



# USE Newsletter - 2018

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## What's Coming Up?

**It's that time again. Time to mark your calendars for:**

**The USE annual potluck...**

**WHEN?**

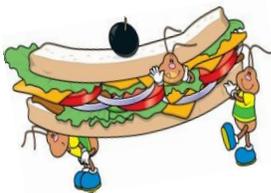
**Saturday, September 15,  
4-7 p.m.**



**WHERE?**

**Lake Anne Pavilion, 11301 North Shore Drive, Reston**

Last September, this cozy picnic pavilion, a gorgeous day, and about 30 of our super-friendly members came together for a delightful afternoon. Let's reproduce the good time and pleasant atmosphere again. Plan to come join us. We will be looking for you. You'll be receiving an invite and more information as the date draws closer.



## **Next Lunch Bunch get-together Wednesday, August 15th, 1:30 p.m.**

Mark your calendars! We'll be meeting at **Carrabbas Italian Grill**, 12192 Sunset Hills Rd, Reston. Our lunch coordinator will be Laura Gutnick. Lunch Bunch members will receive an invite with details shortly before that date.

If you have an interest in becoming a member of the Lunch Bunch, contact Cheri Wubbels at [mediavip@aol.com](mailto:mediavip@aol.com) or Kathy Bush at [mkbwrk1@hotmail.com](mailto:mkbwrk1@hotmail.com). We meet approximately monthly for lunch, and we'd be glad to have you join us!

## **The 4<sup>th</sup> Annual South Lakes High School Back 2 School Bash 2018—Saturday, August 18, 11 a.m.-2 p.m.**

USE plans to have an information table at this event. **WE STILL NEED A FEW MORE VOLUNTEERS!** Can you spare an hour or two to tell Reston families about all the great benefits of USE membership? If so, please contact Janet Cochran at [cochrngj@gmail.com](mailto:cochrngj@gmail.com).

## **A Small Group Potluck Supper, Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup>, 4:30 p.m.**

Bonnie and Bill Whyte will be holding one of our ever popular small-group suppers at their home on Sunday, August 26<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m. They can accommodate a group of about eight people. More info on this coming soon.

## **And Coming Up in October...**

Alan Krishnan is proposing another movie night, *tentatively* set for Saturday, October 20th. Mark the date, details to follow... **AGAIN, TENTATIVE ONLY AT THIS POINT.** But these events are so much fun! Fingers crossed.

# What's Happened Recently?



## USE at the Reston Spring Festival, May 5th

Several USE members manned our information table at the Walker Nature Center: **Alice Markham, Jim Seret, Janet Cochran, and Kathy & Dave Bush**. Quite a few interested people stopped to learn about our unique organization and pick up our rack card and application form. Turns out new member Katie

Treich signed up after stopping by! Hurray!

## Lunch Bunch at Not Your Average Joe's, May 16th

Thirteen members enjoyed each other's company plus fine food and wine at NYAJoe's in Reston. USE got a bit of a benefit from our meal as well, since 15 percent of our total tab was donated back to our organization.

This came to us as part of the restaurant's program for giving back to the community—sponsoring local non-profit organizations for a month at a time with a 15 percent donation coming from meals purchased in the name of that not-for-profit.



Above: Lynn Jordan, Cenie Edelman, Ruth Sievers, Steve Hanft and Jo Klein

Below: Jim Seret, Kathy Bush, Maggie Weber, Janet Cochran, and Betty Levinson



*Photos thanks to Mary Frances Kordick*

**So, in fact,** on Wednesdays during the month of May, we made 15 percent of the tab when USE members stopped into Joe's for a meal or happy hour.

**And TA DA!!!** Good news for USE! Our total donation from NYAJoe's for the month of May 2018—**\$300.00!**

Pretty darn good! So, a hearty thank you to all those USE members who stopped into NYAJoe's for a meal in May to benefit USE! Great results! Well done!

## **A Fun – and Successful! – USE Exchange Story from Erika Naraghi**



As a volunteer at the Fairfax County Animal Shelter, I was excited about the Furassic World adoption event in June. But, when I got there to decorate, I was disappointed. Our lobby did not have the jungle vibe we were going for. USE to the rescue! Two short days before the event, I posted a plea on the Reston USE Facebook page asking people to lend me their real or fake greenery to display in the lobby of the Animal Shelter for a week. Thanks to **Kathleen Gohn, Lucinda Shannon, and Cenie Edelman**, we easily created that jungle vibe! The event was a roaring success — 73 animals were adopted out! I am so thankful for a USE community that is responsive to my quirky requests!

*Erika, thank you for sharing your unique exchange story with us.*

### **For all our members:**

*We'd love to hear your USE exchange stories. So many good things transpire, and sometimes good friendships get forged. We want to know all about it.*

*Did someone go out of their way for you? Did you make a special new friend? Did you learn something new or get some really important help?*

*Also, if you have anything special you'd like to let other USE members know about: a special event, a wonderful trip, suggestions and ideas that you want to share, anything...*

*...please share with us. Email me at [mkbwrk1@hotmail.com](mailto:mkbwrk1@hotmail.com).  
--Kathy Bush, newsletter coordinator*



**We recently realized that** we have not offered an official welcome to new USE members in our newsletter for a VERY long time. We hereby wish to correct that oversight, to list these folks who have joined us since the last time and make sure members know their names for a start.

We have also included a brief bio for a few of them, and hope to keep sharing more information about new *and* long-time members from now on. This helps us know who we are making exchanges with as well as the skills and talents they have to offer.

