



# August 2014 Use Newsletter

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## Big Changes in Store for USE Members

### A New Web-based Transaction System: Time and Talents by hOurworld

You've been hearing from Malaika Walton, our Membership Chairperson, about the advent of our exciting new transaction platform. As you may know, she's hoping to have it up and operational by the end of September, so keep watching for more information about this beneficial change.

### New 501(c)3 status

Reston Useful Services Exchange has recently been notified of its approval by the Internal Revenue Service for 501(c)3 tax exempt status. Miles Maestas, our member attorney who was such a diligent worker (and who we are sad to say has moved away), helped us do the paperwork and submit our application. I am really proud of our organization for getting this deed done. That means we qualify as a charitable organization and can receive donations. We can also apply for grant money. **The Board would appreciate hearing from any member who has grant writing experience.** Please contact us, as we can use your skill now to apply for charitable grants, which could help USE be even more functional. *-JoAnne Norton*

*JoAnne did not give herself credit for her part in working toward this prized status for USE. Ellie Fusaro also worked on this valuable endeavor. -Ed.*



## **USE September Potluck Picnic Reminder —**

**Say "YES, I'll be there,  
and yes, I can help"!!!**

Soon plans will begin taking shape for our USE picnic to be held on Saturday, September 27th, starting at 4 p.m. This year we will be at the North Hills Picnic Pavilion, Center Harbor Road and North Village Road. There we will have available a large, under-cover pavilion with electricity, lights, water, three large brick barbecue grills, two portable restrooms, ample picnic tables, a tot lot and plenty of parking. We have learned a thing or two from the last two picnics, and this year we are ready for whatever the weather brings us, and we *WILL* party on!

You will be receiving an evite before too long providing the details and requesting that you bring a dish to share. We hope lots of USE members will turn out to create a super-sociable good time for all. Also, we will need volunteers to make our picnic a success, and you could soon be hearing from one of our USE "callers" requesting your help. There is always something each member can contribute. It could be something as simple as setting up tables or cleaning up afterward. So when you get that call, please — say "YES"!

## Alan Krishna's Bollywood Dinner and Movie Night a Success!



Photo above left: Alan and Kusum Krishnan.

Above: Mary Frances Kordick, David Niemi, Barbara Berlage, and Cheri Wubbels.

Left: Elizabeth Kerr, Ruth Dahne, Laura Gutnick, and Karen Mayberry.

Alan and Kusum Krishnan opened their home to 17 USE members, who were fortunate enough to enjoy an Indian themed evening with delicious food that Alan prepared himself. Alan's guests also enjoyed a highly entertaining, informative and beautifully filmed historical romance entitled *Jodhaa Akbar*, about a Mughal emperor and the Hindu princess who becomes his wife in 16th century India. The movie's timely message concerns religious tolerance, exemplified by an emperor who brought about peace and tolerance among his people. Those who attended Alan's gathering certainly experienced an interesting and delightful time.

The only request Alan made of his guests was to ask that they make a donation of \$5 to \$10 or so toward our USE Farmers Market stand, so that we could purchase our own, newer equipment. We made enough to purchase a new table and four chairs, which have been ordered and should be in use by publication of this newsletter.

Now with our new 501(c)3 status, we will be able to hold other fundraisers – similar to Alan’s unique gathering – or something else that is totally new and different.

## Farmers Market – Volunteer Update

**PLEASE NOTE:** This Saturday, August 30th, we **STILL NEED SOMEONE** to set up our colorful umbrella and new table and chairs around 7 a.m. before the market starts and then to pack up at noon when the market ends.

**Ann Webster** has graciously offered to make calls for volunteers during the month of September. For October and the early part of November, we are still in need of a caller or two. Would YOU be able to do this job for USE?



We expect to be at the market until the very end, and we will still need volunteers take a shift of an hour or two to tell Reston and Herndon area residents about the benefits of USE membership. Maybe we will see YOU there on one of those Saturdays this fall!

When you volunteer for these market assignments, you gain the chance to meet other USE members as well as other members of your community. Reach out! You’ll find you will enjoy it!

