

Barbecues and fireworks, flags, and parades, Independence Day evokes so many images of the American summer. It's time to celebrate the birth of the American nation in 1776 with festivities to celebrate the freedoms that the accomplishments of American Independence has allowed.

The CWA year ended our year with a joint board meeting of the 2020-21 and 2021-22 board members with brunch in Lee Harker's lovely garden. The weather was cool, but the friendship was warm with the ability to meet together after a long spell due to COVID.

We are excited to be planning our next year's programs and hope that you will join us and your friends September 13, 2021 for our luncheon (hopefully) event. 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'd like to share with you a little about our board members.

Our current treasurer, Lindy Anderson has served in this capacity for several years. Lindy was born and raised in Oregon City. She moved to Charbonneau in 2005 after retiring from being General Manager of the Mallory Hotel for 39 years. She has 2 daughters, 1 son, 6 grandchildren, and was married for 38 years. Her husband passed away in 2013. You have probably seen Lindy in other capacities in Charbonneau as she was a Charbonneau Country Club board member, is currently on the Charbonneau Arts Association board, and she works at the golf Club. Besides being behind the desk she is the wedding coordinator and in charge of the tournaments. As you might have guessed, she loves being involved in every aspect of Charbonneau. She plays Bridge, Mah Jongg, Pinochle, Bunco and Pitch. Lindy will be serving this last year as treasurer before she takes on the presidency in 2022-23.

Pat Tewell recently joined our board to shadow Lindy Anderson. She will serve as co-Treasurer this year. Pat moved to Charbonneau with her husband, Mike in December of 2004 to be closer to family. She loves the beauty, greenery, and the wonderful Charbonneau community. She has a banking background and worked for the City of Salem as a Financial Councilor and Compliance Officer for 31 years. Pat has also served on the Charbonneau Country Club board, as well as Ladies Niners, Salem-Keizer Schools and City of Keizer Budget committees, Board of Directors Keizer Little League and Keizer Junio Miss Scholarship Committee. Pat enjoys golf, aerobics, Zumba, bunco, pitch, and pinochle.

Claudia deVries will serve as secretary. Claudia was a computer system analyst for an electrical utility in Washington until she retired in 1999. She was an avid downhill skier for 35 years. For six years she and her husband spent 3 to 4 months each winter living in a village at Big White Ski Resort in British Columbia. She said, it was like a wintertime version of Charbonneau. Lots of friends, and things to do. She enjoyed it while she could. Unfortunately, she had to retire from skiing a few years ago due to a skiing injury. After living in Puyallup WA for 40+ years, they moved to Charbonneau in 2015 to be near their 13 year old grandson so that they could be part of his life. She loves living in a resort community with so many activities and where she has met so many wonderful people and gained many new friends.

Our membership committee will be co-chaired by Paula Johnson and Cathy Renken. Paula is a native Oregonian and primarily grew up in the Beaverton area. After 30 years in her Beaverton home, it was time to downsize to a home more suited for her after her husband passed away. She plans for this to be her forever home (or as she fondly refers to as her "toe tag" home – going out with a tag on her toe). Charbonneau ticked all the boxes and she moved to the Louvonne neighborhood in April 2018.

Ironically, she worked for 42 years for Tektronix/Xerox in a variety of positions and commuted to the Wilsonville campus for over 35 years. What began as an easy commute, became grueling by the time she retired in 2015. Charbonneau is such an active community and she has been able to be as involved and as active as she has chosen to be. So far, she has been active with the CWA, the Solo Sisters, the Niners (social group), her HOA Board, plus the Knotty Knitters, a lovely group of women she knits with weekly (Zoom for now). Before everything shut down, she was starting to learn Mah Jongg and hopes to pick that back up soon. She did not have children, so no grandchildren but enjoys her fur baby, Daphne she adopted a year ago.

Cathy Renken moved to Charbonneau 2 ½ years ago with her husband, Richard. They had played golf here and were looking for the perfect home in our community. Cathy worked at the Child Development and Rehabilitation Center at OHSU. She founded and directed a community-based care coordination program for children with special health needs. She had the privilege of working with dedicated public health nurses throughout the state who assisted families to find services. Cathy and Richard have two married children and one 8 year old granddaughter. They enjoy their home, neighborhood, and all the friendly people who love here. In addition to golf, Cathy enjoys walking, quilting, and the variety of great activities in Charbonneau. Of course, her favorite past time is playing with her granddaughter.

Next month I will feature more of our fabulous board members who volunteer to keep our organization thriving.

For now Happy 4th of July!!!