So, a hearty WELCOME to:

Julie Akey	Pauline Reid
Beth Balmer*	Lily Reider
Gelareh Bassiry	Gerald Rankine-Galloway
Theresa Bebli	David Rosenberg
Andrea Chiou	Jim Seret*
Barbara Goddard	Deborah Shprentz
Judy Gulbis	Daryl Soldatenkov
Bertice J Haines	Katie Treisch*
David Jessee	Nancy Turaj
Ram Lee	

Introducing three of these members who have shared a little bit of information about themselves: Read on.



### **Beth Balmer**

Beth is originally from California. She says: I am a retired educator who was with Loudoun County Schools in recent years. Prior to that, I spent 16 years working in International Schools around the world. I currently volunteer at the Reston Library as an ESL teacher and as an English mentor for adults. I also volunteer for other activities in Reston, at festivals and as a home tour docent. My

hobbies are bike riding, exercise classes at the Y, travel and playing the piano.

Requests: Currently, I am looking for someone to mentor me with my piano playing once or twice a month. I would like occasional Dulles Airport rides, plant sitting, simple home repairs, and a piano tutor and if needed, medical/dental rides in Reston.

The skills I offer are in areas of education, tutoring children in reading, story-telling with preschoolers, simple cooking, occasional dog walking, as a walking buddy and providing rides for medical or dental appointments in the Reston or Herndon area.



### **Katie Treisch**

She says: My name is Katie. I'm 26 years old, and I'm recently married to my husband, Brad. We moved here from southern California in May of 2017 for my husband's job. I'm a graphic designer and I have an Etsy business. My shop is called Sunflower

Owl Designs, and I sell wedding themed greeting cards, artwork, mugs, and I'm starting to add other products. I also do freelance work, and I do anything along the lines of business cards, flyers, T-shirts, posters, logos, and invitations. photo headshot and editing, such as for realtors, working professionals, etc., photo restoration for old damaged, discolored photos; I can also teach basic Photoshop, Illustrator, or CorelDraw. I don't have a car, so any meetings must be within walking distance of my apartment (Ed note: or she could always get a lift from the member requesting help.)

Outside of my professional life, I love to be outside in nature, taking pictures of bugs and mushrooms, and I'm attempting to maintain an herb "garden" on my balcony. So far, so good. I'm looking forward to meeting you!

I don't think I need anything right now, but in the future I might look for people who are experienced with small business advertising, SEO (search engine optimization), or websites.



## Jim Seret

He says: Reston USE has been a positive experience for me. Last year I was searching for someone to assist me with a project. Reston USE was suggested as a good source, and shortly I found expert help. Wanting to get more involved with Reston USE, I began taking photos at USE events for the newsletter. By contributing to Reston USE functions, I found my social life was expanding. I recommend looking into

joining up. Bring USE your needs requests, along with your talents to offer assist to others.

The services Jim offers are: rides, English and history tutoring, and photography.

Those he would request include rides and things that might come up, as needed.

*Ed note: Jim is currently serving as an at-large member of the USE board*

We hope to get to know Beth, Katie and Jim even better. And we want to know *you*. So, take time to make service exchanges. Use our alphabetical service directory and call or email someone for help with that particular something. Or log onto our *private* Facebook page or the USE hOurworld webpage to post your requests. We all have needs for a little assistance here and there—and it feels good to be on the other end to be able to help someone.

And come out for our social events, most especially our September picnic on Saturday, Sept. 15<sup>th</sup> at 4 p.m. at the Lake Anne Picnic Pavilion on North Shore Drive. You'll be glad you did.

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**To learn about or join USE:** Find us at: [www.restonUSE.org](http://www.restonUSE.org). Write us at: PO Box 8922, Reston VA 20195. Phone us at: 703-873-7578. Email us at: [RestonUSETimeBank@gmail.com](mailto:RestonUSETimeBank@gmail.com).

**USE Members:** To access our USE hOurworld website: Find us at [www.restonUSE.org](http://www.restonUSE.org). At the top right side of the web page: Click on the top box with the purple header. This will take you to the USE hOurworld website. There you can log in and record a transaction, monitor your transactions and profile and learn about other USE members and their services and needs.

## A Note from Cheri Wubbels

As you may have noticed, we have been a little quiet this summer. But we're beginning to get through our other obligations and back on track.

The good news is that we will have: a Lunch Bunch meeting in mid-August thanks to volunteer Laura Gutnick, one of our small-group suppers at the home of Bonnie and Bill Whyte in late August, our Annual USE Picnic in mid-September, and possibly a movie night at Alan Krishnan's home in mid-October. Definitely some good times to look forward to and plan for! As we get closer to each date, you will be getting more information from us.

More good news: Tanya Disselkoen—from the office of Fairfax County's Long Term Care Program, also involved with the Village/Neighbors to Neighbors movement—met with Kathy Bush and myself, and she is strongly supportive of the mission of USE, to build community that takes care of its members in a great many different ways. Tanya said: "I truly stand behind your program—what a great organization with great services, making an impact on so many people!"

We are listed among the Fairfax County resources for the Village movement. Even though we don't fit all the criteria, we provide services equal to those that the village systems offer, and *with a great deal less cost to our members.*

This is the USE we know, responding to each other's needs and able to receive help when we need it. We're a reciprocal group that functions like a good family of givers.

*--Cheri Wubbels, former president and current at-large USE board member*

## Have a Safe and Happy Summer!

### --The USE Board

