



# THE CHERRY PIT

## FROM COAST TO COAST

When **Mary Ellen Gardner** moved to CherryWood in 2014, it was unusual (and kind of impressive) to hear she had moved here from Boston. She quickly assured us she is actually a California native.



In fact she has mid-America roots since her parents grew up in a small town in Kansas, where everyone knew everyone else and they were special friends even in high school. Eventually when they married, her father had a job in southern California, working on the boat that transports tourists to and from Catalina Island. Mary Ellen was born in the LA area and went to school there, but sadly, her mother became ill during her senior year and Mary Ellen took over some of the responsibilities of the home. When her mother died she was reluctant to leave her father to care for her younger brother, but he wisely advised her to go on to college.

She earned a BA in Economics with a strong emphasis in accounting from Stanford University. Numbers have always been her interest -- they are so dependable! , and she has always been able to find work. After college she moved into an apartment in San Francisco with three girl friends and worked for CalPak, which later became Del Monte.

She was active in the San Francisco Christian Science Youth Forum and it was there she met her husband Fred, a student at San Francisco State U. In less than a year they started planning their wedding. With friends in the Bay area, but family in the LA area, they decided on a small wedding in Palos Verdes in a lovely church that Mary Ellen had seen years before which overlooked the ocean.

Fred found work as a reporter for the Berkeley Daily Gazette and did reviews as well, so they often received free tickets to cultural events. Son Curtis was born there and Mary Ellen managed to be a stay-at-home mother, doing day care for other children in their home so she could supplement the income and be with her son. *(continued on page 2)*

Those became exciting days as Fred covered the Berkeley riots of the 60's and one time, Curt was even exposed to tear gas on the school bus. When he was eleven, the Gazette was sold, budgets were cut and Fred was out of work.

After six months the family moved to New Jersey and Fred worked for a magazine in New York City. It was a big move, geographically and culturally, but they adapted and have good memories of their time there. A Music Night was formed with a group of friends and they gathered every month at one of the homes where they had a great stereo set to listen to classical music, a particular love of Fred's. Even later when they had moved to Boston they returned when possible to be with the group, which continued for 30 years.

The magazine sold, and the Gardners then moved to Boston where Fred found work for another magazine. There they lived "in the heart of Boston" with all its cultural opportunities, including the New England Conservatory where they could attend free concerts. The Boston Symphony Orchestra and Fenway Park were nearby.

Travel included a trip to England with seven-year old Curtis, Japan, Australia and a special one to Turkey with Music Group friends, one of the men being a native Turk. After retirement they began spending a month or two every winter in Hawaii and Curtis, who was working in the west, would fly out and spend a week with them during their stay.

With their only child working first in San Francisco and later in Portland, the Gardners began planning their retirement, and checked out CherryWood along with a lot of other places, but made the choice to come here. Sadly, Fred died before they could make the move but Mary Ellen is very glad for the decision.

She has become thoroughly involved in the activities here, showing how much is available. She is Treasurer of the Resident Council and in spite of her love affair with numbers she loves reading and has served on the Library Committee, two of the years as chairperson, and is a regular attender to the Book Club. She goes on many of the excursions, attends exercise classes, both in the water and out, is on a Wii bowling team, is involved with several table game groups and attends the movie weekly.

With all the paths she has taken, we are glad she came here and feel she is certainly an integral part of life in the Village.

*Shirley Eggiman, Greens*





Our world today runs on information which is passed along almost instantly through many different platforms. We are bombarded with constant live news feeds about events around the world: Smart phones enable taking pictures, playing games or watching movies, SKYPE or Facetime for talking to and seeing children and grandchildren, written receipts for purchases are giving way to electronic receipts, bill paying no longer requires check writing, social security checks are deposited electronically to accounts and on and on. It is important that CherryWood be more effective in the use of electronic technology, and we will be moving toward this goal. We want to ensure that our messaging (regardless of distribution method) is always accurate and timely and keeps residents informed on matters important to them. Please know that we are developing steps in this direction, including training our staff to use this technology more efficiently in reaching out to our residents. Over the next year, there may be changes in meal payments, less bottleneck and hazardous congestion at the front desk, easier ways to request maintenance, a reduction in our use of paper in favor of electronic messaging such as email, texting or telephone alerts, reader boards, etc. It would be my hope that you would partner with us as we continue to align ourselves with our vision of redefining what it means to retire, through continuous innovation and exceeding your expectations.

Sincerely,

Ole Lindbo

Senior Executive Director



## WONDER

Here we sit by the light of the lamp hesitating, oh so slightly, to set up camp.

We start a little at the sounds we hear. Is it a squirrel, a raccoon, a deer?

But finally we gather the courage we need and up goes the tent with lightning speed.

Next morning we marvel with delight

at the mountains, the stream, the beautiful sight.

