



## SENIORS' CHAT



## Don's Column



Hello, Happy Hands Members and Friends,

Our next Happy Hands meeting on January 4, 2023 will be in person at the new location (see page 2).

Melanie Williams gave a presentation on "Lipizzaner Horses" at the December 7 meeting. I found it interesting the roles that Maximilian II, Colonel Alois Podhajsky, and General George Patton had with those horses. I was impressed by the maneuvers and jumps that the horse did. See page 3 for recap.

It is hard to believe that 2023 is almost here. Hope the new year will be prosperous and happy. Hope to see you on January 11 at Clyde's Willow Creek Farm in Broadlands to welcome the new year (see page 9). As usual, Stay Happy Safely with Our Awesome Hands!

~ Don



## HAPPY BIRTHDAY ...to the folks with birthdays in January

Patty Christenson [5th]  
Susan Rountree [8th]  
Zina Zimina [11th]  
Nate Drown [25th]

Becky Sadler [28th]  
Irene Hunter [29th]  
Nancy Rarus [29th]

# Happy Hands Meeting

## January 4 at 10:00 AM

We will have our EIGHTH post-COVID in-person monthly meeting on January 4, 2023 at 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. We will provide unlimited Chili and more for \$5.00 (see below). If the weather is a problem or if you do not want to eat our specially prepared, fabulous ChiliFest you can bring your own lunch bags. We will advise if weather requires us to cancel the meeting or limit the ChiliFest supplies.



Turkey Chili — Jill Moebus

Beef Chili — Melanie Williams

Vegan Chili — Barbara Eger-Klatt

Shredded Cheese — Lois Herberger

Crackers — Steve Williams

Fruit — Stan Smith

Baguette & Chips — Don Ames

Salad & Dressing — Tom Dowling

Desserts — Jonathan Kiell and Pat Beech

Barbara Eger-Klatt will give a presentation on Origami [<https://origami.guide/> and <https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Origami>]. Zoom info will be provided later.



This meeting will be held at the new site for NVRC, on the third floor of the Service Source Building. The new address is: 10467 White Granite Drive, Suite 312, Oakton, VA 22124 [<https://nvrc.org/nvrc-is-moving-to-a-new-location/>].

**Weather Advisory:** If Fairfax County Government is closed due to weather (i.e., snow), NVRC will be closed too. There will be no Snow Date for January.

## Thanks to:

- Pat Beech for facilitating the Hybrid Monthly meeting on December 7 [see page 3]
- Melanie Williams for presenting “Lipizzaner Horses” at the HH Hybrid Monthly meeting on December 7
- Debbie Jones for helping with the Powerpoint Presentation at the HH Hybrid Monthly meeting on December 7
- Melanie Williams for pictures at the NVRC Annual Meeting on December 10 (see page 7)
- Pat Beech for doing the monthly HH Newsletter issue
- Sharon Svenningsen, Melanie Williams, and Jonathan Kiell for proofreading the monthly HH Newsletter issue
- Debbie Jones for stuffing the monthly HH Newsletter hardcopies and getting them ready for mail





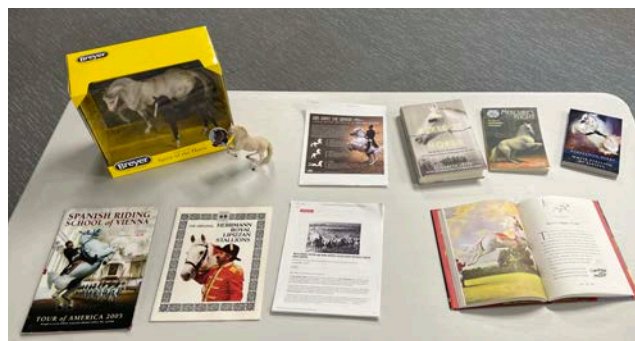


# Recap of Hybrid Meeting on December 7, 2022



We had our 7th Hybrid Meeting on December 7, 2022. We had 21 people in person and 7 people on Zoom. Here is link for viewing the meeting: <https://youtu.be/3p86Sgphh14>.

Melanie Williams presented “Lipizzaner Horses.” On right is a picture of the display table and its items. The display table had a model of a Lipizzan mare and her dark brown foal by Breyer, a small model of a Lipizzan horse rearing up, “Tour of America 2005” Program Book, “The Original Hermann Royal Lipizzan Stallions”, “The Perfect Horse” by Elizabeth Letts, “Mercury’s Flight” by Annie Weekend, “White Stallion of Lipizza” by Marguerite Henry, and “Album of Horses” also by Marguerite Henry and illustrated by Wesley Dennis.



