

# The Quadrangle Times

April 2019

Newsletter of The Quadrangle Residents Association  
Written and Produced by The Quadrangle Residents



Pete and Julie Stern working in the Cave

## UNSUNG HEROES

Preparing for the Activities Showcase, set for Sunday, May 19th, has reminded us planners of the vast array of opportunities to be engaged, entertained, enlightened, and improved that are offered to those of us fortunate enough to live at The Quadrangle. It has also made us stop and think about the people we call unsung heroes---fellow residents whose quiet, behind-the-scenes contributions make life more attractive, smoothly-functioning, and convenient for the rest of us.

Some of these are players in a more complex system: Six evenings a week, Channel 78 Team Members enter “the Cave” — an electronics closet in the Craft Room — to produce the power point display of menus, schedules, upcoming events and more that appears in blue on your TV screen.

Working in teams of two, these volunteers serve four times each month. Dave and Mary Manuszak, Fred and Marion Schindler, Marilyn Arnott and Edith Frumin, Gary and Deana Rigg, Pete and Julie Stern, Judy Clifford, Lee Reich, Sandi Savage, and Diane Drott are all regular visitors to the Cave.

Twice each year, the Quadrangle Book Sale raises hundreds of dollars to support the Library. For the other 363 days, the real work goes on behind the scenes. When residents donate their no-longer-wanted books, they generally bring them to the Library. Steve Floreen and Gary Rigg push the heavily laden cart to the book sale storage room on the third floor of Building 7. Otherwise, Pete Stern goes directly to the donor's apartment and collects them. Once the books are collected, Judy Clifford performs the Herculean task of sorting them, pricing them, and planning the layout of the Sale.

Six days a week, puzzle-minded residents can pick up copies of the latest Sudoku, Crossword, Cryptogram, and Jumble from the daily Philadelphia Inquirer. For years this service was provided single-handedly by Pete Ridgway, who went to the copier early each morning. Now he is helped by Mary Manuszak, and Ruth Rothman, thus allowing him to sleep later on some mornings. Bruni thanks them!

There is a special crew of "tall people" who hang the pictures for every art show, as well as the ones that line the hallways permanently. Pete Ridgway has hung over 600 pictures, receiving help along the way from Dave Manuszak, Rick Jacobs, and Murray Gerstenhaber, to name a few.

The Audio-Visual closet may be closely related to the Augean Stables in terms of the tangle of incompatible wiring it contains, but Don Verrier and his stalwart cohort of Tom Gasper, Pete Stern, and Steve Phillips struggle with it manfully nearly every day, providing sound for concerts, lectures, current events, movies, literary groups, and more. If you could hear the words, you can thank an audio-visual guy.

Other unsung heroes include Joan Wallick, who tidies the central bulletin board (along with the individuals who do so in the individual buildings); Marilyn Loos, who maintains the Memorial Table outside the elevators; Lois Gasper, who writes letters of condolence; and Barbara Gadegbeku, who takes photos of all the new residents and also finds photos for the Memorial Table.

And above all, since you are reading this article in the QT, you can thank Joe Hocky and his pals for stuffing it in your box, and you can especially thank Helen Gindele for putting the newsletter together, month after month after month!

— *Julie Stern*

## EVENTS IN APRIL 2019

### THURSDAY NIGHT LECTURES

7:30pm in the Auditorium

**Apr. 4** James Krippner, Professor of History, Haverford College: "A History of Mexican Populism: From the Revolution of 1910 to the Election of Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador."

**Apr. 18** Nancy Weiss Malkiel, Professor of History Emeritus, Princeton University: "Keep the Damned Women Out: The Struggle for CoEducation."

**May 2** Elizabeth Mosier, novelist and essayist: "Excavating Memory: Archaeology and Home."

### MUSIC

Saturdays, 7:30pm, Auditorium

**Apr. 6** Astral presents a piano trio: Katie Hun, violin; Zlatomir Fung, cello; Ronaldo Rolim, piano.

**Apr. 13** Joy of Singing Annual Spring Sing with Judy Verrier at the piano.

**Apr. 27** Cellist Gwen Krosnick performs sonatas by Beethoven and Poulenc.

### SUNDAY OPERA

Sunday, 1:30pm, Auditorium

**Apr. 28** Gershwin's *Porgy and Bess*, starring Eric Owen and Laquita Miller.

### READERS GROUP

Tuesday, 3:30pm, Auditorium

Letta Schatz will present *Daughter of Fortune*, by Isabel Allende.

