

Episcopal Cottage News

Fall 2018



Report From the Cottage's New Hostess, Judie Borden

This has been a grand and exciting summer for me. I had just returned to Atlanta from Chautauqua when I received Glenn Chichester's email inviting me to be the Hostess at the Episcopal Cottage. It was quite a lovely surprise.

After a few emails and calls, I was back in Chautauqua and thrilled to be the new Hostess of the Episcopal Cottage.

First I have to thank Jim Huron for the job description, which certainly made my life much easier. During weeks 5 through 9, I had the pleasure of welcoming eighty-two guests to the Cottage. Each week I was fortunate to have a new group of friendly people who had a desire to get to know the other guests.

During those five weeks, I had a variety of interesting experiences. I had occasion to take one of our guests to the Clinic here, and then I went out to get a quart of beef broth for another guest with tummy troubles. The same evening, on the way back to the Cottage, I rescued two guests caught in a deluge. I also repaired two light fixtures successfully. It was just a matter of doing those things you would do at home when you have house guests.

I learned quite a bit and thoroughly enjoyed myself. I hope that the guests did as well. I did relax a few kitchen rules, which seemed to please the guests.

I could not have done this without all of the past and present Board members, officers and Mimi coming to the Cottage to encourage me.

What a wonderful group!

This has been a great opportunity for me.

Judie Borden, Hostess



Reservation Report

By Mary Jane McKnight

Eighty-nine applications were received by October 5 for priority applications, as compared to 75 last year. Seventy-one percent were online applications as compared to 72% last year and 58% and 33% the prior years.

We have a full house for 2019 with a wait list of ten. While there will be changes between now and the start of the season, this is the most applications ever received this early, and the first time having a full house at this time of year.

Room Reservations

Priority Applications
are accepted
October 1–15.
The application can
be found at
episcopalcottage.com

Distribution is much better this year as the weekly programs do not have a major draw, such as Yo Yo Ma did last year.

Weeks 3 (National Geographic) and 4 (Richard Rohr) are both big draws this season.

Week 6, "What's Funny?" which partners with the National Comedy Center, has the lowest number of applicants.

Applicants, please list more than one choice.

Board of Directors 2018-2019

Victoria Bauer
President

Glenn Chichester
Vice President

Barbara Bumsted
Secretary

Sue Chichester
Treasurer

Joyce Brasted

Sallie Holder

Jim Porter

John Sampelle

Robert Seaman

Coleen Smith

John Tamplin

INTERESTED WORKERS

Paul Cawein

Virginia Cox

Nancy Graham

George Ginther

Jim Groninger

Isabel Hodgkin

Larry McKnight

Mary Jane McKnight

Joyce Norris

Dyan Noves

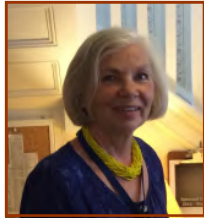
Sandra Redmond

Mary Taylor

Herb and Laurie Weier



A Message from the President



Victoria Bauer



Dear Friends,

The Board and some friends just completed a busy and fruitful weekend readying the Cottage for winter and determining some changes to the porch and living room. Wait till you see. My job is delightful when working with this enthusiastic, fun loving group that looks after the Cottage so lovingly.

Chautauqua out of season takes on a different tenor. All the frenetic busyness of summer is gone. Walks around the grounds are calm, even contemplative. In the fall there are the colors of mums and pumpkins in addition to the trees changing. In the spring there is the promise of new gardens in bulbs popping up.

The Cottage is available for retreats, meetings and bridal parties both after the season until early October and again in the spring from late April until early June. (Yes, it has heat.) An ECW group holds a retreat every fall. We have had family reunions, family attending a wedding, and a special interest group who just want a quiet time away.

There is plenty to do beyond the Institution as well. The new Comedy Center in Jamestown is a great way to spend a rainy afternoon. The Robert H. Jackson Center presents thought provoking programs focused on legal issues. The Roger Tory Peterson Institute always has interesting shows of natural history. And there is plenty of hiking in the Chautauqua gorge and Panama Rocks. Then there's opportunity to wet your whistle at one of the local breweries or wineries.

