



The Atchison Riveter

The Atchison Riveter is available online at www.atchisonvillage.org. The AV Board of Directors welcomes members' comments and contributions, in English or Spanish. Send submissions to RiveterCommentsAV@gmail.com or drop off at the AV office.

AV Office Closed Due to COVID (Again)

There are rising numbers of new cases of COVID-19 in Contra Costa County, and health authorities have tightened restrictions. Therefore, the AV office is again closed to visitors for the safety of all.

Office staff are responding to phone calls and emails during business hours, and are occasionally in the office for short periods. Meanwhile, maintenance staff are not doing work orders inside units unless it is an emergency, like a water leak or pilot light out.

The Riveter Goes Digital in February!

The Atchison Riveter has been delivered to all 450 homes in the Village for decades. This requires a lot of staff time and expense, and kills a lot of trees. If you can receive it by email, please do. If you do not have internet access, or if you simply do not want to receive your *Riveter* by email, just let the office staff know via the form below.

The current and past months' *Riveters* will still be available on the AV website, and, once the office can safely be opened, there will be paper copies available to pick up there.

—Martha Gruelle

Starting February 2021, *The Riveter* will not be delivered to your door unless you request it. Please return this form to the black box in front of the Village office, or email your responses to avmhc2@yahoo.com.

I/we want to receive *The Riveter* on my/our door each month.

I/we will save trees and expense: email *The Riveter* to the address below.

Name: _____

Address: _____ Unit #: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Atchison Village Social Club Announcements

Thank you to all of the volunteers and donors who made this year's **Halloween** a fun success. We could not have done it without you!

Next AVSC Meeting: Will be a **Zoom** meeting on Saturday, December 5, at 4 pm. If interested in attending, please email AV_Social_Club@yahoo.com

AVSC Creative Winter Holiday Celebration Saturday, December 12, 1:30 pm

- Face masks and social distancing required.
- Subject to cancellation if it rains. This is an outdoor-only event.
- The event is open to **Atchison Village families only**. Children must be accompanied by an adult or older teen
- If participating in **any** capacity, please complete and return the form below, no later than Wednesday, December 9. (To the office, or email AV_Social_Club@yahoo.com)

Weather permitting, Santa will ride around in an open car, leading a mini parade (if you want to decorate and enter your car, too, note it on the form below); the mini parade will start and finish in front of the AV Hall, where your holiday creativity may be displayed (see below). We will also have goodie bags for the children (and maybe a little something for the adults).

"What do the winter holidays mean to me?"

Members of all ages (2 to 102 and beyond) are invited to share a work of creativity, expressing what the winter holidays mean to them. It can take any form: a drawing, a photo, a poem, a cherished memory (prose), etc. Copies are strongly encouraged, as we may not be able to return your submission. If your creation is something 3-D, we suggest taking a photo of it and sharing it that way. To share your creation, complete the form below, attach it to your work, and place in the office drop box. Alternately, you can email your creation to the AV Social Club mailbox to be printed out (be sure to include all the same information as on the form).

Be sure to include **all** of your contact information, because *everyone who submits a creative work will be entered in a drawing*, with three lucky participants receiving a \$25 Target gift card.

The pandemic has made 2020 a most difficult year – rife with tension, anxiety, isolation – and no one knows when it will end. For many, the holidays will be extra difficult this year, and we would like to encourage all to make an effort to be extra kind and respectful: making a card for a senior neighbor or helping someone – or some other little thing to bring a smile.

RSVP by 12/9 for the AVSC Creative Winter Holiday Celebration

_____ I am submitting a work of creativity. (What do the winter holidays mean to me?)

_____ Number of Children (Goodie Bags) _____ I want to enter my car in the mini parade.

_____ (Optional) I would like to Volunteer or Donate.

(Required) Name, Phone #, and Email: _____



Singing for the Season

We're all aware of how important it is to stay safe during the pandemic. Here's an idea for celebrating the holidays in a way that can be both fun *and* safe: On Saturday, December 12, as Santa makes his way around the Village (see previous page), would you like to be part of a "caroling station?"

Here's the idea: Pairs of carolers, wearing masks and maintaining social distance, will be at five "stations" in the Village. Neighbors will be invited to come out and join in, as long as everyone wears masks and keeps social distance from each family group.

Could you be one of the station carolers? (No need to be a professional singer!) Do you play an instrument that could accompany them? Are you a Spanish-first speaker who could lead a carol in Spanish? Please contact me at (423) 505-9950 or openlinescom@gmail.com if you'd like to make this holiday festivity happen.

—Janis Hashe

Gimme Shelter!

That's what you'd hear if you understood what I and other AV pups who are left outside 24/7, rain or shine, in cold, damp weather are telling you! Winter is here, and we do not relish spending our nights outdoors.

Some of us have little fur or body fat. Others are old and frail. And plenty of us in the Village have no shelter at all—no bed or house to protect us.

Would you want to spend the night outdoors with just a sweater on when it's raining and 40 degrees? I bet not. At least give us a platform above the mud and some kind of simple shelter, so our bedding stays dry.

Most dogs want to be part of the family. We're fine with being crated in the kitchen or behind a barrier at night. We can still bark at an intruder, and, according to law enforcement, **we are better crime fighters inside than out.*** If someone enters your unit, we are right there to alert and protect you.

Please think of your pets when it is cold and raw at night. We depend on you for our well-being. We will howl and bark less if we're inside, safe and warm with you, which your neighbors will appreciate.

*The best defense against crime is to have people in your house, then a security alarm or camera, then a dog.

