

# The Villager



monthly publication of Clayton Valley Village

November 2014, Vol.1, Issue 1

## Clayton Valley Village Gains Fiscal Sponsor

### Diablo Valley Foundation for the Aging Backs CVV

#### First Fundraiser Packs La Veranda in Clayton

Clayton Valley Village kicked off its fundraising effort with a dinner and silent auction at La Veranda restaurant in Clayton on October 26. More than 70 people from Clayton and Concord attended to meet the CVV start-up committee and learn more about the Village's progress over the past few months.

CVV members were outnumbered by newcomers who were there out of curiosity and to meet others who have become interested in the village movement.

Committee members Sonja Wilkin, Maria Xiaris, and Jim Whitfield each spoke briefly on the current state of the organization. The audience heard that Clayton Valley Village is the newest village in Contra Costa County, joining the Lamorinda village which is scheduled to start up in spring, 2015.

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**Welcome to the First Issue of  
The Villager! Visit our web  
site at [www.ClaytonValleyVillage.org](http://www.ClaytonValleyVillage.org)**

CVV celebrates its first and most important partnership. In August, Diablo Valley Foundation for the Aging and CVV signed a fiscal sponsorship contract, which will be overseen by the DVFA and its Executive Director, Robert Kain. CVV thus takes a leap forward as it continues in its development stage.



DVFA Executive Director Robert Kain and CVV Development Committee Chair Maria Xiaris

Diablo Valley Foundation for the Aging is a not-for-profit corporation providing community service to older adults in Contra Costa County since 1975 and has continued to be a leading agency in senior services.

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A village is also in the discussion phase in Walnut Creek. CVV is expected to be open for service to its members in 12 to 18 months



Sonja Wilkin updates the gathering at La Veranda.

CVV has taken a great step forward since garnering the fiscal sponsorship of the Diablo Valley Foundation for the Aging.

It wasn't all business, as the gathering enjoyed their choice of steak, salmon, or chicken, along with wine and dessert.

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Mary Rogers and Marilyn Wollenweber at the fundraising dinner.

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Founded by a group of community leaders including Dean S. Leshner, former publisher of the Contra Costa Times, and Katharine M. Grant, a social worker, the Foundation is committed to providing vital services to aging persons who are at risk because they are alone, isolated, pressed by financial problems, or are confused.

A key focus of DVFA is to prevent inappropriate institutionalization of elders by providing the necessary support to maintain them in the community with as much independence and freedom as possible. They offer four major service components: geriatric care management, personal assistants, a respite center for caregivers, and private fiduciary services.

During the period of sponsorship, CVV will be included under the DVFA 501c3, which affords CVV non-profit status.

“We are still at least a year away from opening, which will depend on our ability to raise the necessary funds to sustain our Village. We are pleased at the community support and enthusiasm we have received and feel sure we can achieve our goal,” Xiaris said.

**Clayton Village Goes to Washington**

Clayton Valley Village was well represented at the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual National Village Gathering, a three-day conference, Sept. 29-Oct. 1, in Washington D.C. CVV members Jim Whitfield, Sonja Wilkin, and Marilyn Wollenweber were there with nearly 280 other conferees.

The group had the opportunity to advocate with legislators on behalf of the Village movement and for a seat at the 2015 White House Conference on Aging.

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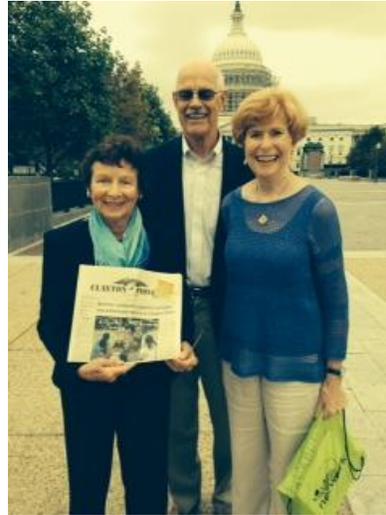
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They also had a chance to bid in the silent auction, which featured very attractive items donated by local residents and businesses. Among the biddables were a quilt, a rug, a week at a condo in Whistler, B.C., fine wines, coffee, paintings, a photography session, a restaurant certificate, a succulent garden-in-a-box, and numerous handcrafted items. The event raised over \$2,800 toward getting CVV up and running.