The best part is that it is affordable. There is room for up to 18 people overnight @\$25.00/person/night plus a cleaning fee of \$88.00. For just a day rental, it is \$100 for up to 35 people. If you need a Chautauqua "refresher"—the chance to finish some of the reading started during the season. Or, for a chance to get a jump on the upcoming season, consider an out of season stay at the Cottage.

Victoria Bauer

Building and Grounds Receive Improvements

By Glenn Chichester

The Cottage is structurally stable. The roof replacement will be the next major expense. Hostess Judie Borden and I have discussed creative ways to improve storage and make it more efficient in the kitchen pantry.

Jim Porter has made suggestions for improving the basement guest area, which include increasing the food preparation area and adding another microwave.

A new ceramic tile floor was installed in the host apartment, and the bedroom door was enlarged to an open archway to allow for more light and ventilation in the bedroom area. Hand showers will be installed in all of the remaining bathrooms.

During the summer the gutters clogged and created a water issue in the basement. It was determined that Skyline Construction did not clean the gutters in May as requested. When Mayshark Construction came to clean them, they noticed a potential roof/chimney water leak issue. They will be sending photos of the issue along with suggested repairs.

The fire alarm call list, which had not been updated for years, is now updated with Allied Alarm and will be addressed yearly.

In addition to the normal closure, we will put driveway stakes along the curbs in an effort to prevent future stair rail damage. I am currently conceptualizing a plan for Christmas lights for the Cottage. Chautauqua has initiated many pre-Christmas activities, and Christmas lights would give the Cottage more of a presence during the dark winter evenings.



Treasurer's Report

By Susan Chichester

The 2018 Fiscal Year was not without challenges but finished better than expected on many fronts. All revenue areas were on plan due to a 100% occupancy rate with the exception for contributions.. Surprisingly, contributions exceeded plan in a year of no special contribution requests other than our bi-annual newsletter and the stewardship appeal by our new host, Judie Borden.

On the expense side, most areas are consistent with the plan with the exception of cleaning/porter, Host payment (Love Gift line item) and communications. Mimi Forsell's cleaning service received a much needed and earned increase. The stipend for the new Host was also increased to attract good candidates. The Cottage also incurred added expenses in conjunction with the need to split the hosting duties this season. This expense should be on plan for next year. The website is now receiving a much needed update, improving access and visibility,

Our balance sheet remains strong with on-plan additions to our facility reserve fund and adequate growth in our investments. The Finance Committee will review the portfolio at T. Rowe Price and decide if it is necessary to make recommendations to the Board to improve the balance and risk factor of the portfolio.

Thank you to the members and friends whose generosity makes improvements to the Cottage possible.

⌘ ⌘ ⌘

✠ **In Memoriam** ✠

Charles A. Buss

Cottage Board Member, Charlie Buss, entered into eternal life on September 6, in Cleveland, Ohio. He received his undergraduate degree from Yale and his law degree from University of Michigan.

He was a hard-working member of the Cottage Board of Directors and gave selflessly of his time and talent.

He is survived by his wife, Kerrin, their children, grandchildren and a great-granddaughter.

Requiescat in Pace

Shop the Episcopal Cottage

When you arrive for your stay at the Cottage next season, be sure to check out the Cottage merchandise available. You will find notepaper, bookmarks and postcards featuring the Cottage by local artists as well as Episcopal Cottage lanyards to hold your gate pass. New next season are pins with pictures of the Cottage.



Attendance up at Tuesday Socials

By Sallie Holder

It has been a pleasure to work with Victoria Bauer, the church providers and host and hostess this year.

Below are the numbers of visitors we had this season:

- Week 1 80
- Week 2 66
- Week 3 67
- Week 4 93
- Week 5 53
- Week 6 53
- Week 7 85
- Week 8 85

The number of visitors is up. Perhaps this is because we stopped asking people to sign in and make name tags. Instead we purchased a counter which enabled people to enter more quickly to visit and enjoy our wonderful food prepared by the surrounding Episcopal churches.



By Joyce Brasted

Scott Brasted has spoken at length with webmaster Jason Deering regarding the Cottage website. While Jason has made small changes to update the site as needed, he feels, and Scott agrees, that the whole website needs to be rebuilt from scratch, using different technology.