Over the summer, we have had the help of about 50 USE members – an impressive show of interest and commitment! And the following members have generously volunteered since the last newsletter went out in early July: **Laura Gutnick, Carol Berman, Pat Williams, Mercy Njoku, Saima Hedrick,**



**Meredith Compton, Sidney and Dale Johnson, Margaret Parsley, David Bausman, Susan Idziak, Mary Frances Kordick, Joyce Dadant, Susan Molham, Rob Whitfield, Todd Boetticher, Bonnie Whyte, Sarah Teagle, Lesa Schmidt, Kira Schmidt, Cherie De Souza, Sally Carter, Cenie Edelman,**

**Nancy Davis, Sumalee Cholvijan, Kathy Deligianis, Sandra Clark, Alice Markham, Ellen Greenwood, Andrew Horan, Joanna Lewis, and Rodney d'Souza.**

As always, **Barbara Berlage** has faithfully called around to find volunteers for each weekend. She has done a yeoman's job and will turn her job over to Ann Webster for the month of September.

**Thanks one and all!** We can boast of *well over* a dozen new members because to their efforts.

## **USE Board for 2014-2015:**

President – **Cheri Wubbels**

Vice President – **Kathy Bush**

Treasurer – **JoAnne Norton**

Secretary – **OPEN**

Membership – **Malaika Walton**

Community Outreach – **Saima Hedrick**

Marketing & Communications Chair – **Lorelei Cheung**

At-Large – **Ellie Fusaro**

**Tim Finefrock**

**Alan Krishnan**

## **Highlighting Recent Transactions:**

- **Mike Hedrick** installed new towel racks in our home. **-Ann Webster**
- **Mike Hedrick** helped a Herndon elder and new USE member with electrical and handyman tasks at her home. She stopped at our market table to rave about his quick and efficient help. The best change was sealing a new skylight that leaked frigid air all winter. Now she has adjusted her thermostat a degree or two for energy savings.

Way to go, Mike!

## Welcome to Our Newest Members and Thanks for Sharing Your Skills!

- **Sarah Teagle** – Child care; cooking prep; gardening – planting; lend/share – appliances; organizational skills; pet care; plant sitting; visits to shut-ins.
- **Henry Teagle** – Child care; pet care – dog walking/check-in for cats; plant sitting/care.
- **Todd Boetticher** – Computer and web skills.
- **Theresa Robinson** – Not yet identified but coming.
- **Bob Anderson** – Pet care; plant sitting; help for shut-ins.
- **S. F. Powell** – Pet care, help for shut-ins.
- **Penny Halpern** – Cooking advice/prep; household chores; organizational skills; quilting; word processing.
- **Rodney d'Souza** – Bicycle repair; computer assistance; pet care; telephoning; tutoring high school subjects.
- **Deborah Colby** – Computer assistance; cooking advice/prep; lend/share; organizational skills; plant sitting; rides; support to shut-ins; tax assistance; tutoring.
- **Norbert Pink** – Automobile advice; bicycle repair - minor; carpentry; computer assistance; electrical repairs - minor; gardening; handyman repairs - small jobs; painting; plumbing advice.
- **Kishma Tummala** – Child care; computer assistance; language instruction; translation; lend/share; plant sitting/care; rides; tutoring.

- **Maria Rafael** – Rides - during the day - school hours; shut-ins - shopping; tutoring - math.
- **John Halpine** – Bicycle repairs, Electrical repairs - minor.

## **A USE-ful news item:**

**With the Silver Line now literally on our doorsteps,** one benefit is that if a USE member needs to get to Dulles Airport, it is possible for another member to provide a ride with a simple drop-off at the Wiehle Station to catch one of the new buses to Dulles, which run every 15 to 20 minutes during Metro operating hours and cost \$5 one way. This could make things easier for a busy USE member to help a fellow member who needs some help catching that flight out of Dulles – or a pick-up on returning home from same.

**Mark the Date on your calendar NOW for the USE January 2015 potluck supper and meeting at the Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston on Saturday, January 24th.**

