



Avenidas  
Village

# VOICE

AVENIDAS VILLAGE

450 Bryant Street

Palo Alto, CA 94301

(650) 289-5405

[www.avenidasvillage.org](http://www.avenidasvillage.org)

## Inside this issue:

Low Income Membership Drive Update 2

Special Interest Group Focus: Writers' Groups 3

ICYMI: Village Events in November & December 4 - 5

January & February Vistas Lecture Series 6

Member News 7

JANUARY Events Listing 8

FEBRUARY Events Listing 9

January-February 2023

## Avenidas Village Annual Meeting January 9th

One of the key concepts of the Village is that it belongs to its members. The Village Advisory Council, made up of Village members, meets regularly throughout the year to develop the programs and strategies that will help support you to live independently in your home. But in January each year we hold an Annual Meeting open to all members. This special meeting is your chance to meet your representatives on the Advisory Council and Village staff, to review existing Village activities and programs, and to ask questions or provide your input on current or potential Village offerings and benefits.

This year's Annual Meeting will be of particular interest. We will review the Village programs and benefits that have been used and promoted over the past year. We will discuss our membership and marketing efforts and strategies, and will review areas of growth and member engagement such as our Special Interest Groups.

We look forward to reviewing all of this with you and looking ahead together to the coming year. And of course we have accomplishments to

celebrate as well!

**The Annual Meeting will be held in-person at 450 Bryant Street in the Avenidas Lounge. We will also provide an option to view the meeting remotely via Zoom Webinar to enable those who don't wish to gather to participate as well.** Please note that if attending remotely you will have limited ability to interact/contribute to the discussion but will be able to type in questions or comments.

Those attending in person will also be able to enjoy a wine and cheese social hour following the meeting!

There will be ample time during the session for you to ask questions or give your feedback about your Village experience. This will be an important time of conversation that will help the Village leadership team learn more about how the Village can continue to support you and help you stay healthy, connected and engaged no matter what is going on outside. We look forward to seeing you there!

**(For full details, please go to the Events Listing on p. 8 or click [here](#) to register)**

### AVENIDAS VILLAGE ANNUAL MEETING

Monday, January 9th at 3:00 pm

Avenidas Lounge or watch on ZOOM

Followed by Wine & Cheese Reception

**Open to All Members—Please Join Us!**

**Call (650) 289-5405 or email [dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)**

## Avenidas Village Low Income Membership Fund Drive Update

It gives me great pleasure to announce that donations to the Village's Lower Income Membership Fund totaled **\$27,650** during the fourth quarter, **allowing us to take full advantage of Bill Reller's generous matching fund grant of \$25,000**. It is particularly gratifying that we received 65 donations representing 88 individual and household members, since that demonstrates a widespread willingness to support this important Village initiative.

**Why do we need a separate fund for this?** Our parent organization, Avenidas, sets the amount of our membership fees at a level that is expected to cover our fixed expenses as an Avenidas program, primarily staff salaries and an allocated share of facility overhead expenses. Other discretionary Village expenses, like the handyman and tech support benefits and the part-time social events coordinator have historically been covered by the tax-deductible donations of a relatively small number of generous members, with the money held in a "reserve fund" that the Village controls.

When we introduced the Lower Income Membership Fee as an experiment a couple of years ago, it enabled us to reduce by 50% the Village membership fees for those households whose annual incomes fall below \$60,000, the HUD threshold for "very low income" in our high cost-of-living area. Our goal was not to change the fundamental character of the Village, but rather to broaden its appeal within our local communities. The members and prospective members who qualify for the reduction are our friends and neighbors who, like most of us, want to age-in-place in homes and neighborhoods they have lived in for years. Those homes may have increased greatly in value, but for those living on a relatively fixed income, the reduced membership fee makes the Village a more affordable option for helping them achieve their goal of aging-in-place. But each reduced membership fee creates a 50% shortfall in the calculation that Avenidas uses to set our basic membership fee, so the Village needs to compensate for that shortfall by transferring additional funds to Avenidas. **Those funds come from our Lower Income Membership Fund, which now, for the first time, has enough money held in reserve to ensure the longer-term financial viability of the program for the next couple years.**

This is a significant achievement for the Village, and gives us the confidence to publicize its availability more widely through existing Avenidas communications channels and through word-of-mouth from our members. **If you have friends or neighbors who might benefit from the reduced membership fee, please let them know about its availability and encourage them to contact Erika Thomas for additional information.**

Chuck Sieloff, Avenidas Village Advisory Council.



