

We are excited to be planning our next year's programs and hope that you will join us with your friends on September 13, 2021 for our luncheon currently being planned, "See you in September at the CWA Homecoming". The program committee has been busy arranging speakers and entertainment for next year. Watch for information regarding our 2021-22 membership or visit us at the Newcomer's event on August 13th for information.

By the way, if you missed any of last year's Zoom programs and want to listen to them, we have made them available on our web site @ www.CWACHarbonneau.com.

Over the summer, I am sharing with you a little about our board members who volunteer to keep our organization thriving. This is a continuation from last month and we will finish with the September article.

Our past President will co-chair our 2021 Christmas Event with her friend Anne Shevlin. In fact, that is how Lee Harker's Charbonneau story began. She and Steve visited Anne and Bill and fell in love with Charbonneau. They have now found themselves back in a neighborhood after several years of rural living and they love being part of our neighborhood. Lee was a neonatologist doctor taking care of sick newborns in the NICU. After 37 years of night calls and sleep deprivation she retired. Her intense need for learning must have started young. Lee would "run away" to school when she was only 4 years old, she wanted to go to school so badly. The school would call her mother and tell her, "Lee's here again". Finally, her mother gave up and put her in a private school so she could start school early. Lee has two children of her own and 2 step children. Lee and Steve have been married 15 years. She loves gardening, scrapbooking, bridge and knitting.

A very critical role especially this last year with Zoom meetings is our Communications chairman, Elaine Swyt. Many of you probably know her as she is involved in just about all of the Charbonneau activities. Her knowledge of the web is remarkable and appreciated by so many in our neighborhood. Elaine came to Charbonneau when she and her husband Joe decided to retire. Her parents were not well and needed help on their Salem farm. Her parents are with the angels now, but they had some precious time together before they passed away. Truth be told, Elaine really never retired. After 20 years finding talent for large international companies, she ended that career in senior management in employment and communications. She has now been a web developer and designer for 25 years. Unlike what most think, Elaine is a shy person who does not crave work, but enjoys helping others with her useful knowledge and talent. Elaine and Joe have been married 33 years. She is a step mom to his 3 sons and Gramma to 3. Elaine's fantasy is to travel the rest of her days and develop her passion as a photography artist.

Laura Curran did not have much to do as our wine purchaser last year so she took on the sunshine chair and started the Monday @ 1pm walking group. Laura and Bob moved to Charbonneau from West Linn in 2014 as their good friends had settled here. They too wanted the opportunity for an active retirement lifestyle. In 2019, they had a brief inspiration to move to Arizona, but decided to stay here. They now are in their second home and glad they stayed. Laura was a special educator since 1975 working with a variety of programs and age groups. She retired from West Linn Wilsonville school district in 2015. Her two daughters and granddaughters are the highlights of her life, although one family is in Brooklyn and the other in Laguna Hills. She thanks Facetime and Zoom for helping her to stay in touch.

Kathy Fisher & Robin Gowdy were our 2021 Fashion show co-chairs. Our show in 2021 became virtual so the task was minimal. Kathy and Robin helped us then and have agreed to do the show next May, 2022. This year Kathy jumped in at the last moment to be a model when someone was under the weather. Her grandson brought Kathy here after she retired. She says' she had too many back and forth trips form LA to Oregon. Kathy has traveled the world many times due to her previous businesses in real estate and interior design. Her life since moving here has slowed down in a very positive way and has allowed her to explore new pleasures such as Mahjongg and pickleball. The new friends she has made in Charbonneau have been beyond her expectations.

Hopefully, you will hear about Anne Shevlin and Robin Gowdy next month.

Our theme this month is "Savor". My first thought was friendship, but I reviewed last year's article to find that we wrote about friendship last year. My next thought, especially because many of our summer activities were curtailed last year, is that summer is something I savor. Everything around us is flourishing, the birds are singing, plants and trees are giving fruit, flowers are blooming with bright bold colors and there is an amazing smell in the air. We have longer days to enjoy more time outdoors with concerts, swim parties and BBQ's with friends and family to make memories that last a lifetime. May your summer hold special pleasures and meanings for you.