### POETRY GROUP

Tuesday, Apr. 23, 7:30 p.m., Auditorium

Selections from *A Season in Purgatory*, a collection of poems by Henry Morgenthau III.

### SCRIPT-IN-HAND DROP-IN PLAY READING

Sunday, Apr. 28, 3:30-5:00pm, Conference Room

*Love Letters* by A.R.Gurney.

### GREAT CONVERSATIONS

Thursdays, 10am, Club Room

**April 4** *Accomplice* by Sarah Shun-lien Bynum.

**April 18** *Screenwriter* by Charles D'Ambrosio.

## SPECIAL EVENT

**Thursday, Apr. 4,** 2:00pm, Auditorium. Informal illustrated talk by Hope Aryatuha, Director of the “Forgotten Africa School” in Uganda.

## COMPOSER’S FORUM

Thursdays in **April (4, 11, 18, 25)** 4pm, Club Room. DVD lectures on “Shostakovich: His Life and Music” by Dr. Robert Greenberg, music historian, composer, and lecturer.

## ART AS CINEMA

**Tuesday, Apr. 2, 7:30pm, Auditorium**

Wendy Hiller stars in the 1945 film *I Know Where I’m Going* presented by BMFI Special Program Manager Jacob Mazer.

## CURRENT MOVIES

**Mondays/Tuesdays, 7:45pm, Channel 99**

**Apr.1/2:** *Lean on Pete*, 2018 (121 min.) Not your usual boy and his horse story. Adventure and heartbreak.

**Apr. 8/9:** *Can You Ever Forgive Me*, 2018 (107 min.) Based on the true story of a writer and his cat, who profiled celebrities and then began fictional accounts.

**Apr. 15/16:** *Burning*, 2018 (148 min.) A Korean character study, a mystery and a revenge thriller based on a Murakami short story.

**Apr. 22/23:** *At Eternity’s Gate*. 2018. (111 min.) A journey inside the world and mind of Van Gogh.

**Apr. 29/30:** *The Sisters Brothers*. 2018. (121 min.) An alcohol-soaked Frontier road trip which constantly reinvents itself.

## CLASSIC CINEMA

**Fridays, 7:45 p.m., Channel 99**

**Apr. 5:** *Rebecca*, 1940 (130 min.) Girl marries a British nobleman but lives in the shadow of his former wife. A Hitchcock drama.

**Apr. 12:** *Wag the Dog*, 1997 (97 min.) A spin doctor and a Hollywood producer fabricate a war to distract voters from a presidential sex scandal.

**Apr. 19:** *The Red Balloon*, 1956 (36 min.) The adventures of a boy who befriends a sentient balloon and follows it through the streets of Paris.

**Apr. 26:** *Crimes and Misdemeanors* 1989 (104 min.) A Woody Allen film of moral choices made in crumbling marriages.

**SATURDAY FILM FESTIVAL**  
**1st and 3rd Saturdays, 2:00pm, Auditorium**

**Apr. 6:** *The Dallas Buyers Club*.

**Apr. 20:** *True Grit* (a remake of the John Wayne version).

**TRIPS COMMITTEE NEWS**

This month plan on visiting the **Newlin Grist Mill**, a real working mill, on **April 10**. Good walking skills helpful (2 or 3 steps with railing). Accommodations made for those with walkers. Lunch nearby.

And the **Delaware Art Museum** on Thursday, **April 25**, for a special exhibit of children's book illustrations, their permanent pre-Raphaelite and American art collections, Chiluly glass, and more. Trip is limited to 12 residents; a recent Penn DOT regulation limited the size of our out-of-state trips.

**New York On Your Own Trip Alert**

Wednesday, **May 8** – Important information: A minimum of 23 residents must sign up by Saturday, **April 27**, to avoid commercial bus cancellation. Drop off and pick up at the Metropolitan Museum and Theatre District. Plenty of seats for non-resident family and friends. Bathroom on board.