## Village Special Interest Group Highlight—Writers' Groups

Currently we have 2 writing groups within the Village. One focuses on memoir writing and the other shares a variety of styles and genres. Each group is limited in size so that every member can contribute and discuss their writing. The groups choose their meeting format—one likes Zoom and one meets in person. If you are a writer and would like to start or join a new writing group, the Village can help you—just let us know! For inspiration, please enjoy this poem shared by Kay Culpepper, a member of Writers' Group 2.

*I want to officially resign from adulthood.*

*I want smashed bananas stirred into melted vanilla ice cream...*

*And salted peanuts dropped into a Coca-Cola bottle instead of a slice of lime in a bottle of Corona.*

*Go barefoot May 1st!*

*I want a peanut butter sandwich on cinnamon bread stuffed with raisins!*

*And toasted marshmallows on an oak stick by the fire at the beach.*

*I want someone (Daddy, most likely) to pick me up from the spacious back seat of the old car where no seat belts existed and carry sleeping me into my own little bed at home and tuck me in.*

*I want to have a race with sticks rushing down a mountain stream and hope that my stick wins and doesn't get stuck in a whirlpool or run aground—*

*I want to beach comb all day at St. Teresa on the Gulf of Mexico and build a huge drip castle covered with beautiful shells and get sunburned and not care.*

*I want to eat hot boiled peanuts bought by the roadside where they are cooking in a great kettle and feel the hot sweet salty juice spurt into my mouth when I crack them open with my teeth.*

*I want to play paper dolls with my cousin Pat, and know that— even if one of our characters breaks a leg or has a fight with a friend—that when Mama says "It's time to pick up your paper dolls." that will be the worse thing that ever happened all day.*

*I want to fall asleep under a wild, fragrant crabapple tree in a meadow again with my first true love and know what it is to be perfectly, supremely, happy.*

*I don't want to lose my glasses, my car keys, or my driver's license again, because I won't have any!*

*I already think money is only important if you need something and I will continue to believe that apple blossoms, roses, new leaves with fur and, oh! Chocolate are better.*

*Poem by Kay Culpepper*



## ICYMI: Village Social Events in November

### Lunch Bunch at Pacific Catch, November 9 & November 22



**11/9:** Sandy & Len Weiss, Shelley Hatfield, Richard Glendening, Kayleen Miller, Mary & Jacques Fossourier, Bruce & Ellie Heister, Jerry & Donna Silverberg, Barbara Franklin, Larry Phelan

**Not Pictured 11/22:** Chuck Sieloff, Peter Danner, Jane Stender, Richard Johnsson, Deborah Plumley, Ginny Turner, Susan Downs, Judith Fields

### San Francisco Day Trip—Diego Rivera at SF MOMA



**24 Villagers** enjoyed a day out in the City starting with Mexican lunch at Tropisueno Taqueria, a short walk away from SF MOMA. At the museum we toured the Diego Rivera exhibition and if we had time, sneaked peeks at some of the other exhibits on multiple floors of the museum. *Attended by: Kathleen Gordon, Chris Holt, Shelley Hatfield, Len & Sandy Weiss, Diana Collins, Stu & Carol Hansen, Bruce & Ellie Heister, Marilyn Smith, Peter Danner, Jane Stender, Chris & Jessie Holombo, Jacques & Mary Fossourier, Merele McClure, Ingrid Kallman, Lucile Spurlock, Judi Keyani, June Schiller & Trudy Reagan*



## ICYMI: Village Social Events in December

### Lunch Bunch at Café Pro Bono, December 8 & December 20



**12/8:** Kathleen Gordon, Richard Glendening, Chuck Sieloff, Len & Sandy Weiss, Diana Collins, Jacques & Mary Fossourier, Ginny Turner, Chris & Jessie Holombo, Dick Smallwood, Alice Kozar, Rita Mundis, Bob Aulgur *(photo by Alice Kozar)*

**12/20:** Susan Downs, Chris Holt, Richard Johnsson, Barbara Franklin, Judi Keyani, Bruce & Ellie Heister, Eleanor & Mike Willemssen, Carolyn Curtis, Kayleen Miller, Deborah Plumley, Jeanette & Hal Guthart