Jason inherited the current site and has never found it easy to work with, due mostly to its age and outdated technology. He has given us an estimate of \$1200.00 to build a new website and can do the work in two to three weeks.

This would include a complete on-line booking system for the Cottage, including on-line payment.

The full proposal is being taken under consideration.

New Fee Structure for Retreats Established

Victoria Bauer, Sue Chichester and Joyce Brasted met before the season opened to establish the fee structure for retreats at the Cottage.

The new fees are \$25 per person per night plus a cleaning fee of \$88, with a security deposit of 50% of the rental amount due before the retreat. A fee of \$100 will be charged for day use of the Cottage with a maximum of 100 people.

Policy Reminder



Visitors and guests of the Cottage are reminded that the Cottage is not handicapped accessible and that it is Board policy that **children** under the age of 18, **pets** and **smoking** are not permitted.

Thank You

2019 Amphitheater Lecture Series Themes

Week One

June 22-28

Moments That Changed the World

Week Two

June 29-July 5

Uncommon Ground: Communities Working Toward Solutions

Week Three

July 6-12

In Partnership with National Geographic

Week Four

July 13-19

The Longevity Opportunity

Week Five

July 20-26

The Life of the Spoken Word

Week Six

July 27—August 2

What's Funny?

Week Seven

August 3-9

Grace: A Celebration of Extraordinary Gifts

Week Eight

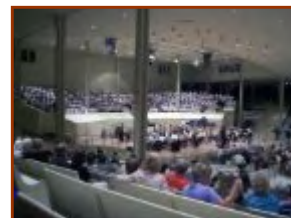
August 10-16

Shifting Global Power

Week Nine

August 17-25

Exploring Race and Culture with Wynton Marsalis



Election Results

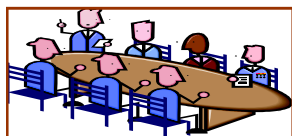
2018 — 2019

The election of officers and Board members was held at the Annual Meeting in August resulting in the following slate:

President	Victoria Bauer
Vice President	Glenn Chichester
Secretary	Barb Bumstead
Treasurer	Sue Chichester

New Board Member Robert G. Seaman

Departing Board Member Robert Matson



Upcoming Board Meetings

April 12-13, 2019

August 25, 2019

October 18-19, 2019



Episcopal Cottage News is a biannual newsletter published after the spring and fall meetings of the Board of Directors. It seeks to keep the members and friends of the Episcopal Cottage of Chautauqua, in the words of Mary Taylor, "apprised of what is transpiring at the Cottage as well as the needs of the Cottage to ensure its future as a vital part of the Chautauqua scene."

As such, *EC News* welcomes your contributions to this publication. Please **send your news items** to John Tamplin, Editor, 4765 Scott Drive, Hermitage, PA 16148, or email them to:

welshman1828@yahoo.com.



Retreats at the Cottage



Twenty Episcopal Church Women of the Diocese of Northwestern Pennsylvania gathered at the Cottage in mid-September for their annual retreat. The women enjoyed their weekend of fellowship together.

Another fun gathering at the Cottage from Calvary Episcopal Church, Williamsville, led by Jim Porter, assembled in early October.

The Cottage is now available for **retreats** and **private rentals** during **both the spring and fall seasons**. To make a reservation, contact Joyce Brasted, Coordinator, at

P. O. Box 313, Chautauqua, NY 14722

An Opportunity to Help the Episcopal Cottage...



Yes, I would like to take this opportunity to support the ongoing mission of the Episcopal Cottage of Chautauqua. I understand that the Cottage is not supported by any organization, parish or diocese and that it needs my help to continue its ministry of hospitality, which it has provided for nearly one hundred years.

I am pleased to enclose my tax-deductible gift in the amount of \$ _____

Check one: For the Cottage For the Endowment Fund

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State/Province _____

Country _____ Postal Code _____

Please clip and return this form to Mr. Lawrence McKnight, Treasurer
2970 St. Johns Ave., 6-C, Jacksonville, FL 32205, U.S.A.
(Checks payable to "The Episcopal Cottage of Chautauqua, Inc.")



All gifts to the Episcopal Cottage of Chautauqua, Inc. are appreciated and are deductible from U. S. Federal and State Income Taxes.