



Mount
Vernon **at** HOME

Community • Vitality • Support



MOUNT VERNON AT HOME

2020 ANNUAL REPORT

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WHAT A YEAR TO REVIEW!

We all know what an incredibly challenging year 2020 has been! Who would have anticipated that there would be a global pandemic that put the brakes on so many activities and a way of life that we previously took for granted? No family or organization was exempt from at least some impact. Of course, Mount Vernon At Home was affected as well - our office at Sherwood Regional Library was shuttered when the County closed all public libraries; we had a change in leadership, both at the Board and staff levels; we had to pivot the services and programs that we provide to our members; and, finally, our annual gala at River Farm was postponed.

We are proud of where we currently find ourselves! Our new Executive Director, Jan Buchanan, brings a dedicated commitment to senior services, expertise in development and fundraising, and a network of community contacts which grows daily. Dave Prescott stepped in as our volunteer office manager, handling our database, member calls, and various coordination activities. Our Board of Directors continued to meet monthly to address these challenges and fulfill their fiduciary responsibility - and they have been very instrumental in maintaining contact with members and participating in our fundraising efforts. Collectively, we have been good stewards of our/your resources.

On the financial front, we applied for and received a Paycheck Protection Program loan and scrubbed our budget to ensure good cash flow and project future revenue and expenditures. To celebrate and continue our fundraising efforts, we replaced our in-person gala with a virtual gala dinner in September. Delicious 3-course meals with dessert and wine, along with "swag bags" full of sponsor goodies, were delivered by volunteers. The online program featured an address by

Senator Mark Warner, member testimonials, and a live auction. We also switched to a virtual holiday party in December with volunteer-delivered luncheons, live musical entertainment, storytelling, and a 50/50 raffle.

The following pages provide the data and information on the summary we've described here. Despite the global shutdown and circumstances beyond our control, our Village has persevered and is thriving. You'll find this Village is well received and used - members are requesting services, volunteers are driving and racking up the hours, programs have been shifted online and are well-attended, and our financial picture is steady. If there are any questions, please feel free to contact us. Thank you all for being members, volunteers, and supporters!

Our best,



Paula G. Lettice
Board President



Jan H. Buchanan
Executive Director

EVENTS AND PROGRAMS

The Program Committee remained extremely active, dedicated, and focused on continuing several existing program activities as well as initiating new ones.

We began the year with a full program planned including our annual gala in May at River Farm. Due to COVID-19 restrictions imposed in March, we moved all events from in-person to online and rescheduled the gala several times. Conversations, Timely Topics, happy hours, and other events went to a Zoom platform. Activities like Scrabble and the annual Tea were suspended, but, with volunteer suggestions, several new activities were launched:

- BookClub with participants sharing critiques of books they had read;
- “Second Cup” virtual discussions over a cup of coffee on alternating Saturday mornings with participants identifying discussion topics for the next coffee;
- “Meditation Monday” giving members an opportunity to relax, revitalize, and re-center;
- MovieClub, introduced in November offered another way to come together to discuss films watched from home and discussed together on Zoom; and
- Online Game Group which is currently in the planning stages.

Two co-sponsored events with local health-based organizations were planned and executed:

- With Goodwin House At Home, a presentation by Jennifer Cooper, an occupational therapist and certified aging-in-place specialist, on *Making Your Home Safe for Health Aging*. Mount Vernon At Home attendance: 12 members (50 overall).
- With Capital Caring Health, Arlington Neighborhood Village, and At Home In Alexandria, a webinar on *COVID-19: What We Have Learned and Preparing for a Long Winter* with Dr. Eric De Jonge, Chief of Geriatrics at Capital Caring. Mount Vernon At Home attendance: 27 members (70 overall).

We will be looking for other collaborative programs in 2021!

Our Annual Meeting was held in-person in February and had 70 attendees; our online gala in September had 82 participants (including members, sponsors, and community neighbors); and our online December holiday luncheon had 49 participants (all members).

The following are attendance statistics for our monthly online programs and are presented as averages for the months in which they were held, recognizing the breaks in some offerings as we shifted to remote operations:

Event	Average Attendance
Conversations	26
Cheers	10
Second Cup	13
BookClub	7
Meditation Monday	8
Timely Topics	11

The following is a listing of the wonderful speakers and topics featured in our monthly Conversations series.

