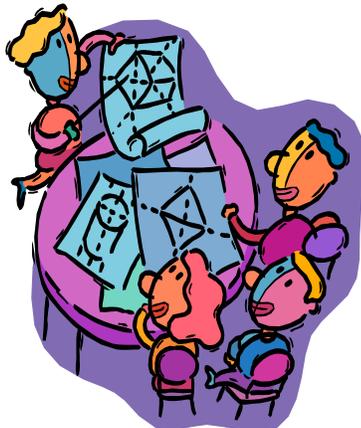


THE ATHENS VILLAGE VOICE



Annual meeting to replace Jan. 11th BBL



January 14 is the date of our second annual business meeting. It starts at 2 p.m. in Rooms B & C of the Community Center. Because of the date's proximity to the usual monthly Brown Bag Lunch (2nd Wednesday of each month, which would have been Jan. 11th), we are giving up the lunch so everyone will gain that time and be able to attend the business meeting.

As the illustration above indicates, the purpose of this meeting is hearing about the past (particularly the year just ending) and planning for the future. That planning will be based on information members will receive from committee reports (vetting, dues, transportation, public information, village-to-village, membership), specialized information (Advisory Council, ACVNA, The Athens Village director), and discussions of points brought up by the membership.

A four-minute cap on all reports and points of discussion will be enforced by President Ellsworth Holden so there will be time for everyone to be heard if he or she wishes to be. The meeting will last about one hour, but people can stay afterwards to have questions answered by or make suggestions to Board members. (The snow date in case of inclement weather has been set for Jan. 28, same time and place.)

Memo: Things to do before annual meeting

To help our annual business meeting be efficient and brief, there are things you could do. Here are a few:

- 1) Answer the every-member survey that was sent with this newsletter or earlier. Mail or take it to the Village office at ACVNA or bring it with you to turn in at the Jan. 14 meeting.
- 2) Give some thought to the direction you would like to see the Village take so you will be prepared with relevant questions as you hear the reports at the meeting.
- 3) Bring your calendar with you to the meeting or have it committed to memory so we can discuss whether we want to change the day and/or time of our monthly Brown Bag Lunch, or have the date vary month by month to try to meet as many schedules and be as inclusive as possible.

Calendar

Every Tuesday, 1 p.m., Informal lunch gathering of members & guests at Bob Evans Restaurant.

Every Tuesday, 10:30 a.m., Yoga, ACVNA.

Tu, Jan. 10, 10 a.m. Board meeting, ACVNA

Tu, Jan. 10, 3 p.m., Membership Committee meeting, ACVNA.

Sa, Jan. 14, 2 p.m., Annual business meeting, Community Center. (See story above.)

We, Jan. 25, 12 noon, Brown Bag special lunch to discuss survey results. Your reactions are very much needed.

Sa, Jan 28, 2 p.m. Snow date for Jan. 14.

Fr, Feb. 3, 3:30 p.m., VtV Research Committee, Cohn's house.



Welcome!

Jerry Reese is our newest member, thanks to Santa Claus, who colluded with Jerry's wife, Betty, who had joined last year. Now we are 96.



Golden Oldies

Pat Light will play and Norm Cohn will lead a sing-along after the business meeting on Jan. 14. Song sheets will give you the words. You bring your spirit and fun-loving self. Please stay after the meeting and enjoy the camaraderie.



THE ATHENS VILLAGE VOICE

The Athens Village Voice

is sent to you every month to catch you up on the who, what, when, where, why, and how of our Village. Your feedback is very welcome.

Dru Riley Evarts, editor.
Contact 592-1231 or
evarts@ohio.edu with ideas or suggestions.

For assistance, call

Patty Mercer, director, at ACVNA, 30 Herrold Ave., Athens, OH 45701, 594-8226, ext. 6 or 1-800-837-1112. (If no answer there, dial 0 and speak with an operator for assistance.) E-mail: pmercer@acvna.org. After hours (4:30 p.m. to 8 a.m.), call the answering service at 594-6259 or (if away from Athens) 1-800-649-8027. Web site: <http://www.theathensvillage.org> (use no spaces.)