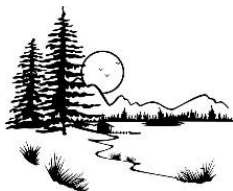
The day passes swiftly and the dark is here; The moon is shining far and near.

Now the moon is no longer a mystery, It's beauty is going to be part of history

And when we sit here under the bower we understand God gave the

man power to uncover the world He created

and so many men have often berated.



So here we linger by the fire at camp

using the beautiful moon for a lamp.

*Kathy Tomassi Greens 310*



Shortly after the Preparedness Fair this past summer and the Great Shake Out at 10:18 a.m. on 10/18, Bill Winkler took up where he had left off with his Fire and Disaster Preparedness talks to the individual floors of each building. He did a presentation to the Orchards' 4<sup>th</sup> floor on the 24<sup>th</sup> of October.

As of this writing, he will have done the Greens' 5<sup>th</sup> floor on the 1<sup>st</sup> of November and the 4<sup>th</sup> floor on November 7<sup>th</sup> with additional plans to proceed to the Wynridge building.

As our CherryWood population ebbs and flows, it is sometimes not possible to go back and get to the newbies who haven't heard the Preparedness Presentation. If you have not been to an earlier presentation, you (and a family member, if you wish,) are welcome to join any of the up-coming dates. There will be notifications at the front desk when those dates have been set.

Many people have asked me why I am so "gung-ho" about residents wearing their name badges; the reasons are many, but the main purpose is for identification in the case of an emergency. Should we be evacuated and residents are told to meet ABC on the putting Greens, one would have to know who ABC is. Similarly, someone might be told to go behind the Gardens and meet up with XYZ and JKL.

The badges are easy to obtain; simply go to the HR office (next to the Library) on Monday through Wednesday between the hours of 10am to 4pm and Olivia will take your photo and your magnetic badge will be ready in a very short time.

And while we are on the subject, especially if you live alone, please keep your Call Pendant with or on you at all times. Donna Winkler – Gardens 101      503 281 6613

**Editor's note:** Resident Relations Director Elizabeth is also available to take your badge photos, either at her monthly meetings or if you find her in her office.



**Residents,** do you have relatives and/or other guests that come from out-of-town to visit you? And all CherryWood guest rooms are reserved? Try this:

A very spacious and beautiful basement AirBandB where no luxury amenities have been spared, sleeps up to four, and is within short and easy driving distance of CWV. Its name is Mid-Mod Prescott Pad and is available at:

[www.airbnb.com/rooms/18603330](http://www.airbnb.com/rooms/18603330)

Owner Bryn Farci is the daughter of Mac & Murrel McDougal who live in The Greens.

**From President Judy:**

Update on the Casino Fun Night.... Treasurer Mary Ellen Gardner and I deposited \$1,270 into the Employees Appreciation Fund. Everyone had a fun night and were excited about the great raffle prizes. There are a few unclaimed prizes waiting for someone to claim. Pink tickets 326278 and 326396. White ticket 348040, 348072, 348077 and 348316. One yellow ticket 211700. Please contact Judy Keiper to claim your prize by November 20<sup>th</sup>. I also want to thank ALL the volunteers who worked diligently to make this event FUN!

Comment cards in the dining room....it is imperative that we all fill out the comment cards so management knows your feelings about the food, services, and overall menu we currently use and they cannot improve without your help and input. Please take the time to fill them out. It is helpful to have names (optional), date of service, and both sides filled out, including your comments. They are used to complete a monthly report for management and the Dining Services Committee to evaluate how we are doing.

Our election process has gone very well but we are still in need of a volunteer to be the secretary of the Environment Committee. It would only take about an hour of your time each month to take the minutes at the monthly meeting held the first Monday of each month at 10 a.m. in the Art Studio. Please let Judy Keiper know if you can volunteer.



**212 residents** cast their ballots at our own Voter's Mail/Ballot Box. Thank you Karl Brower and Jim Johnstone for delivering the box to the Midland Library.



**COMING-a current affairs discussion group** will begin on Monday, January 28, 2019. It needs a name. A contest to select the best name for the group is being held. Submitted names are being received at the Front Desk with a \$10 CherryWood gift card for the chosen name. Don't forget to put your name on your entry. For details, call Jim Anderson (503-975-8956) or Dick Lutz (503-853-3644).

**WOODY'S WISDOM**

I'm reading a book on anti-gravity. It's impossible to set it down.  
So what if I don't know what "apocalypse" means?  
It's not the end of the world.



## Look for Little Miracles and They Might Happen

Phyllis Markee

It happened at BankAmerica on SE Washington Street in Portland, Oregon on a Monday. I was discussing with the supervisor what method to use to pay the hospital in Linz, Austria for my visit. She told me that a wire transfer would cost \$35. I responded that that seemed like a lot. Simultaneously, I had noticed that there was a quite tall, very good looking, well dressed, youngish man standing in line waiting his turn after me for the next teller. I gulped a big drink of water from my thermos and noticed he was close and looking at me. I smiled at him, embarrassed, because it almost seemed like I was swallowing in his face.