Becca and Gregg Kallenberger check the bid sheets at the silent auction. (Becca later won the quilt.)

The evening was organized by the CVV Outreach Committee: Sonja Wilkin, Sue Manning, Linda Pinder and Carol Riley, with assistance from Joe Aguilar, Gloria Utley, Jane Vidal, and Renee Arriaga. Local businesses contributing items were La Veranda, Julie Cheshire Photography, Fleury's Floor Coverings, R & M Pools, Peet's Coffee, and Clayton Frameworks. Event organizers thanked La Veranda for excellent food and service.



Sonja Wilkin, Jim Whitfield, and Marilyn Wollenweber in Washington.

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The three CVV reps attended various breakout sessions, splitting up in order to get as much information as possible on topics like business models and village expansion through neighborhood groups.

On the oDay on the Hill, they met with Rep. George Miller of the 11<sup>th</sup> California District. Later, they talked with a staff assistant to Sen. Diane Feinstein.

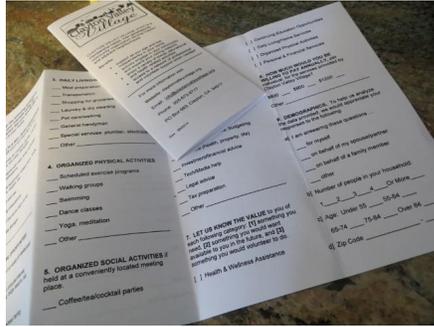
**The Villager** is a free, electronic publication of Clayton Valley Village. Editor, Gary Carr, (925) 672-8717, [carrpool@pacbell.net](mailto:carrpool@pacbell.net).

Editor welcomes all submissions and reserves the right to include or edit all material. Other publications are welcome to reprint any material herein with proper attribution, unless otherwise specified.

### General Questions or Comments about CVV?

Maria Xiaris  
Chair, The Clayton Village Initiative  
CVV Development Committee  
[mxiaris@yahoo.com](mailto:mxiaris@yahoo.com)

Clayton Valley Village is a 501c3 organization. Donations are tax-deductible. And welcome.



## First CVV Survey Launched

Studies by the National Village to Village Network show that every village is different, and each of the 100 existing villages (with more than that under development) must design its menu of programs and services to suit the specific needs of its members.

Clayton Valley Village is in the process of distributing a survey to determine what the potential members in its Clayton-Concord service area want from a village. What do they need now? What will they need down the road? What sort of dues are they comfortable paying?

The survey form, pictured above, has been sent to everyone who has attended meetings. The survey process will continue into the foreseeable future.

If funding can be raised, the committee anticipates mailing the survey to everyone in the targeted ZIP code areas. The survey was developed by the committee of Marilyn Wollenweber, Kathy Carr, Christine Jeffers, Nancy Hoffman, and Carol Riley.

To take the 5-minute survey, go to [www.ClaytonValleyVillage.org](http://www.ClaytonValleyVillage.org) and click on "CVV Survey." No computer? Call 925-672-8717.

## November 11 is CVV Election Day

Voting amongst CVV Development Committee Members will give the organization its first set of elected officials on November 11.

Positions to be filled include

- President
- President-Elect
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Two of three Director positions.

The third director slot goes automatically to Robert Kain of the Diablo Valley Foundation for the Aging, since DVFA is CVV's fiscal sponsor. Mr Kain will serve for three years. The other two Directors will serve one- and two-year terms. In 2016, a new Director will be elected for two years, thereby allowing for staggered terms and continuity.