Coming in **June** Trips to the **Michener Museum** on the 6th and the Bloom's Day Celebration on the 16th.

**SCHEDULED TRIPS**

Wednesday, **April 10** Newlin Grist Mill, a working mill. Lunch nearby.

Wednesday, **April 17** Bryn Mawr Film Institute. Rescheduled from second to third Wednesday. Four movies to choose from

**Thursday, April 25** Delaware Art Museum.

**Wednesday, May 8** -New York On Your Own.

**Wednesday, May 15**- Bryn Mawr Films, rescheduled to third Wednesday.

**Wednesday , May 22**-Lunch at Turning Point Restaurant in Bryn Mawr.

Information on trips is posted on the main bulletin board outside the dining room, and on building bulletin boards.

*Ellie Hinsey, Chair, Trips Committee*

## QRA MATTERS

The QRA website committee continues to meet and make decisions about both the technical aspects and the content of the site. As I mentioned last month, one of the most exciting features will be a place where you can find pictures and biographies of residents, including your own.

We'll get to know each other better and more quickly by using this feature. We already have a volunteer to take pictures to accompany the personal and professional information that each resident includes.

Those who have fairly recent resident profiles in the QT archives may find these to be just fine for the website; others will want to make changes or create new ones. We plan to provide guidelines and support for these write-ups, so don't be hesitant about participating if you feel you would rather have someone else revise your profile.

Other projects that continue are these three:

—We expect to have three bids for updating if not replacing our current A/V system soon. Lynne has been preparing Sunrise for this priority for which no money had been budgeted.

—We are in need of a new Auditorium piano. I've been working with Dick Wernick to find an adequate replacement. Given that we don't own the piano, making the repairs needed to restore it to a level of quality that skilled pianists expect is a problem that makes finding an answer even more pressing. Dick does not want to book pianists for the fall, as long as the piano cannot be played in the manner it should be.

—Under the leadership of Julie Stern and several others, plans for the Activities Showcase on May 19 are wide-reaching, involving the work of many to make it an interesting and successful event. Keeping our committees and activity groups robust and sustainable is an ever-present concern of the QRA. Our hope is that this event will contribute energy and some new interest in the various resident-run activities that are at the center of our lives here at The Quadrangle.

— *Jim Lee, President, Quadrangle Residents Association*

## THURSDAY NIGHT LECTURES

**A HISTORY OF MEXICAN POPULISM: From the Revolution of 1910 to the Election of Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador.** By James Krippner, Professor of History, Haverford College. Thursday, April 4, 7:30 p.m., the Auditorium

The June 23-29, 2018 edition of *The Economist* characterizes then candidate and now President Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador as “Mexico’s Answer to Donald Trump.” Why would the editorial board of *The Economist* make this comparison? In what ways is it accurate, and how is it misleading?

In this lecture, Professor James Krippner provides a historical reconstruction of the emergence and redefinition of populism in 20th and 21st century Mexico. Though we live in an era when predicting the future is an increasingly risky business, our lecture and discussion will conclude by considering possible future directions in the long and complicated relationship between Mexico and the United States.

—Susan Stuard, *Thursday Night Lectures Committee*

**“KEEP THE DAMNED WOMEN OUT”: The Struggle for Coeducation.** By Nancy Weiss Malkiel, Professor of History Emeritus, Princeton University. Thursday, April 18, 7:30 p.m., in the Auditorium

This talk addresses the flood of decisions for coeducation by elite colleges in the period 1969-74. Deciding to admit women did not reflect any special commitment to educate women. Rather, it was an act of strategic self-interest. By the late 1960s, elite colleges were seeing their applications decline, along with their yields. The “best boys” no longer wanted to attend all-male colleges, and attracting those “best boys” was the key factor in deciding to go coed.

The talk will focus on three male Ivies that went coed: Yale, Princeton, and Dartmouth; and three women’s colleges: Vassar, which went coed, and Smith and Wellesley, which did not.