### Avenidas Village Holiday Party, December 16 at 450 Bryant St



### Village Walkers & Carolers Christmas Lights Walk, December 21



23 Villagers did their pre-holiday Wednesday Walk to Fulton Street (Palo Alto's "Christmas Tree Lane") with singing on the evening of December 21st. The Village Carolers led in song and pace by Deborah Clark and included her, Janet Constantinou, Drew Oman, Ed Haertel, and Richard Glendening. They had rehearsed and provided song sheets to others of us. Pat Sanders provided small cups of eggnog to everyone prior to the walk to get us in the mood. Ralph Cahn made sure we stayed together and made it across Embarcadero road coming and going. *(photo by Ralph Cahn)*

## Vistas Lecture Series—January & February Webinars!

### January 13 Vistas: “Non-Financial Retirement Planning” with Villager Lyn Christenson

#### What is nonfinancial retirement planning?

Financial advisors call it “the most overlooked part of retirement planning.” Your retirement could last 30 years. Beyond money, how will you invest your time? Learn about new work options, engaging volunteering, maintaining a healthy lifestyle, building a personal legacy and more.



**Lyn Christenson** is an Avenidas Village member and founder of Retirement Linkages. Lyn is a certified retirement coach and leads workshops on memoir writing and nonfinancial retirement planning. She holds coaching certifications from Retirement Options and Hudson Institute. For more information visit [www.retirementlinkages.com](http://www.retirementlinkages.com).

***This Vistas program is open to members and guests, please feel free to share with your friends!***

**Friday, January 13th at 11:00 AM on ZOOM—Register online or email [dgreen-blat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreen-blat@avenidas.org)**

### February 24 Vistas: “Day Worker Center of Mountain View” with Maria Marroquin



The Day Worker Center of Mountain View is a non-profit organization that connects the day worker community to employers in a safe and reliable environment in addition to offering various programs for workers and community members such as providing healthy meals, ESL classes, technology classes, providing workshops about worker's rights and much more. Our vision is a world of diverse communities where day laborers live with full rights and responsibilities in an environment of mutual respect, peace and harmony.

Serving Mountain View and surrounding communities since 1996, workers offer help with a wide variety of jobs.

**María Marroquín** serves as Executive Director for the Day Workers' Center of Mountain View, and as Treasurer of the Board of Directors of NDLO (National Day Labor Organizing Network). María oversees day-to-day operations at the center and serves as liaison with local employers and the community. Her passion is to empower workers to become members of the community. María is also a graduate of the center's programs.

**Friday, February 24th at 11:00 AM on ZOOM—Register online or email [dgreen-blat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreen-blat@avenidas.org)**

## Member Birthdays—January

Pamela Hardy	1/1	Suzanne Holland	1/10	Geri Albers	1/24
Jefferson Bender	1/2	Tom Sanders	1/10	Maria Bartelt	1/24
Ron Wilensky	1/3	Charles Thompson	1/10	Ernest Lieberman	1/24
Jean Thompson	1/4	Robert Brown	1/13	Judi Keyani	1/25
Jo Mintzer	1/5	Sarah Pribble	1/13	Kay Culpepper	1/26
Kate Lorig	1/6	Stanley Samuels	1/15	Eric Stietzel	1/26
Jon Barkhurst	1/8	Robert Ruether	1/18	Rosemary McGuire	1/27
Carolyn Kwiatek	1/9	Ann Rando	1/19	Deborah Rose	1/27
Robert Lipschutz	1/9	Mary Awbrey	1/20	Cheryl Holt	1/29
Mary Martinson	1/9	Richard Glendening	1/22	Alan Herzig	1/30
Peter Danner	1/10	Tashia Morgridge	1/23	Harry Turner	1/30
				Cindy Patrick	1/31

## Member Birthdays—February

Kathleen Gordon	2/1	Pat Landman-Herriot	2/9	Jeanie Siegman	2/22
Frank Ingle	2/1	Anne Colby	2/10	Sue Althouse	2/24
Ingrid Kallman	2/1	Barbara Franklin	2/11	Gloria Mason	2/24
Arthur Stern	2/3	Gwendolyn Sweeney	2/13	Ruth Terrill	2/25
Shirley Finrock	2/4	Kathleen Dugan	2/17	Maxine Tucker	2/26
Elizabeth Fisher	2/5	Chuck Sieloff	2/18	John Varady	2/26
Kate Mouton	2/6	David Fryberger	2/22		