Board of Directors

Ellsworth Holden, president
Margaret (Peg) Cohn,
vice president
Sue Foster, secretary
Cherie Gall, treasurer
Don Cooley
George Weckman

Save Wednesday, Jan. 25, for survey results review

It's not our regular Brown Bag Lunch day, but a special one to go over the results of our all-member survey. You will get reminders about this gathering - 12 noon, Wednesday, Jan. 25, ACVNA.

Sign up for a student helper as soon as you can

The deadline for signing up for a student helper from Ohio University's Family Ties and Aging winter quarter class is at hand. Students MUST have signed contracts between senior citizens and themselves handed in to the class instructor by Jan. 11, so let's help them by notifying Patty Mercer of our interests, so she can pass on the information to the departmental coordinator, Cathey Glenn.

The student would work with you on a project such as sorting, using your computer or other electronic gear, coordinating help you may need at home, meeting in the library to do projects, etc. They meet with their clients nine times for about two hours each time. The range of possible activities is broad, as long as the activity, the time, and the place can be agreed upon by the student, the Village member, and the course's instructor.

Patty Mercer spoke to this class at its first meeting on Jan. 4 to describe the makeup of The Athens Village and to answer students' questions. Glenn, who is interim director of the Gerontology Certificate Program of the Social and Public Health/Child and Family Studies of the College of Health Sciences and Professions, will directly supervise this program. She was in a similar program during her undergraduate days and fondly remembers what a wonderful opportunity it was to be able to work closely with her special senior citizen.

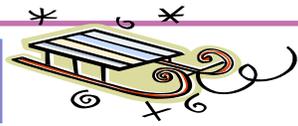
"After talking with these students individually, it is clear that they have a passion for working with the older adult population and are eager to participate in the service learning part of the course," Glenn said. "Working with members of The Athens Village will be a wonderful opportunity for them to learn more about older adults and to learn about family ties with their families, one another, and the community." She can be contacted at 593-1219 or glenn@ohio.edu.

Code of Regulations Committee Appointed

President Ellsworth Holden has appointed an ad hoc committee to review the Code of Regulations (our bylaws). Members include Sue Foster, chair; Ed Baum, Jean Drevenstedt, Max Evans, and Cherie Gall, along with Holden as an ex-officio member.

The most immediate concern of the new committee is to develop a path to amend and update the Code of Regulations as the organization ages and grows in membership.

An example of the need for this is the prospect of enlarging the Board of Trustees from seven to 11. Even though the present seven-member board supports this idea, we do not presently have a mechanism for achieving the change. Other needs for revision are bound to arise in the future. The new committee will define a definite procedure for identifying and accomplishing such changes.



Armchair travelers in Iceland



Jane Woodrow showed slides and reported on Iceland to the Armchair Travelers' December gathering.

One of the most amazing things she discussed was that Iceland has virtually no trees, except for a few very short, scrubby ones. Because of this, the usual housing materials with which we are familiar do not appear very often there. Instead, most dwellings are made of stone or concrete or a combination thereof.

Iceland is made up of one large mass plus a number of small islands. The Woodrows traveled there on a National Geographic tour. They like the NatGeo tours and have gone on one other—to the Galapagos.

Much of the transportation in Iceland is by boat or ship. When going from a location on one land mass that juts out into the sea to another one, one is likely to go by boat rather than along the roads, where the distance would be much greater.

Iceland has many varieties of birds. The NatGeo photographers took a great number of photos of birds, other wildlife, people, and general scenes. Each passenger was privileged to choose five shots to go into a set of trip photos on a souvenir CD. Our group enjoyed the CD very much, especially finding which of these beautiful photos were the choices of the Woodrows.

Congratulations to the Edgars

Eleanor Edgar turned 90 on Dec. 23, and Dick will be 91 on Jan. 8. Congratulations to both! They will celebrate by sitting in front of the fireplace and sharing their memories of a great life together. Dick continues to work on his book, *A People's Manifesto*, based on egalitarian rights. At press time, he was sending off a letter to the editor of *The Athens Messenger* in answer to William Beale's letter of Jan. 2, titled, "New Year's Resolutions for Athens." (See p. 4.)

Powell and Weckman have generous years of service

In our fourth month of highlighting the volunteer service of members of The Athens Village, the spotlight goes to Mary Lee Powell and George Weckman.

Mary Lee Powell retired in 2001 from her position of medical technologist in the College of Medicine. She had joined the Ohio Valley Summer Theater Board long before retirement (1994), for which she served as treasurer from 1998 through 2010 and as a costume shop stitcher 1990-2006.

