a group of residents who identified a reliable local car service that will transport Kendal residents after hours if they reserve in advance.

New Vehicles: With funding included in the 2021 budget to add another small vehicle for one- or two-person trips, Ellen purchased a new sedan with low seats, making it easy to climb in and out. She also began researching buses and arranged for one to be brought to Kendal for viewing. Committee members found it a big improvement over the old Kendal buses, with steps less steep and more places to grab on. Wanting to test another bus before deciding on this major investment, Ellen reached out to other dealers, but none of them had the type of bus we need. And with a shortage of essential parts, we may have to wait until late spring for a new Kendal bus.

**Looking to 2022**: With money in the 2022 budget to buy two small cars and add a new driver for Saturdays and weekday hours beyond 4:30 pm, plus funds carried over from 2021 for a new bus, we hope to offer more shopping trips, later train pick-ups, and trips to local events like those we offered in October — to the Cultural Festival and the TaSH Farmers Market.

**Our Kendal Drivers:** Throughout this challenging year, our drivers have provided reliable, caring transportation for Kendal residents. Navigating complex daily schedules, they made 7043 trips in 2021. This was a slight increase from 2020, but still well below the 9882 trips driven in 2019 before the pandemic. Most trips were for medical appointments (4968) with increasing numbers of shopping trips (1271) toward the end of the year. Trips to the train station remain way down (606). Rich Shields, our lead driver, records each trip on a spreadsheet, with the drivers most proud of the final data point: "Resident Lost — zero".

**Thanks to**...Our Kendal drivers, Rich, Eamon and Howie, for their service...Ellen Ottstadt, for her enthusiastic support of our committee and its efforts to expand and improve Kendal transportation services...Ed Hanin, for his years of stellar leadership of this committee.

# TRIPS COMMITTEE. 2020-2021

**OFFICERS:** Co-chairs: Jan Myers and Lynn Brady

Secretary: Carolyn Klinger Treasurer: Sheila Darnborough

**MEMBERS:** Judy Baker, Lynn Brady, Jacky Cummings, Sheila Darnborough,

Carolyn Klinger, Jan Myers, Pat Taylor

### Mission:

The Trips Committee's mission is to provide access to new experiences and the rich cultural life, heritage and beauty of the region beyond Kendal on Hudson. We plan and arrange day trips in New York City, the Tri-State metro area and the Hudson River Valley for Independent Living residents and seek to serve a range of activity levels including mobility- and/or cognitively-challenged individuals.

### **Activities and Achievements:**

The Trips Committee cancelled all trips from March 11, 2020, through June 9, 2021, because of the coronavirus and the resulting lock-down. During the pandemic each trip site has its own policy and it changes as events change. This report covers six months of successful activities with 17 trips and two cancelled trips to be rescheduled next year.

When we started planning new trips, we knew that in 2019 three museums (Neue Galerie and Jewish Museum in Manhattan, and Dia: Beacon) were not open on Wednesdays, the only day on which the Trips Committee was authorized to use the

Kendal van. We soon learned that, in the summer of 2021, 26 museums and other attractions we visit were closed on Wednesdays and 17 places had not reopened, making a total of 43 unavailable destinations. For instance, the Metropolitan Museum of Art is open every day EXCEPT Wednesday. We were given permission to operate trips on some Thursdays (11 more sites). Some places are open but not taking groups.

Starting in Westchester County in June, we expanded in the summer to the Hudson Valley (we've seen more places with views of the Hudson in a few months!) and to Connecticut for small museums, in September to the Bronx and in November to Manhattan. We visited all our regular trip sites that were open in Westchester and the Hudson Valley by November, so we are heavily relying on New York City and the metro area for the winter season 2021-2022 (as well as several museums in the Hudson Valley with changing exhibitions).

The first six months were very successful with trips filling within a few days or in the first week and wait lists accumulating. Many new residents are taking our trips. So far residents are very receptive to leaving Kendal on trips during the day but this could change. We, like everyone else, are afraid to make plans too far ahead.

Our energy was devoted to a rousing round of trips in the summer schedule. Some May and June 2020 trips were moved to the summer and fall of 2021. We targeted the outdoors with a trip to Untermyer Gardens in Yonkers on re-opening day, June 16, 2021; followed by Stonecrop Gardens in Cold Spring, Wave Hill in the Bronx, two river cruises on the Pride of the Hudson from Newburgh and Walkway Over the Hudson in Poughkeepsie.

The places visited during the last six months also include the Katonah Museum of Art in Katonah, Neuberger Museum of Art in Purchase, the Jasper Cropsey Home and Gallery in Hastings-on-Hudson, the Bruce Museum in Greenwich, Aldrich Contemporary Art Museum in Ridgefield, Lyndhurst in Tarrytown, Hudson River Museum in Yonkers and the American Museum of Natural History in Manhattan. We also attended two Met Opera HD Live performances, Mussorgsky's Boris Godunov and Terence Blanchard's Fire Shut Up in My Bones, in White Plains. Two trips were cancelled, the Storm King Art Center (no tram running and no groups) and Washington's Headquarters in Newburgh (covid case on the staff).