## Welcome New Members!

***For more detail on new and long-term members, log into the Village members' website and access the member directory. Many members have added their personal information and photos so you can learn more about them! If you have not yet added your own bio and photo, please do so, or contact the Village office for assistance.***

### Welcome to...

Lucile Spurlock (Menlo Park/8)  
 Rita Mundis (Menlo Park/8)  
 Susan Downs (Downtown Palo Alto/6)  
 Betsy & George Bechtel (Old Palo Alto/7)  
 Regina Silbert (Downtown Palo Alto/6)

### Reason for Joining

Social connections, resources  
 Social connections, future planning  
 Social connections, future planning  
 Future planning, resources  
 Social connections, future planning

***In Memoriam: Bob Gee 11/2022***



**Please Note: Registration is Required for all In-Person Events**

**Friday, January 6 & Friday, January 20 at 4:00 PM**

**Friday Happy Hour Social on Zoom**

*Pour a glass of wine or a cup of tea and toast your Village friends! Enjoy an hour of relaxed, casual conversation and perhaps a thought-provoking question or two. Afterward, members may gather at a local "watering hole" or member home for in-person Happy Hour!*

**FREE**—Register online or email [dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)

**Monday, January 9 & Monday, January 23 at 10:00 AM**

**Guided Meditation on Zoom led by Sabrina Huang**

*Join Sabrina for a 30 min guided meditation session. Relax and de-stress!*

**FREE**—Register online or email [dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)

**Monday, January 9 at 3:00 PM**

**IN-PERSON EVENT—AVENIDAS VILLAGE ANNUAL MEETING—All Members Welcome!**

*Join us to review the past year and share your thoughts about Village programs! Enjoy a wine & cheese social following the meeting.*

Avenidas Lounge, 450 Bryant St  
OR watch on Zoom

**FREE**—Register online or email [dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)

**Thursday, January 12 & Tuesday, January 24 at 11:45 AM**

**(Please choose ONE date)**

**IN-PERSON EVENT—Lunch Bunch at Mama Coco Cocina Mexicana, Menlo Park**

*Enjoy delicious Mexican cuisine at this local favorite! Covered outdoor patio seating with heaters. View menu: <https://mama-coco.com/menu/>*

1081 El Camino Real, Menlo Park

**\$30-\$35/person, please bring cash!—Register online or email**

[dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)

**Friday, January 13 at 11:00 AM**

**Vistas Lecture Series—Zoom Webinar: "Non-Financial Retirement Planning" with Villager Lyn Christenson (Details p. 6)**

**FREE**—Register online or email [dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)

**Wednesday, January 18 at 1:00 PM**

**Zoom Special Presentation "Whiskeytown and the Northern Diggins" by Whiskeytown National Recreation Area, CA**

*Upon the discovery of gold along Clear Creek, CA, Whiskeytown saw it all, from gold panning and miners from all over the world to classic hardrock mine shafts and boom towns. Together, we will explore the history of mining, how it happened, who the miners were and if the search for gold ever stopped. **FREE**—Register online or email [dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)*

**Tuesday, January 31 at 10:30 AM**

**IN-PERSON EVENT: Museum of American Heritage Docent Tour**

*Take a trip down memory lane and check out an extensive collection of antiques right in downtown Palo Alto! Current exhibit: Around the World: A Collection of Vintage Global Artifacts plus recreations of an 18th century kitchen, general store, print shop and more! After our docent-led tour, take a 6 minute walk to Peninsula Creamery for lunch (optional)!*

351 Homer Avenue, Palo Alto

**\$5/person for docent tour, please bring cash! Lunch is individual pay.**

**15 spots available—Register online or email [dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)**



**Friday, February 3 & Friday, February 17 at 4:00 PM**

**Friday Happy Hour Social on Zoom**

*Pour a glass of wine or a cup of tea and toast your Village friends! Enjoy an hour of relaxed, casual conversation and perhaps a thought-provoking question or two. Afterward, members may gather at a local "watering hole" or member home for in-person Happy Hour!*

**FREE**—Register online or email [dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)

**Tuesday, February 7 at 9:30 AM**

**IN-PERSON EVENT: San Francisco Day Trip "Ramses the Great & the Gold of the Pharaohs" exhibit at the de Young**

*This state-of-the-art exhibition features the greatest collection of Ramses II objects and Egyptian jewelry ever to travel to the United States. Along with the pharaoh's colossal royal sculpture, the exhibition highlights recently discovered animal mummies and treasures from the royal tombs of Dahshur and Tanis. Virtual Reality Experience plus self-guided tour of the exhibit followed by lunch at the De Young Café.*