JANUARY: BOB LEVEY, former *Washington Post* columnist (“Bob Levey’s Washington”) and author of *Larry Felder, Candidate* - discussing his journalistic career and new book

FEBRUARY: J. DEAN NORTON, Director of Horticulture at George Washington’s Mount Vernon - discussing his background and work at Mount Vernon

MARCH/APRIL: No program (COVID hiatus)

MAY (2 PROGRAMS): DR. ALAN BUNNER, Director of the Structure and Evolution of the Universe, NASA (retired)- discussing the Universe and our unique planet

THOMAS HARGROVE, Founder and Chairman of the Murder Accountability Project, retired Washington, D.C.-based investigative journalist, and former White House correspondent - discussing “Tracking Unsolved Homicides”

JUNE: DR. GLORIA ADDO-AYENSU MPH, the Director of Health for Fairfax County and Mount Vernon Supervisor Dan Storck - discussing *Coronavirus in the Community*

JULY: ANDREW HOLDEN, Executive Chef and Owner, Cedar Knoll, - a live, on-site event where Chef Holden walked us through the restaurant discussing its history and providing a tour and cooking demonstration

AUGUST: Mary Peters, Member and Owner of Friendly Travel – discussing the travel industry, highlights of her career and memorable clients and requests

SEPTEMBER: Dr. Bill Gleason, former Fulbright Lecturer and specialist on Ukraine, U.S. Department of State – discussing *Russia and the United States: A Complicated Affair*

OCTOBER: Delegate Paul Krizek - discussing Indigenous Peoples’ Day and the non-profit, Running Strong for American Indian Youth, that his father and member Gene Krizek founded

NOVEMBER: Senator Pat Roberts (R-KS) - discussing his career in the U.S. Senate and his next steps as he prepares for retirement

DECEMBER: Christine McCoy, an official with the Fairfax County Solid Waste Management Program – discussing *Environmental Responsibility: How We Can All Contribute to Better Waste Management for 2021 and Beyond*

MEMBER SERVICES

We began the year offering a host of member services as we had in the past:

- Transportation to medical appointments
- Transportation for grocery shopping and pharmacy visits
- Educational programming including Timely Topics and Conversations
- Games such as bridge and Scrabble
- Dining out opportunities
- Social programs like happy hours
- Home maintenance and odd jobs
- Technology support
- Errands

However, with pandemic guidance provided by state and local authorities, we were compelled to stand down everything in March until we had a better sense of where things were going.

After that brief lapse, we restarted grocery shopping for members - with grocery lists or online orders for pickup as well as prescription pickups. We consulted with legal counsel at Covington & Burling to develop protocols for drivers and members, including liability waivers. By June, we were back to driving. As noted in the preceding *Events and Programs* section, we switched to online programming, curtailed some activities (like Scrabble and our annual Tea), and added so many more.

Because some members are not computer savvy and/or do not have access to technology, we created numerous ways to stay connected. We instituted a Board call list to contact members, determine their situations, offer support, and ensure that communication continued. Member outreach was supplemented with establishing a new Caring Committee. We send our monthly newsletter, *Village Voice*, electronically, and mail it to those

without computer access. We also provide a bi-weekly electronic newsletter, *MVAH Message to Members*, keeping us all up-to-date on the latest pandemic information and providing numerous interesting activities and events.

Members have been incredibly understanding of the limitations we faced, and quickly came to see how much we could still offer them even with temporary suspension of transportation. Our return to grocery shopping and pickups in May forward became a lifeline for our members during the critical shut-in period of the pandemic. And it has become a go-to service offering for many. The regular phone calls and communications to members have also helped provide a safety net of support, keeping tabs on how people are doing and what they need.

Over the year, we have expanded transportation and have actively recruited new volunteer drivers. We are thankful for those in the community who recognize the needs of seniors and are gracious with offering their time.

The following summarizes the number and nature of member requests:

Member Requests	2019	2020
Transportation	1,474	932
Grocery Shopping/ Errands	*	144
Home Technology	64	2
Business Referrals	11	6
Household & Other	59	100
TOTAL	1,608	1,184**

**data not segregated in 2019*

***decline due to pandemic restrictions*

MEMBERSHIP

Our membership levels decreased a bit this year from 2019 levels. We had several new members join: “full” members and associate members. However, due to illness, relocation, and death, membership overall declined. Recruiting new members during the pandemic has presented a set of challenges. However, we are hopeful that this trend will reverse once the pandemic begins to wain and a good portion of the population is inoculated.