The next thing I knew, he handed me a bank envelope on which was written "Jesus is alive." The teller noticed this and looked into the envelope. Since I didn't know what it was, I said, "He gave it to me." She handed it back and I looked into the envelope and saw that it was cash. My thought was that he had been to the ATM and forgot to take his money out of the envelope. But, no, when one gets cash from the ATM it does not come in an envelope. Another thought was that he meant to deposit the cash, but there was no deposit slip. I looked around, but he was gone. Outside of the bank, still mulling over what has just transpired, I looked in the envelope and there was \$35 in cash. I walked home in a trance trying to make sense of what had just occurred.

The next day I related the story to my walking buds and they convinced me that he had given me the cash to pay for the wire transfer. I couldn't believe it, but the memory of that little miracle will stay with me the rest of my life. Thank you, my angel in the dark blue suit.

**Postscript:** Days later, I wondered where that cash should go and decided that the banks didn't really need it. I was consumed with the notion that I wanted to do something global to help save the world with my magical \$35. Instead of a wire transfer costing \$35, I could change the euros into dollars and mail a check costing a little more than a dollar. I know the oceans divide us, but I believe they also unite us and so I mailed a \$35.00 check to The Ocean Conservancy. I hope my angel in the dark blue suit would approve.

*Phyllis Markee, Cottage 1506C*



**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**NEEDED** – Items for the Cherry Pit. Poetry and prose pieces written by residents are encouraged. Hand them in at the Front Desk and ask that they be placed in the Cherry Pit wall file. B.J. Nichols wants the original drawings and Martha McMinn can use book reviews. Leave classified ads, stories under 400 words, letters, brief recipes, jokes, puzzles, etc. for Joan Walborn.

Deadline for ads for the January issue is 3pm, Monday, December 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Distribution date for the January issue of Cherry Pit is December 21<sup>st</sup>.**

**SERVICE** – Resident magician Dick Barry is also a computer graphic artist. His **MAGIC ART** can restore your old or torn photographs, enlarge them, put in a new background and even take wrinkles or flaws out of your pictures. He also does video interviews and portraits in your own apartment (great memories for your family). Dick's work is reasonable and if not satisfied you don't pay. Contact him for a free estimate. Dick Barry – 503-719-4413.

**CHOIR** - After our Christmas program on the 14<sup>th</sup> of December, the choir will be taking a break, resuming on February 12. We are always looking for new members. Talk to Chaplain Mick if you have any questions.

**WANTED-BAND MEMBERS** – The small but faithful band would like others to join them. Band rehearsals are every other week on Tuesday at 2:30pm in the chapel. The band performs monthly on Fridays at 7pm in the chapel and on special occasions in the Royal Anne dining room. All instrumentalists are welcome. The music is easy to play. Speak to Chaplain Mick Turner who is the band leader.



**Smart DriverTEK program** will be on January 14 at 1pm. This is not the six hour program for insurance reduction, but a 90-minute class on the new vehicle technologies. AARP has stated that for now the class is free, but there is limited seating and you must register beforehand. Call Chaplain Mick at 503-706-0612 to register or find out more about the class.

**ITEMS NEEDED BY PACS (Portland Adventist Community Service)**

Toilet paper, toothpaste, toothbrushes, shampoo, soap  
and cartons for 12 or 18 eggs.

Contributions may be left outside Chaplain Mick's office door.

**NEED ALTERATIONS or custom sewing?**

A business card for Iris Werth of Super Seams is available at the front desk.

**CWV T- shirt Spirit Days are Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>.**

**WELCOME, NEW RESIDENTS**

Lois Bergstrom, Royal Anne 147

Ruth & Dwight Evans, Cot 1518A

Diana & Ken Fell, Cottage 1602A

Paul Foley, Parkview 107

Elizabeth Geddes, Cottage 1422A

Tsneko Green, Greens 206

Donald & Lillian Haan, RA 131

Monte & MaryAnne Pops, Wyn 512

Betty Ann Sweeney, Royal Anne 220

Orin Thorstad, Parkview 215

Karin Wagner, Wynridge 408

**CHERRY PIT  
Staff**

Joan Walborn, Editor

Karen Arendt, Proofreader

Shirley Eggiman, Reporter

Martha McMinn, Book Reviewer

B.J. Nichols, Art Editor

The purpose of the Cherry Pit is to get news to the residents, furnish some entertainment, provide little-known facts of CherryWood, and have fun.

Deadline for ads for next issue is 3pm on 3rd Monday of the month.

*The pit is the heart  
of the cherry.*

**IN MEMORIAM**

Lillian Kraus, formerly Royal Anne

Arthur Kracke, Parkview 107

Edie Plotinski, Parkview 208

NOEL



NOEL