



FALL 2014 USE Newsletter

USE Potluck and Business Meeting, Jan. 24th

Join us at the **Unitarian Universalist Church in Reston** at **4:30 PM** to hear about what the USE Board has been doing to make USE a more robust Time Bank. Come meet the members of the Board and give us your input. We are also looking to fill the Board position of Communications Chair. To RSVP and select a dish to bring, please click [HERE](#).

The Spirit of Giving

This year, in honor of the spirit of the season, we are holding a charity drive at the January Potluck. The

drive is aimed at meeting the basic needs of the residents of the Embry Rucker Community Shelter. Attached is a list of the common items that they need to make the holiday season a little easier. Something as simple as deodorant or new socks can seem like a luxury and we are asking our members to look at the list and bring your donations to the January potluck. Let's help spread the holiday cheer by helping fulfill as many items on the list as possible!



Welcome to Our New Members!

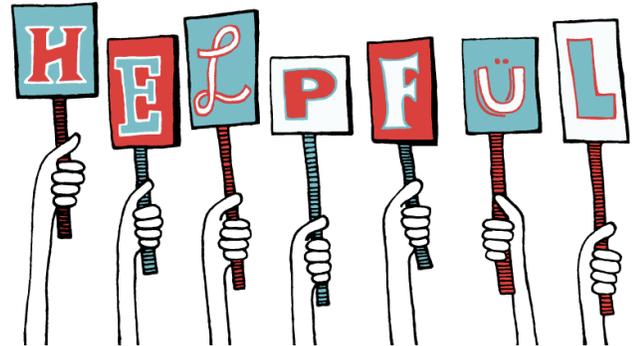
We are so pleased to welcome the following new members:

Karen Berry, Amanda McGill, Maryanne Kendall, Solomon Teller, Barbara Yuen, Vivian Sims, Nancy Mohl, Elizabeth Lertora, Jim Quinn, and Lyudmyla Kurbatova.

Look for their profiles on Hoursworld to see what they have to offer.

How Can We Help?

In the past few months, a few of our USE members have had serious health problems for which we were not as prepared as we needed to be. So we are having a meeting to discuss options, ideas, procedures fulfilling the promise of USE as our family, our neighbors, and in many cases, our best friends. We will be discussing how we can be better prepared should one of us need something more than cataract surgery, or dental work? What if something really life-threatening strikes one of our members?



What does it mean to be a member of USE then?

Can USE help me?

How can USE help me?

That's what a group of us are planning to tackle in January, hopefully meeting in the second week of the month. If you would like to participate, please email Cheri Wubbels, Committee Chair at mediavip@aol.com.

Past Events

Cookie Exchange

Many thanks to the Krishnans for hosting our first cookie exchange on December 20th. It was a fun afternoon for 15 Reston USE members who shared delicious cookies and conversation. We hope to have more exchanges in the future. Membership Chair, Malaika Walton was also there training members on the new online platform.



USE Picnic Saturday, Sept. 27th

A pleasant afternoon was shared by those USE members who attended our September USE picnic. Drinks, hamburgers, hotdogs and all of the fixings were provided by USE. And attendees brought a tasty array of dishes to round out the menu for the day.

Jean Banks led us in a song of praise for our Farmers Market volunteers. The Board members who were present outlined the work entailed in their positions, and brief report was given by our impromptu emcee, Lorelei Cheung. Thanks and awards were distributed. Good company and good conversation was had all around.

- Some items left at picnic site: basket serving fork, and dishtowel with a pea and peapod design. Available at January potluck/meeting.
- Certificates and USE totebags for Market volunteers that were not yet distributed will also to be available at the January potluck/meeting.

Correction to August newsletter: In one of the photos from Alan Krishnan's Bollywood party, the lady identified as Ricky Dahne is actually Joanna Lewis. Apologies to both ladies.

Farmer's Market Wrap UP

Our intrepid farmers market volunteers persevered through the fall and USE gained a few more members. Thanks go out to: **Ann Webster, Mark Menzer, Saima Hedrick, Leesa Schmidt, Kishma Tummala, Alan Krishnan, Alice Markham, Chira Kirkland, Ruth Sievers, Marie Webster, Gail Vogel, Paulina Vasquez, Meredith Compton, Emelia Mensah, Steve Hanft, Ellie Fusaro, Rodney D'Souza, Sara Snyder, and Ricky Dahne, and Kathy and David Bush.**

We can call our summer efforts at the market a success with well over a dozen and closer to 20 of our newer members coming as a result. Looking forward to seeing everyone next year...

Missed by Many, Loved by All

Friends of Vilma Musk will gather on Sunday, January 11th, between 5 and 7:30 p.m. for a special time of remembrance. We will be meeting at the Nature House here in Reston. Those who attend should bring an appetizer or small entree to share and possibly a memory or thought to share as well. We are also asking guests to contribute, if possible, toward the rental of the Nature Center -- \$2 to \$5 dollars would be appreciated. (Any changes or further details will be forthcoming as the date gets closer.) Please RSVP to Kathy Bush at 703-435-6283 or mkbwrk1@hotmail.com. Contributions can also be made in Vilma's name to Capital Caring/Hospice.



Vilma was taken from us so quickly by pancreatic cancer. She was diagnosed in early October and died on Sunday, December 7th. She is sadly missed.

Past President's Message...

We are well into the holiday season and for some members that means family will be coming into town to celebrate with them over the holidays. For others, as is true in this transitional Washington D.C. area, many families live at distances or are unable to travel to spend time with their Reston family.

We are encouraging USE members who feel called to do so, to extend invitations to some holiday event to fill your table, home and heart with USE camaraderie. It can be a potluck, a white-elephant gift exchange, a movie night with popcorn and friends, it

can be a anything that will make someone feel blessed to be part of the USE family.

To truly realize the power of community, be the one who actively extends themselves in giving and receiving the neighbor-to-neighbor purpose of sharing you time and talents.

First, we should identify those that are willing to open their homes, or plan a group to see a movie or go out for lunch, and those who would welcome an opportunity to join in the fun and get to know more personally USE members. How should we go about that?

Cheri Wubbels
mediavip@aol.com

P.S. We know this is dated a bit, but it's time to start thinking of doing this throughout the coming year, so next year when the holidays come, you will know in your hearts who needs family and let them join you in the festivities.

Also, a heart-felt word of thanks for those that worked with me during the year of my presidency. So many people pitched in with good ideas and worked so hard. USE truly has incredible members and I am grateful to have had the chance to get to know you better.