Our membership statistics:

Membership Levels	2019 End-of- Year	2020 New Members	2020 Non- Renewals	2020 End-of- Year
Members				
Individual	81	5	21	65
Household (number of individuals)	53	4	6	51
<i>Total Members</i>	134	9	27	116
Associate Members				
Individual	8	6	6	8
Household (number of individuals)	22	2	8	16
<i>Total Associate Members</i>	30	8	14	24
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP	164	17	41	140

GENEROUS GIVING - VOLUNTEERS

Our Village could not function without the work of our volunteers - from driving, helping in and around the home, and making phone calls to serving on our Board of Directors and our committees. In addition, due to the resignation of our office manager in May, Dave Prescott served as our volunteer office manager. Thank you to Dave - kudos for his efforts, generosity, and time!

Our volunteers have done a tremendous job when we had to stop transportation early on. After we created a grocery shopping and prescription pick-up service for members, volunteers quickly stepped up to shop and deliver groceries and important prescriptions. With the help of pro bono legal counsel, we put into place safety protocols, prepared liability waivers for our members and volunteers, so that, when we got driving again, we were prepared and as safe as we could be.

Board members are regularly calling members to check on their needs and to offer friendship and outreach. A Caring Committee was created for members to communicate with other members who have requested additional calls. This committee is also sending members birthday and other greeting cards.

Volunteers logged nearly as much time providing member services as in 2019, although the number of miles is down due to the 3-month shutdown of providing transportation. As you'll see, our Board officers, members and committee members put in even more time! We are grateful to all those who are giving of their time and talents. It is truly a priceless gift.

Here are our statistics regarding volunteers:

Volunteer Hours	2019	2020
Members Services	3,248	3,213
Governance*	1,673	2,158
TOTAL	4,921	5,371

**Board officers and members, committee members*

Volunteer Miles Driven	2019	2020
TOTAL	14,312	9,091

Value of Volunteer Hours

Yes, volunteer time and service are priceless, but we can actually quantify the value of a volunteer's time. The current hourly rate for the value of a volunteer hour is estimated to be \$27.20*. For the 5,371 hours contributed by our volunteers, that is the equivalent of over \$146,000 in added support to the success of our Village!

**Source: Independent Sector*

GENEROUS GIVING - DONORS AND SPONSORS

This was truly a year of giving! In addition to the contribution of time by our volunteers, our members, sponsors, and donors were truly generous! Despite postponing our gala by several months and shifting from an in-person gathering to a virtual one, our gala netted about \$25,000. We had a small campaign on Giving Tuesday Now in May (a special early online giving event due to the immediacy of the pandemic) and then again on Giving Tuesday normally held on the first Tuesday after Thanksgiving. The latter was coupled with our traditional end-of-year fundraiser which - we are so excited to announce - resulted in raising over \$22,000!

Thank you so much for not only your generosity but also for your confidence in and support of Mount Vernon At Home! We can't do it without you!

OUR 2020 GALA SPONSORS

Diamond

AARP Virginia

Platinum

Mount Vernon Healthcare Center

Gold

ACCfamily, Inc.

Christian Relief Services

Paul Spring Retirement Community

The Seward Group – TTR Sothebys

SYNERGY HomeCare

TransUrban

Silver

Anonymous (2)

Goodwin House At Home

Dr. John T. Houk

Ourisman

Don and Anna Peterson

Virginia Hospital Center

Bronze

Burke & Herbert

Capital Caring Health

Law Office of Deborah G. Matthews

Rick and Susan Reardon

VCA Animal Hospital

Supporters

Autumn Electric

Ennis Management Consulting

Friendly Travel

OUR 2020 DONORS

Financial Donors

(in alphabetical order)

Anonymous (8)
John and Kathy Allen
Virginia Bade
David and Nancy Barbour
Priscilla Bornmann
Judy Branting
John and Elizabeth Brigden
Jan Buchanan
Peggy Chaison
Nancy Cihak
Joanne Clark
Coleman Conroy
Norma Cook
Thomas and Judith Crooker
Stephen and Juanita Csontos
Joyce Deighton
Eric and Danae Delman
Sarah Drexler
Thomas Earley
Arnold and Margaret Edelman
Betty Fees
Thomas and Rita Foss
William Frank
David and Diann Frantz
Catherine Freshley
Yolande Frommer
Myrna Garza
Al and Jean Glazier
Mel and Arlyne Goodweather
Sherry Griffin
Kathleen Hanrahan
Robin Herron
Virginia Hodgkinson
Dr. John T. Houk
Morrie and Holly Hoven
Susan Irvings