Meet at Cubberley Community Center, 4000 Middlefield Rd, Palo Alto

**\$120/person, includes VR experience, museum admission and bus transportation.**

**Lunch is individual pay.**

**14 spots available**—Register by January 22 or email [dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)

**Monday, February 13 & Monday, February 27 at 10:00 AM**

**Guided Meditation on Zoom led by Sabrina Huang**

*Join Sabrina for a 30 min guided meditation session. Relax and de-stress!*

**FREE**—Register online or email [dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)

**Monday, February 13 & Thursday, February 23 at 11:45 AM (please choose ONE date)**

**IN-PERSON EVENT: Chinese New Year Banquet at Chef Chu's**

*Start your Lunar New Year right with a delicious Chinese feast at historic local favorite Chef Chu's!*

1067 N San Antonio Road, Los Altos

**\$46/person, includes tax, tip and non-alcoholic beverages**

**Wednesday, February 15 at 1:00 PM**

**Zoom Special Presentation: "Contemporary Arts on the Silk Road" by Inner Asian & Uralic National Resource Center (Indiana University)**

*This presentation explores the post-colonial and post-Soviet interpretations and influences on contemporary art in Central Eurasia. Beginning with a discussion on Orientalism and using examples from contemporary Iran, Kazakhstan, and Mongolia, we hope to emphasize that there are many new ways that the artistic and political legacies of the Silk Road continue to be expressed.*

**FREE**—Register Online or email [dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)

**Friday, February 24 at 11:00 AM**

**Vistas Lecture Series—Zoom Webinar: "Day Worker Center of Mountain View" with Maria Marroquin, Director (Details p. 6)**

**FREE**—Register online or email [dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)



Avenidas  
Village

450 Bryant Street  
Palo Alto, CA 94301  
(650) 289-5405

[www.avenidasvillage.org](http://www.avenidasvillage.org)

Erika Thomas, Director  
[ethomas@avenidas.org](mailto:ethomas@avenidas.org)

Dawn Greenblat, Member  
Services Manager  
[dgreenblat@avenidas.org](mailto:dgreenblat@avenidas.org)

Chuck Sieloff, AVAC Co-  
Chair  
[chuck.sieloff@gmail.com](mailto:chuck.sieloff@gmail.com)

Marcie Brown, AVAC Co-  
Chair  
[marcie@brown-family.com](mailto:marcie@brown-family.com)

Village  
Office  
Closed

Monday  
January 2  
New Year's  
Day

Monday  
January 16  
MLK Day

Monday  
February 20  
Presidents'  
Day

## New Vendors Added to our Vendor List

### Denise Michaud—Independent Insurance Broker

Denise has been an insurance broker focusing on long term care insurance for the last 30 years. Her advisory work with the California Department of Health Care Services and California Senate Sub-Committee on Aging brings a respected level of planning expertise to her clients. Denise can review existing insurance for LTC and Life and advise on suitable policies if looking for a new one. Village members will receive one free session with Denise. Services Include: Financial Advice/Planning, Health Insurance, Long Term Care Insurance

Contact: (650) 678-2799/[deniseltc@yahoo.com](mailto:deniseltc@yahoo.com)



### AsKevin In-Home Computer Assistance

AsKevin is your personal digital coach and tech support. Yes, we will fix your phones and laptops, but we can also make sure all your different applications work on your computer, phone or in the cloud. Avenidas Village member receive special

pricing. Digital Life Checkup \$35 (regular \$99), Peace of Mind Membership \$30 per month (regular \$35 per month), and Large Tech Project \$180 an hour (regular \$199 an hour).

Contact: (650) 733-9898/[kevin@askevin.com](mailto:kevin@askevin.com) Website: [www.askevin.com](http://www.askevin.com)



### Best Epoxy LLC—Concrete Repair & Decorative Concrete Finishes

Best Epoxy LLC provides concrete repair, concrete polish decorative Epoxy coating and decorative concrete finishes. They have been in the trade for over 17 years. Avenidas Village Members will receive a 15% discount.

Contact: [\(650\) 669-4376](tel:6506694376) Website: [www.bestepoxyllc.com](http://www.bestepoxyllc.com)