We look forward to our next year of activities. However, we didn't return to Manhattan until November, where many Thursday sites are located. Response to our December 9 New York City Do Your Own Thing has been very encouraging, but what if residents choose to avoid New York City? And what will the Delta variant do? Are newer variants coming our way? The future is by no means clear.

# WEBSITE COMMITTEE 2020-21

Co-Chairs: Caroline Persell, Jeff O'Donnell

Members: Amelia Augustus, Peter Bermas, Fran Kelly, Secretary-Treasurer;

Sheila Darnborough, Eugene DuBow, Gretchen Engler, Jo-Ann

Rapaport, Mary Lou Wells

Web Roles: Caroline Persell, Webmaster and Content Editor; Eugene DuBow,

Jeff O'Donnell, Jo-Ann Rapaport, Content Editors; Gretchen Engler, Sally Kellock, Copy Editors; Mariet Van der Heide and

Fran Kelly, Permissions Editors.

We mourn the loss of two key editors who passed away this year: Peter Bermas and Mary Lou Wells.

# Mission:

Having started the Residents Website in 2015, the Website Committee's purpose is to maintain and improve the Website with two goals:

- a) providing current residents with timely and important information in a single place;
- b) sharing with residents, families, prospective residents, and others outside of Kendal on Hudson written, visual, and video examples of the vital and creative resident life here.

### **HIGHLIGHTS IN 2020-21**

- Usage: from Jan. 1, 2020 Nov. 16, 2021 there were 19,704 visitors, up 13% from the comparable period last year; a total of 10,109 unique visitors, up 1% from last year; and 47,684 page visits, up 8% from last year.
- On Jan. 1, we transitioned to a new password for "Residents Only" for 2021.
- We conducted a workshop for residents Sept. 22, 2021 on the website and how to use it.
- We continue using an Open Table widget on Residents Only for FDR dining reservations.
- The website added a new "Writings" page, ably edited by Eugene DuBow.
- When COVID-19 closed our public activities, the Art Committee and the Residents Website Committee collaborated on producing "Virtual Art Exhibits" on the Residents Website.
- The Webmaster continues to write the weekly Residents Website News describing what's new on the Residents Website and distribute it electronically to all current residents.
- All dynamic pages were updated weekly or more frequently. These includes the Calendar, Concerts, Did You See? (DYS?), Education, HOME, Menus, News, Spotlight and Trips, plus the Residents Only page, including the Digital Directory, Telephone List, Residents Council information, Yellow Rose list, Administrative updates, Council minutes, and more. However, in October 2021 we decided to drop the separate Concerts, Education, and Trips pages, given their relatively low

usage. The material on the three discontinued pages appears in the Calendar page of the website.

### **PLANS FOR 2022**

- Decide what sections of the Residents Website might be presented on the communications portal the administration decides upon, and how they might look.
- Collaborate with the administration on the implementation of a new Resident Portal
- Find additional people who might work on implementation in phase two of the portal.

# WELCOMING TEAM 2020-2021

Co-Chairs: Jo-Ann Rapaport, Mary Lou Wells\* & Iris Sampliner Bldg. Coordinators: Jacky Cummings, Sylvia Hawes, Alice Clague, Jackie

Wilke, Maria Harris, Sally Kellock, Sharry Lukach, Mary

Linda Zonana

Specialists: Campus Tours: Suzanne Sadler, Ann Root

Editors: Support Materials: Fran Kelly

Biographies: Janet Schloat

Bio Writers: Janet Schloat, Rema Sessler, Peter Limberg, Judy Baker, Shirley Miller, Jo-Ann

Rapaport

Photographer: Arthur Brady

Volunteers: Jean MacIntosh, Jane Hart, Jane Kratovil

\*We note the significant contribution of Mary Lou Wells and with

sadness acknowledge her passing.

**Mission:** To ease incoming Independent Living residents' move into Kendal by providing support and information. This is accomplished through personal contact before, during and after the move-in date. In addition, printed information, campus tours, as well as social events and new-resident orientation meetings are provided when possible.

### **Activities 2020-2021:**

- During the 15 month period September 1, 2020 through November 30, 2021, 62 new residents moved into 43 apartments.
- Friday, September 24, 2021 was the first Welcome Team meeting in more than 18 months due to the pandemic.
- The Newcomer Guide was revised and the One page Information Sheet was discontinued.

- The Welcoming Process was revised multiple times to conform with the restrictions due to the COVID 19 pandemic; further revisions were made as restrictions lessened.
- Floor plans were created by Sharry Lukach for Clermont, Robert Fulton and Alida to help residents navigate within (and to and from) each building. Her drawings are now included in the Green Book that's given to new residents as they sign their contract.

# **Proposed Activities 2022**

- New Resident Receptions are planned for January / February
- Welcome Team will provide new residents with a printout of WorxHub to help them request support from building maintenance
- A sign will be created and posted about the availability of the Hearing Loop in the Gathering Room for hearing aids equipped to accept the T coil feature.
- New Resident Tours will be offered to arriving residents by the Building Coordinators and implemented by Tour Specialists.