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EAST ROCK CREEK VILLAGE: MOVING INTO THE FUTURE

Now that we are an all-volunteer Village, we would like our members, volunteers, and friends to know how we will be fulfilling our two-fold mission: 1) providing services to our service members; and 2) offering enjoyable and enlightening activities for *all* our members. In addition to this, we will be continuing to seek funding to be able to offer service membership to seniors who might not otherwise be able to afford membership.

For our Board, chaired by Gloria Sulton, it is a little daunting, but also quite exciting to be creating a new organizational format to meet these needs, as Board members and others step forward to take responsibility for specific aspects of our work as a Village.

Service Coordinator

We are particularly grateful to social member **Debby Thomas**, who has taken up the very important role of Service Coordinator. She will be matching service requests with volunteers, as well as keeping a record of all requests that are filled. Debby introduces herself by writing:

My husband Ralph Blessing and I have lived in Shepherd Park for 30 years and have raised two children here. We feel so fortunate to have stumbled upon the neighborhood during my pregnancy when we were looking for a larger place than our Capitol Hill home. Shepherd Park and our sister neighborhoods comprise a close-knit community of people who care about their neighbors. I see East Rock Creek Village as a reflection of that commitment to community.

I retired from the Environmental Protection Agency in 2010. Prior to my 22 years at EPA, I served as staff at Peace Corps' Washington headquarters and taught English as a volunteer in Thailand. Since retiring, I've enjoyed a variety of volunteer jobs, including tutoring at a homeless shelter, assisting with the cats at the Humane Society, being a docent at the Heurich House and volunteer at Hillwood Museum. I've also enjoyed providing transport for ERCV members and look forward to providing greater assistance as the Service Coordinator.



ERCV is open to filling transportation requests for evenings and weekends as well as weekdays. Service members may also request help with household tasks, gardening, temporary pet care – and if you have a need we have not mentioned, do not hesitate to ask! If Debby can find a volunteer to meet your need, that will be wonderful.

Making Service Requests

Please make service requests as far in advance as possible. Our office will be staffed on a part-time basis by Board members and volunteers; if no one is in the office, calls and e-mail messages will be forwarded to the individual “on call,” who will make sure Debby receives your request in a timely way.

Other Coordinators

Several Board members will be filling other coordinator positions, while Gloria, continuing as Board Chair, will oversee our work and make sure everything is covered as we “learn the ropes!” Here are the coordinators:

Newsletter and events calendar – Nancy Foster

Program Coordinator – Susan Learmonth

Membership Recruitment – Peter Kramer

New Member Follow-up – Gloria Sulton

Tech Coordinator – Margie Odle

Budget and Finance – David Mackoff

About the Newsletter

The *Village Voice*, with a new format, will be e-mailed (or mailed to those without access to e-mail) near the beginning of each month. We will be highlighting the community nature of our Village, introducing you to our volunteers and Board members. We will also include reminders of Village events as well as information about events in the wider community that may interest you. Please send comments and suggestions to Nancy (nfoster@speakeasy.net); she would love to hear from you.

Programs

You will be receiving periodic updates of our events calendar, with dates and descriptions of Village offerings. Susan (susan.learmonth@gmail.com) asks you to please send ideas and feedback.

Help Needed

There are a number of areas in which ERCV seeks additional volunteers. Please consider whether you might be able to help with any of the following, and contact Gloria at 202-656-7322 or pres@eastrockcreekvillage.org for more information.

- Joining our Board
- Volunteer Coordinator (helping to recruit and train volunteers to assist service members)
- Marketing and public relations
- Grant research and writing
- Planning our annual meeting (September 24 this year)