— Susan Stuard, *Thursday Night Lectures Committee*

**EXCAVATING MEMORY: ARCHAEOLOGY AND HOME.** By Elizabeth Mosier. Thursday, May 2, 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium

Elizabeth Mosier logged 1,000 volunteer hours processing colonial-era artifacts at Philadelphia’s Independence National Historical Park

Archaeology Laboratory to write *Excavating Memory: Archaeology and Home*. The book uses archaeology as a framework to explore personal material, including her mother's memory loss, the layering of shared experience in creating family or community narratives, and the role that artifacts play in historical memory. Her talk will explore what she learned at the archaeology lab: that heirlooms and everyday objects are material evidence, full of meaning that can help us realign the deeper truth of experience with the stories we tell ourselves about who we are and how we live.

Mosier is a graduate of Bryn Mawr College and the MFA Program for Writers at Warren Wilson College. A novelist and essayist, she has twice been named a discipline winner/fellowship finalist by the Pew Fellowships in the Arts, and she has received fellowships from The Millay Colony for the Arts, Vermont Studio Center, and the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. Her nonfiction has been selected as notable in Best American Essays, and appears widely in journals and newspapers, including *The Philadelphia Inquirer*, and *Poets and Writers*.

—Jane Unkefer, Co-Chair, Thursday Night Lectures Committee

## BRIEF NOTES ABOUT COMING EVENTS

See the bulletin boards for further information.

### Readers Group

Continuing with the theme of the American West in Literature, Letta Schatz will present the novel *Daughter of Fortune*, by Isabel Allende, recounting the travails of a young Chilean woman adrift in the rough and rowdy California of the Gold Rush era. The group meets on Tuesday, **April 9**, at 3:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. All residents and their guests are welcome to attend.

### Great Conversations

Great Conversations will meet on the first and third Thursdays of the month, at 10 a.m. in the Club Room, to discuss short stories from the collection *Best American Short Stories of 2004*. On **April 4**, the group will discuss *Accomplice*, by Sarah Shun-lien Bynum. On **April 18** they will discuss *Screenwriter* by Charles D'Ambrosio.

### The Saturday Film Festival

In conjunction with the Readers Group, the Saturday Film Festival will begin a mini-series of five movies set in the American West. The films will be shown at 2 p.m. in the Auditorium.

On Saturday, **April 6**, the movie will be *The Dallas Buyers Club*, which deals with the effort to gain medical treatment during the early days of the AIDS epidemic.

On Saturday, **April 20**, the movie will be *True Grit*. Note: this is the remake of the old John Wayne version.

### Script-in-Hand

Script-in-Hand meets one Sunday a month to sit around the table and sight-read plays on a drop-in basis. On Sunday, **April 28**, we will continue reading *Love Letters*, by A.R. Gurney. The reading will be in the Conference Room from 3:30 to 5 p.m.

— Julie and Pete Stern

## A SEASON IN PURGATORY

The Poetry Committee has a very special program planned for **April 23**: Selections from *A Season In Purgatory*, consisting of poems written by Henry Morgenthau III, who began writing poetry at age 99 while residing in an assisted living facility.

Scion of a distinguished family — his father was Roosevelt's Treasury Secretary, his uncle was New York Governor and Senator Herbert Lehman, and his cousin was the historian Barbara Tuchman — Morgenthau was a Princeton grad who had a highly successful career as a documentary film maker and television producer for NPR, winning many prizes and awards. His poems cover a variety of themes, from his memories of FDR to his lifelong feelings of alienation as a closeted gay man, to the paradoxes of living in a home for old people (Purgatory). Morgenthau died last summer, at 101, but before he died, he was happy to see his first book of poetry published.

Mixing wit, pathos, and sharp insight, these poems are both deeply moving and totally accessible.

— Julie Stern, for the Poetry Committee

## BEETHOVEN, POULENC, and FRIENDS

On Saturday night, **April 27**, cellist Gwen Krosnick, who has performed for us many times, will present sonatas by Beethoven and Poulenc, as well as a selection of pieces by some of the young composers she works with. The concert will take place at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium. It will be a lively musical evening!

— Richard Wernick, Chair, Saturday Night Programs Committee



## LIBRARY NEWS

In the last issue of the QT, we listed many things available in the Library besides books. We neglected to mention our collection of the *Quadrant*, the annual publication produced by the Writers Group. Under the chairmanship of Letta Schatz, the Group publishes some of the residents' literary output every November. The *Quadrant* is then for sale in the Library for about a month. Originally, the *Quadrant* was published sporadically, but we do have an almost complete collection from 1996 to 2018. You can find these on the bottom of the Resident Authors shelf on the left side as you enter the Library.