She has served on the AAUW local board for 30 years and on its statewide board 2001-10. She is an active member of the Athens County League of Women Voters. She is on the Worship and Arts Committee and works as usher coordinator for Christ Lutheran Church. She also is a standardized patient for the College of Medicine.

After 43 years, **George Weckman** is now fully retired from Ohio University, the first three decades in the Philosophy Department and later teaching religion courses in the Classics and World Religions Department. Since 1955 he has been a church musician — in Philadelphia, Chicago, and finally Athens, where he has served the Christ Lutheran Church since 1968. He has performed in and sponsored concerts at his church, the School of Music, and his home.

He is the long-time treasurer and active performer in the Southeast Ohio Chapter of the American Guild of Organists. He also has provided music and has been a part-time resident at St. Augustine's House, a small Lutheran monastic community north of Detroit. He joined The Athens Village Board in May 2010. Now in his second year as president of the OU Emeriti Association, he has promised a third year. He is a Rotary member and a counselor for foreign students. Friends regularly dine at his home, and he often offers dinner parties there at auctions for charitable events.



Short Notes

WATH Interview: Patty Mercer and Ellsworth Holden were interviewed by Sandy Shirey on WATH on Jan. 3. The general subject was volunteerism, with an emphasis on what The Athens Village offers, both to people who want to volunteer and to those who need volunteer help.



Yoga, Anyone? Five members (Anne Braxton, Dru Riley Evarts, Sara Gilfert, Cynthia Love, and Betty Reese) have been enjoying Sylvia Marrs' chair yoga class. You need not have joined at the beginning to take advantage of this excellent opportunity for exercising mind and body. Marrs says new people can come in at any time. The group meets at 10:30 a.m. on Tuesdays, and works out for an hour. Very little special equipment is needed, and you can use some on hand if you choose not to get your own. Fee is \$5 per session.

High Society Jazz Jan. 22

The Athens High Society Jazz Association will start the New Year off with an afternoon of Dixieland music at Abrio's Restaurant, 859 East State St., 3:30 to 6 p.m., on Sunday, Jan. 22.

Yearly memberships are \$15/person, \$25/family. Single admission cost is \$3 for members, \$5 for nonmembers. Feel free to come and go as you please -- it's very accessible.

New Year's Resolutions a la William Beale

Our very own William Beale had a column in the "Our Home" section of *The Athens Messenger* on Jan. 2. Its main purpose was to suggest some New Year's resolutions for the Athens community—very interesting. You can find the piece by going to the *Messenger's* website — www.athensmessenger.com —if you are a subscriber or by calling their office at 592-6612 to get a copy..

Board regrets having to accept Penson resignation

Ed Penson, who joined The Athens Village Board October 2010, has tendered his resignation because of demands of his consulting organization (the Penson Firm), and family responsibilities.

Ed actually did very important work for The Village before he became a Board member in that he headed the strategic planning which began at our February 2010 planning retreat. He followed every element of it through to completion. He also headed the recent service provider vetting and otherwise guided the Board in decision-making and follow-up. He will be missed.

Lane's Corner: a monthly list of helpful hints

Happy New Year! The holiday season comes to an end as the new year begins. That means it's time to put your decorations and other holiday paraphernalia away. As you do this, remove all batteries. They are a fire hazard and also can corrode and harm your decorations. No matter what manufacturers say, all batteries are dangerous if not stored properly and disposed of correctly. Lowe's accepts batteries to be disposed of safely. If you find other stores that do, let Patty Mercer know.



Get your car ready now for winter weather. It should be checked out thoroughly by a qualified person at a garage that has the equipment for your make of car. Be sure they check the battery, and that its terminals have no corrosion. All fluids should be topped off. The windshield washer fluid should be winterized. Have them check all the tires for proper inflation (which is posted right on each tire), and be sure to check the spare tire. (Some technicians forget that.)

Be sure the safety kit for your car is outfitted and in your trunk or in the back seat (if you have the space) while you are on the road. If you slide into a snow bank on a wintry day, you may not be able to get into the trunk handily. Your kit should include first-aid equipment, matches, candles, snacks, bottles of water with enough space at the top to expand if they freeze, and similar essentials.