Jim and Suzanne Jacoby
Marilyn Keel
Annette Kilian
Barbara Knight
Paul Krizek and Tracy Navratil
Bob and Maureen Kuletz
Paula Lettice
Helen Lewis
Logistics Essential Assistance First! LLC
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Janet Martin
Virginia Martin
Leo and Diane Milanowski
Geraldine Murphy
Don and Anna Peterson
Rick and Susan Reardon
Pat and Franki Roberts
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Marge Rusnak
Mary Sabulsky
Hugh and Maria Rosa Schwartz
Elaine Serlin
Ralph Slawson
Bette Spencer
Barry and Barbara Sullivan
Sarah Tatum
Cheryl Terry
Mary Tracy
Kae Wells

In-Kind Donors

Covington & Burling
Candice Bennett
Betsy Clagett
Barbara Hummelt

FINANCES

Our fiscal year runs from January 1 to December 31. We finished Fiscal Year 2020 in a sound financial position. Income from dues, fundraisers, and contributions were down as a result of member attrition, a scaled back gala, and contributions over the year. However, our end-of-year fundraising campaign exceeded the one conducted in 2019. We are so grateful to the many generous donors who have given through the year - during Giving Tuesday Now in the spring (a special non-profit event that recognized the impact that the coronavirus was having), our September gala, and our December fundraising campaign.

We were extremely cautious on the expense side - being good stewards of Mount Vernon At Home's resources. We have only one paid staff member, our Executive Director, and a volunteer office manager.

After a complete review of expenses was conducted and savings realized, we finished the year with positive cashflow! And, the Board of Directors approved a solid 2021 budget that is very realistic with regard to revenue and expense projections.

The following displays our major income and expense categories for 2019 and 2020. Data for 2020 is pending tax return preparation.

Income	2019	2020
Dues	\$79,996	\$83,016
Gala/Events	\$47,486	\$34,430
Contributions	\$38,564	\$33,949
Member Support Fund	\$2,500	\$1,552
In-Kind Contributions	\$0	\$16,488
PPP Loan *	\$0	\$24,981
Total	\$168,546	\$194,416
Expenses		
Events/Fundraising	\$5,391	\$11,017
General Administration	\$157,406	\$104,818
Administrative Support	\$17,969	\$34,257
Member Support Fund		\$2,100
Total	\$180,766	\$152,192
Operating Budget Net Without PPP Loan	-\$12,220	\$42,224
		\$17,243
* Payroll Protection Program		

SETTING THE COURSE

Our next annual meeting will be held virtually on February 24, 2021. Members will vote on three new Board nominees. Once confirmed, the new Board members along with the existing Board will take the helm to guide Mount Vernon At Home forward in 2021. The vision and planning by the Executive Director and Board President are conservative, knowing we are still in the throes of the pandemic and vaccination rollout.

We are embracing what technology has offered to keep members connected until we can be in person again. We reach our community differently now and that will shape how this Village will be

positioned going forward. There is no doubt that aging in community has become a more critical option. Mount Vernon At Home is well-positioned to expand its reach into this new world.

It may be terribly cliché to say that it takes a Village, but it truly does. The combined efforts of our understanding and loyal members, the faith of the business community, the devotion of our volunteers to service, the guidance and service provided by our Board of Directors, and the generosity of our donors have all come together this year to keep Mount Vernon At Home afloat and moving forward.

MOUNT VERNON AT HOME LEADERSHIP

2020 Board of Directors

Officers

President - Paula Lettice
Vice President - Priscilla Bornmann
Treasurer - Barbara Brennan
Secretary - Susan Reardon

Directors

Sarah Drexler	Hugh Schwartz
Barbara Knight	Elaine Serlin
Bob Kuletz	Barbara Hughes Sullivan
James Lindsay	Lee Wampler
Deborah Matthews	

Professional Staff

Jan H. Buchanan, Executive Director
David Prescott, Office Manager (Volunteer)