**THE ON-GOING BOOK SALE:** Residents as well as visitors seem to enjoy looking at the cart, and some books sell very quickly. The cart is moved in and out of the Library depending upon availability of donated books.

**THE DISPLAY TABLE:** Currently there is an excellent display of "Short Stories" arranged by Julie and Pete Stern. We look forward to the display of "Music" in April that will be organized by Bruni Ridgway and Mary Manuszak.

For May, the month of "Showcase," Jane Hovde and Jane Unkefer will present an exhibit highlighting "Philadelphia." We hope you will enjoy all of these displays.

— *Mary-Ann Reiss and Charlotte Thurschwell, Co-chairs of the Library*

## THE GIFT SHOP

The GIFT SHOP still has many items for sale.  
If you looked, you couldn't find a better deal.  
If it's SPRING apparel you're looking for,  
The Gift Shop has tees, sweaters, and more.

Hours: Sunday-Friday: 11-2; Thursday: 11-2 and 4:30-7:30

## LOCAL JAWS

The majestic trees and wooded areas at The Quadrangle provide natural beauty and habitat for wildlife. My bird feeder attracts some of this wildlife, not just birds, but squirrels (seven on one occasion) and a resident chipmunk. From my window in Building Four, I see all the typical birds and, occasionally, an unusual species such as a Hawk-Owl. Birds do compete for a place at this feeder, but the dominating pecking order is not lethal.

Hard for me to accept is the competition between a fox and a squirrel. Every day a fox runs quickly from the woods, traveling across the grass on the hill above me, then past my window and back towards the woods, looking to catch a bird or a squirrel. The birds are quick and easily ascend out of reach. I admire the stunning appearance of this fox. The fur is thick; the tail is tipped with white. Black accents lend a dramatic and fearsome look. The mouth is open, ready to snap its jaws upon a victim.

It is always a hapless squirrel that becomes a meal. Seeing such an event from a distance is unnerving enough. But recently, the fox chased a squirrel onto my patio where it was cornered. I wanted to run out to scare the fox away but was too late. The squirrel population, which has been declining, was down one more.

I know nature is like this. The kill is going to happen. But even PBS does not show it to nature-loving audiences. I believe this fox has gotten my favorite black squirrel, and I am very upset.

— *Patricia Thomas*

## ART AS CINEMA

On Tuesday, **April 2**, at 7:30 p.m. in the Auditorium, we present *I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING!* (Michael Powell, Emeric Pressburger, 1945). A cosmopolitan young woman (Wendy Hiller) sets off toward a remote Scottish isle, where she plans to wed a wealthy industrialist. When a storm strands her on a nearby island, she is taken in by the local culture—and the charms of a soldier-on-leave (Roger Livesey).

This enchanting romance from the filmmaking team known as The Archers led Martin Scorsese to declare, “I reached the point of thinking there were no more masterpieces to discover, until I saw *I KNOW WHERE I'M GOING!*” (Please note: This program will be led by BMFI Special Programming Manager, Jacob Mazer.)

— *Marvin Macnow, Chair, Art as Cinema*

## THE FORGOTTEN AFRICA SCHOOL

Thursday, April 4, at 2:00pm in the Auditorium. An informal illustrated talk by Hope Aryatuha, Director of the Forgotten Africa School in the Namuwongo slum, Kampala, Uganda

You are invited to meet Ms. Aryatuha, to chat with her and ask her any questions you may have. For more information: Harriet and Mark Ball, (610) 642-0767.

## OPERA IN THE AUDITORIUM

Did you know that next season the Metropolitan Opera will be offering *Porgy and Bess*, starring Philadelphian Eric Owen? We are happy to announce that you can experience bass baritone Eric Owen as Porgy, and soprano Laquita Miller as Bess in the San Francisco Opera's acclaimed 2009 production of Gershwin's masterpiece, right here at The Quadrangle. The date is Sunday, **April 28**, and the time is 1:30 p.m. Mark your calendar now. For more information, contact Joan Reivich, Apt. 1205.