## Join Your Village and Get Involved!

Do you want to **join in the planning** phase? Contact Maria Xiaris at [mxiaris@yahoo.com](mailto:mxiaris@yahoo.com) to learn about the various ways you can participate.

Do you want to **attend an event**? Contact Sonja Wilkin at [sonjawilkin@gmail.com](mailto:sonjawilkin@gmail.com).

Do you have a **talent or expertise** you are willing to share when Clayton Valley Village opens? Contact Sue Manning at [bsming@aol.com](mailto:bsming@aol.com).

We graciously accept **donations**, financial or in-kind. Contact Joe Aguilar at [javajoe51@yahoo.com](mailto:javajoe51@yahoo.com) for details.

## CVV By-Laws on the Way

Clayton Valley Village By-Laws are in final draft. Huge congratulations to Gloria Utley and Joe Aguilar for their tireless efforts in slogging through all the legalisms and coming up with a meaningful document that will pass muster with the IRS. By-laws are a crucial component for any organization applying for non-profit 501c3 designation. While waiting for their own 501c3, which could take over a year for a response from the IRS, CVV will be under the umbrella of its fiscal sponsor, the Diablo Valley Foundation for the Aging. Thank you, too, DVFA.

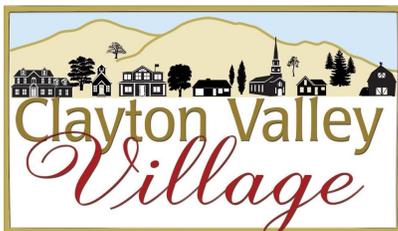
## Out and About...

Community outreach is a vital part of village activity. Currently, outreach is two-fold - spreading the word about the goals of CVV, and taking an active part in the life of the community. Recent activities include

Working in the kitchen at this year's AAUW Spaghetti Feed. Taking part in the Clayton Fourth of July Parade. Participating in the Clayton Cleans Up campaign. Staffing a wine booth at Clayton's Oktoberfest.

Giving presentations to the Sunrise Rotary Club, Clayton Women's Club, and Soroptimists. On November 17 CVV members will speak before the Clayton Chapter of AAUW. All this in addition to the General Public Meetings held at the Clayton Library.

Watch for those people in the blue T-shirts with the neat logo. (Thank you Carol Hansen-Gray.)



## Calendar of Events

### Meetings

**Nov. 11** (Tues.) 1:00 pm - Development Committee Meeting and Board Elections. Diamond Terrace Craft Room

**Nov. 12** (Wed.) - 7:00 pm New Volunteer Orientation

**Nov. 20** (Thurs.) 1:00 pm - Programs and Services Committee Meeting

### Workshops

**Nov 18** (Tues.) 8:00 am to 4:00 pm

*"Our Aging Nation, 2014"*

Pleasant Hill Community Center, 320 Civic Drive, PH.

Contact: Karen Barnes-Jarvis (925)382-5827; Register:

<http://tinyurl.com/OurAgingNation2014>

## CVV in the Community

**Nov.17** (Mon.) to 7:30 pm. Villages Presentation to AAUW. Diamond Terrace.

### Bocce

The mighty CVV team, *Bocce Villaggio*, drops the palino every Monday night at 6:30. Bonnie Slatkin is Capo. Come by the Clayton Bocce Complex, cheer them on, and plan on joining Bocce Villaggio next season.

## Check out CVV on YouTube

Christine Jeffers, Jim Whitfield and Marilyn Wollenweber talk about the Village Concept. Google Clayton Valley Village to find it.

# Who's Who in CVV...



Development Committee Members. Front: Joe Aguilar, Marilyn Wollenweber, Jim Whitfield, Maria Xiaris, Kathy Carr, Seila the Service Dog. Back: Carol Riley, Sonja Wilkin, Christine Jeffers, Sue Manning, Nancy Hoffman, Gary Carr.



Development Committee members Christine Jeffers and Gloria Utley.



Capo Bonnie Slatkin puts Bocce Villaggio ahead.