—Pooch, as told to Elizabeth Whipple

Meet Your Neighbor: Barbara Stauss, Activist Baker

Barbara and her husband, Michael, moved to the Village in 1990. She remains at her two-story unit on W. Bissell Ave. near the sound wall. Michael passed in 2004, but two of her sons, Daniel (Sacramento) and Fred (San Francisco) visit often with their wives. (Her eldest, Paul, died in 2002, after a catastrophic fall.)

Thanks to the support of Joseph Clark—Barbara said he was a godsend during Michael’s illness—she was eventually able to join Village activities. She became part of the garden club and joined the environment and master plan committees, where she met Milly Frederick, Sylvia Hopkins, Gayle Laughlin, and Nick Jones. She later came a staunch supporter of Bernie Sanders and Jovanka Beckles.

Barbara has a well-earned reputation as a baker. Given a little notice, she would produce dozens of cookies for a good cause or Richmond Progressive Alliance meeting.



Barbara Stauss in her youth.
If you say so, Barbara.

She began to bring cookies to AV board meetings after a disappointed member cited the lack of snacks. “I like to think turnout increased.”

One of Barbara’s favorite memories is her 10 years as a camp counselor at a Methodist retreat for teenagers in the Trinity Alps. The campers were kids who felt isolated from their peers. After two weeks hiking and camping together, the group became close friends. Barbara remains in touch with several of “her kids,” now in their 60s and 70s.

Barbara celebrated her 90th birthday at a memorable party last January, at the Hotel Mac, where she was surrounded by her children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, cronies, and many friends.

“These days I’m slowing down a lot,” she said. “But it’s the best of all worlds for me: no more starting things! The virus keeps me indoors, but I’m on Facebook and neighbors help run my errands. I consider Jon Gordon my guardian angel.”

Barbara would like to see more parties, once the pandemic is over. That’s an excellent wish for 2021: no virus, and lots to celebrate!

—Elizabeth Whipple

Reminder from the Tree Committee

Now’s the time to plant trees! Go to GroundWorkRichmond.org and fill out a tree adoption form for a free tree. And if you’re a member who would like to care for more trees, ask a neighbor to apply for a free tree for their yard that you can water and mulch.

—Laurie Wattell

Welcome New Neighbors!

The following joined AV in October:

Gregory Waller
Candy Despain and Nobuko Despain
Richard Wessell

Help Fight Air Pollution

A state-funded program that is designed to reduce air pollution in heavily impacted areas (including Richmond) is recruiting community members for a new steering committee.

The new Steering Committee for the Richmond/North Richmond/San Pablo area will move the program into the implementation stage. Things to know if you are interested in applying to become a member:

- Both an application and a conflict of interest/financial disclosure form must be submitted. You will need to disclose if you work for a polluting industry or company, or if any organization you are associated with receives funding from one. This does not disqualify you from being considered.
- Multiple meetings are required of steering committee members, and there will be quite a lot of additional communications.
- Steering committee members will be compensated, at a rate to be determined.

As we here in Atchison Village are on the front lines for a high level of pollution, it would be great to get some applicants from AV for this important project.

Here is the page on the Bay Area Air Quality Management District website with links for the application and conflict-of-interest forms: www.baaqmd.gov/community-health/community-health-protection-program/richmond-area-community-health-protection-program.

I currently sit on the Community Design Team for this program. Please contact me at 423-505-9950 or openlinescom@gmail.com if you would like more information or background. Thanks!

—Janis Hashe



Motions Passed at the October 2020 Board Meeting

- Recordings of [regular board] meetings will be made available when the new website is available to ensure security.
- Work with legal counsel to develop a response to the Rent Board determination [that they have jurisdiction over Atchison Village], and make an appeal.
- [Two versions of a charter for the Bylaws Committee were proposed; copies are available from the AV office] Version 1 is phase one, and Version 2 is phase two.

**For emergency repairs, please contact
General Manager Jim Rueter, 805-815-8105
or jim@atchisonvillage.org.**

**In a life-threatening
emergency, call 911.**

**Richmond Police Non-
Emergency: 510-233-1214**

Animal Control: 925-335-8300

Board Members	Contact Info
Tara Ayres, President	510-730-9976 taraatchisonvillage@gmail.com
Esthela Diaz, Vice President	510-418-0835
Martha Gruelle, Sec.-Treas.	marthagruelle744@gmail.com
Lucia Casias	lucia06av@gmail.com
Margarito Chacon	510-621-9462 margarame@comcast.net
Ritchie Cook	ritchieatchison@yahoo.com
Bob Jones	jbobjbob10@yahoo.com
Diana Hume	dfhume1@gmail.com
Luz Alvarez Martinez	510-444-3020
Laurie Wattell	laurie.wattell@gmail.com
Zack Wear	zakwear@gmail.com

Atchison Village Office

510-234-9054
avmhc2@yahoo.com

Office Closed Until Further Notice

Staff available by phone or email during these
hours, Monday - Friday:
9 am – 2:30 pm and 3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Staff: Alicia Becerra and Xitlaly (Laly) Ramos
alicia@atchisonvillage.org
laly@atchisonvillage.org

Work Order requests may be given by phone,
voicemail, or email. Maintenance staff is on duty
8 am – 5 pm, Monday – Friday, except lunch
hour (noon - 1 pm) and holidays.

The Atchison Riveter is published monthly with board oversight to provide information to Village members. The Newsletter Committee edits articles for accuracy, clarity, and length (under 300 words is preferred).

We do not print opinion pieces, classifieds involving money, or fictional writing. In the event of a legal dispute, the English version of this newsletter will prevail. You may submit articles to the corporation office or email to the committee at marthagruelle744@gmail.com

Deadline: 20th of each month.



Staff Holidays:

Dec. 24 - 25
Dec. 31
Jan. 1