— *Joan Reivich*

## ART AND CRAFT FAIR PAST AND FUTURE

The eighth annual Art and Craft Fair in December 2018 raised \$7,500.00 for the Quadrangle Resident Assistance Fund. Members of the Fair Committee delivered a check in that amount to the Quadrangle non-profit Board, which administers the Fund. Thirty-three artists and craftspeople participated, about the same number as last year. Sales volume was consistent with past Fairs but lower than 2017. That year was an exception, largely because a few big-ticket items bolstered the total. Thanks to everyone, residents, guests and staff, for helping to make the Fair a success.

The Art and Craft Committee is already planning the 2019 Fair. It will be on Sunday, December 8, from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Auditorium. New residents particularly are encouraged to participate. It's not too early to be working on items to sell. Watch your mailbox and Channel 78 for news of the Fair. It's a worthy cause and fun!

—Tom Unkefer, for the Fair Committee

## FIBBER REOPENS APRIL 4 WITH SPRING MERCHANDISE

Come see Fibber's new Spring stock. Bright, cheerful colors and fabrics all ready for the new season. Aside from the plentiful supply of blouses, slacks, tees of all styles, jackets, shoes, handbags, and summer jewelry, there are also appealing offerings in men's attire – suits, sports jackets, shoes, and shirts.

Do you know Fibber has power strips, light bulbs, bathroom scales, grabbers, canes, umbrellas, rollators, cushions, baskets, vases, desk supplies and much, much more? We also have some freebees – buttons, for instance. Just search for the size and type. And there are tools to borrow if you just want to use them for a day or two.

New on the desk is a small file box for you to register your wish list. Jot down what you would like to have, and we will contact you if it comes in.

If you're an established customer or if you've never been to Fibber, come see us and welcome in the new season. We are, of course, open 24/7, and we're on the Honor System.

—Marion Schindler, Chair, Fibber McGee and Molly's Closet

## WELCOME TO OUR NEW RESIDENTS

### **Eva Kottraba**

After 21 years in a South Carolina retirement community, Eva and her sister, Judy, both widowed, decided it was time to quit the “4-H Club” (Heat, Humidity, Hurricanes and Home-ownership) and move nearer to their children. Eva, who has a son and daughter-in-law in Havertown, came to The Quadrangle. Having been born outside of Pittsburgh, she was happy to return to her Pennsylvania roots, though this is “Iggles” country, and she remains a faithful Steelers fan.

An energetic and friendly person, Eva has already made new connections here. Her cheerful apartment boasts a large table, around which she intends to entertain. After retiring from elementary school teaching and raising her two sons, she became very active in PEO, an international philanthropic organization that supports education for women. She also served as a deacon in the Presbyterian Church.

She loves birds, the water, paintings --- especially those done by her artist-daughter-in-law --- and antiques. She plans to become involved here volunteering in the Gift Shop and for the Chester Project. Meanwhile, she will also be traveling to visit her other son in Colorado, and her sister, Judy, who now lives in California.

— *Julie Stern*

## **Lois Edelstein**

Lois is a native Philadelphian from Wynnefield, and, after marriage, near Bala Cynwyd. Married young, she had two sons, Barry and Robert, now successful entrepreneurs. Both sons and four grandchildren live 15 minutes from The Quadrangle.

Raising her sons as a single parent —- they were always her highest priority and greatest pride — Lois took courses close to home, at Temple, and continued to study in the fields of public relations, marketing, and advertising. These studies led to several kinds of jobs. She worked for two corporations creating incentive travel programs for sales force personnel, which took her to well-known travel resort sites outside the country. She also worked for four different magazines in their sales and marketing departments in the highly competitive print media at the time.

Having completed courses at Jefferson University School of Mindfulness Meditation, Lois has sustained a lifelong interest in spirituality and meaningful life-altering programs, which she has utilized throughout her adult life.

Lois became a friend of psychologist Dan Gottlieb, well-known through his program on NPR. She used her public relations and sales experience to publicize Dr. Gottlieb's first book, to "pay it forward" for helping her after a severe car accident. She describes herself as a "warrior" with a big, warm heart who loves to help people.

— *Diane Drott*