

Exercising our spirits and minds

The last months of 2020 were even more challenging than last spring as we faced two holidays in rapid succession that were significantly impacted by the pandemic. Our spirits were lightened as we saw the many ways we all found to connect and celebrate.

Christmas would not be complete without dreams of sugar cookies. Our board delivered to members a little Christmas Cookie surprise just prior to our December meeting for members to enjoy. Baked by our local bakery, Lux Sucre, they were delicious!

Our December event was a special holiday performance by Basso a Deux, just to get us in the right frame of mind. Andrea Vorvick (vocal) and husband Paul (upright bass) started the duo with jazz and blues standards but as they continued to develop their unique, stripped -down style, they moved away from traditional jazz and started arranging and performing swing versions of classic rock tunes. One voice accompanied only by upright bass, bringing listeners fresh songs. We enjoyed festive holiday tunes including holiday classics, carols, and some very merry originals.

CWA continues to connect its members in a weekly walking group. Members can show up at 1pm every Monday in the parking lot in front of the Charbonneau Salon and Curry's Restaurant (rain or shine!). We all bring our masks and use them when the layout of the landscape pushes us too closely together. With the Red golf course closed to golfing for the winter, we have added that walking loop to our strolls.

On Monday January 11th CWA featured Charlotte Lehan who has titled her presentation as "Myths and Milestones in Wilsonville and Charbonneau History; Chapter 1". Charlotte Lehan is a Wilsonville City Councilor, former County Commissioner, former three-term mayor, and a fourth generation Wilsonville resident. She has degrees in Human Development and completed graduate studies in Urban Geography. Local history has always been an interest for her, and she has truly delved into her subject. She began her presentation by pointing out the importance of examining historical information: who is telling the story? Whose story is left out (that translated into Native Americans, women, and Chinese settlers as well). We learned about how Ice Age flooding scoured out the paths that then became the portals for trails, landing points for ferries, and ultimately our local communities connected by freeways and bridges. Stay tuned for "Chapter 2" by Charlotte Lehan at a future CWA even where we will learn more about the communities and the pioneers.

This month our speaker for the February 8th event will be Judy Alleruzzo from Al's Garden & Home. Judy is the Perennial and Houseplant Buyer for Al's and is also the co-host of the Garden Time TV show. Judy has an Ornamental Horticulture degree as well as a wealth of experience. She will give our Charbonneau gardeners valuable information on early spring bloomers, container gardens, and how to get started this Spring.

Information about CWA may be found on our web site www.CWACharbonneau.com.