



The Severn Town Club, Inc.

Annapolis, Maryland



Severn Town Club, Inc.

Member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs
"Seeking to Serve"
Maryland Federation of Women's Clubs
Severntownclub.org

BOARD MEMBERS

President – Debbie Mayer

1st Vice President – Nancy Parsons

2nd Vice President – Sheryn Blocher

Treasurer – Jan Stewart

*Recording Secretaries –
Board Meetings - Liz Elliott
General Meetings – Linda Gottfried*

Corresponding Secretary – Sherri Pennock

Monthly Newsletter for the Severn Town Club, Inc. **The Crier**

February 2021 | The Crier

Upcoming Dates

Feb. General Meeting

Thurs., Feb. 18th, 6:30 pm

Zoom: Debbie Mayer to send invite

Program: Sandra Mobry

AA County Department of Aging



March Board of Directors Mtg.

Thurs. March 4th, 3 pm

Zoom: Debbie Mayer to send invite

March General Meeting:

Thurs., March 18th, 6:30 pm

Zoom: Debbie Mayer to send invite

Program: Alice Estrada

Annapolis Maritime Museum



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Spotlight (cont.), Finance Committee Report, Birthdays!

From the President

Hello Ladies!

I hope that this note finds you all well during this very wintery month. Punxsutawney Phil predicted a long winter, and it looks like he may have been right this year!

This month I am happy to point out that we are beginning to include our monthly “Spotlight” feature once again. Our First Vice-President, Nancy Parsons, has agreed to coordinate this effort. And she is our first Spotlight member of 2021! Please read and enjoy!

I’ve been using some of this extra time at home during the cold to clean out those closets and crawl spaces. In so doing I have put together more than a few boxes of books for B.I.G. In case you are doing the same thing, please remember to drop them off at the warehouse collection site. And send your book count to Sheryn!

Stay well and stay warm, and don’t forget to join in on Zoom for our monthly meeting on Thursday, February 18!

Debbie

General Meeting: Thurs, Feb 18, 6:30 PM

By Sheryn Blocher

Winter has finally arrived with some very pretty snow and perhaps just a bit of shoveling. As I write this, I’m preparing my snacks for the viewing of the Super Bowl! However, it won’t be long until our 3rd Thurs. February General Meeting. So, here’s the scoop for this month’s meeting.

We will be continuing to meet via Zoom and Debbie Mayer will send you the email invite so you can join in.



Many of us now have lots of candles on our birthday cakes, however, we are still very active and young at heart. I thought that it might be of interest to learn about the programs provided by the AA County Dept of Aging, so Sandra Mobry, from that organization, will be speaking to us at this month’s meeting. She will give us an overview of the many services, activities, and volunteer opportunities that the department makes available to Seniors in our county. There is a multitude of classes available at Senior Centers, options for independent and assistant living, medical assistance, as well numerous other services.

Please join us online at 6:30 on the 18th! We miss “seeing” everyone. So please get those vaccines as they become available to you so that we can get back to really seeing everyone.

Spotlight: Nancy Beers Parsons, First Vice President

In 1959, when Nancy was 10, the Beers family moved from Kenilworth, IL, a Chicago suburb, to Potomac, MD to a house overlooking the C&O Canal and immediately their dog fell through the ice into the canal. So began a new life on the East Coast. After graduating from The Holton-Arms School, Nancy attended Converse College and Colorado State University where she was an Honors graduate in Anthropology. She pursued graduate work at the George Washington University.

Nancy worked 38 years at the National Geographic Society. Beginning as a floating secretary, she then spent five years in Research Correspondence answering the thousands of letters sent to the Society. Her first letter was a question about snakes in China in the early 1900s. From there she joined the National Geographic Museum staff (Anthropology paid off!). Starting as Assistant to the Curator/Director, she rose to be the Administrative Director, the first woman to do so and in a position created for her.

In her “museum” years, Nancy worked on 340+ exhibits ranging from early man, 12,000 toy soldiers, Faberge art, and Napoleon’s personal possessions to poisonous frogs, Terra Cotta Warriors, and more. During her tenure, some 31 million people experienced NGS exhibitions. She has stories -- of being caught in a subterranean Maya temple in Honduras during an earthquake, of booking a seat to fly Henry VIII’s model wax head back to London, and more. When Alex Trebek, moderator of the National Geography Bee, first met her, he kissed her hand and sang “Short People Got to Reason to Live.”

Along with managing museum budgets, disaster planning, exhibition contracts, artifact loans, and overseeing the Society’s artifact collection, Nancy created the museum’s traveling exhibitions program, volunteer program, and the Society’s facilities rental program. She laughs when she says that three people were hired to take on her tasks after her 2010 retirement, so she helped the unemployment numbers!

Sailing is Nancy’s lifelong passion. Family summers were spent sailing competitively in Wisconsin. Her dad’s boat was sometimes called the “Floating Kindergarten” since the kids were often part of the crew and her Mom hoisted the spinnakers. She raced in several classes of inland scows (boats that can turn over). Twice, at age 18 and 38, she competed in the Adams Cup, a now-retired national sailing cup for women. She also taught sailing in Wisconsin and Annapolis. (continued page 4)



Spotlight (continued)

In 1991, Nancy was chosen to attend the prestigious Getty Museum Management Institute, a month-long course held in Berkeley, CA. There she made a close friend, who, 7 years later, introduced Nancy to a cousin, John—a sailor. And the rest is history. John and Nancy will celebrate their 20th Anniversary this April. They love sailing *Water Music*, a Catalina 355, on the Bay. In 2013 they moved to Annapolis from Chevy Chase and are members of Annapolis Yacht Club. They are active skippers in another sailing group, welcoming crew for weekend overnights when there is no COVID threat. They love traveling and plan more when it is safe. Nancy also enjoys gardening, birding, cooking, and dinner parties! She revels in her nieces, nephews, and their offspring to whom she is “Grancy”.

Nancy believes in volunteerism. She twice was president of a condominium in Chevy Chase, is a past member of the Junior League of Washington, and a past chair of the Chevy Chase Club Bowling Committee. She volunteers on the Education Committee of a sailing group. In the Garden Club of Annapolis, she is chair of the Sunshine Committee, served on the 2020 Nominating Committee, and is a past Secretary. In STC, she served as the 2018 Holly Ball’s Silent Auction Chair.

Nancy has two mottos, one from her high school -“I will find a way or make one”- and one from the city of Paris - “tossed by the waves, she does not sink”. She is eager to work with club members as we chart new opportunities.

Finance Committee Report

By Sharon Boettinger

On January 28, Finance Committee, Chairperson, Sharon Boettinger, presented a \$4000 check to Alice Estrada, Executive Director of the Annapolis Maritime Museum. Alice was extremely appreciative of this donation from our holiday fundraiser and generous club member donations. Sharon was able to get a “sneak peek” at the beautifully renovated facility. Alice will be the presenter at our March meeting.



Happy
Birthday!

FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS

Phyllis Peters

Sylvia Mitchell