Display Table on “Lipizzaner Horses”



Sam Yates &  
Lanny Quarles



Zina Zimina and  
Iryna Raviluk



“Spirit of the Horse”  
by Breyer



Steve & Melanie  
Williams



Eileen Goran, Tom  
Dowling, and Pat Beech



Don Ames, Lois Herberger,  
and Jonathan Kiell



Richard Cohen, Barbara Eger-Klatt,  
Stan Smith, and Jill Moebus

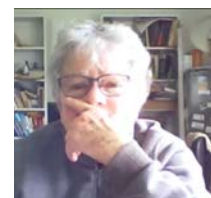


Sitting: Lynn Keefe and Cathleen Potosky  
Standing: Eddie Drawdy, Eleni Triantafell,  
and Jill Kotchen

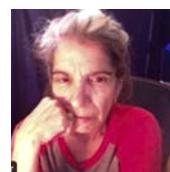
## Zoom Participants



Felix Chevere



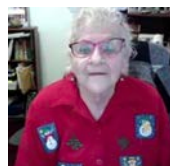
Laurie Warren



Thelma Schroeder



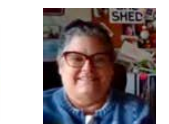
Song Jo



Nancy  
Rarus



Jean  
Buffardi



Cathy Thompson



# Happy Hands Seniors - Profile Series

## Rita Spencer

**Full name:** Rita A. Spencer

**Where were you born?**

Youngstown, Ohio

**Where have you lived the longest?**

Frederick, MD for 50 years

**Were you born Deaf?**

I was born deaf, but it was discovered that I was deaf at 2 years old.

**Did you come from a Deaf family or a family with all Hearing members?**

My family — all hearing

Discovered years later that I have a deaf cousin on my paternal grandmother's side

**Did you attend the State School for the Deaf or regular public school?**

Regular public high school

**What was your favorite subject in high school?**

Math and Science — excellent teachers!

**Did you attend college after graduating from high school? If so, where? What was your degree?**

BA in Biology at Gallaudet

M.Ed at Western Maryland College (now McDaniel College)

**Are you still working or are you retired? If working, where do you work and what is your occupation?**

Retired Teacher since 2005 at Maryland School for the Deaf

**What is your favorite hobby?**

Scrapbooking, Reading, Traveling

**Do you like to travel? If so, what was your favorite place? Where would you love to go if you had a choice?** I fell in love with Norway! Thrilled to travel to the northernmost point of Norway — Rossøya, Svalbard (over 1,000 km from the North Pole). It is North Cape. Also, I went on a dog sled ride in the snow.



# Happy Hands Seniors - Profile Series

## Rita Spencer

(continued from page 4)

**What is your favorite food?**

Seafood!

**What is the funniest thing that has happened to you?**

I went to Sport Luncheon during Baltimore DSA — Curtis Pride was the speaker. It was announced that autographed baseballs would be sold downstairs! I was wearing Ohio State Polo Shirt when I met Curtis. He said which part of Ohio was I from — then he yelled for his father to come. We learned that we were from the same town — he was from East High while I was from Wilson High (2 of 6 city high schools)! Small world! Thanks to my OSU shirt that got his ATTENTION!



## Sunshine News



Iryna Raviluk went to Poland in October 2022 to see her first grandchild, born on September 14. To the right are pictures from this visit — Iryna with son Stepan Ravlyuk, wife Anatasia, and daughter Elizabeth “Elli”.



Age 3 months



Sue Thomas passed on December 13, 2022 at the age of 72. She was the first deaf person to work with the FBI as a lip-reader and inspired the TV show “Sue Thomas: F.B. Eye.” Source: <https://www.legacy.com/news/celebrity-deaths/sue-thomas-1950-2022-pioneering-fbi-lip-reader/>

Diane Ray White Hickey died on December 16, 2022. She received a B.S. degree in Home Economics from Gallaudet University in 1975. She was involved in a world-traveling Deaf dance team, the Modern Dance Club, at Gallaudet. She is survived by spouse Bob Hickey and daughters, Della Duerksen and Maureen Plonk.

Source: <https://www.kygers.com/obituary/diana-hickey>





# NVRC Annual Meeting

## 12-10-2022



Annual Meeting



Debbie Jones  
Resource & Technology Manager



Aseel Elayan  
Web Media Specialist



Tom Dowling and  
Barbara Sidawy



Julie Greenfield and  
Laurie Dowling



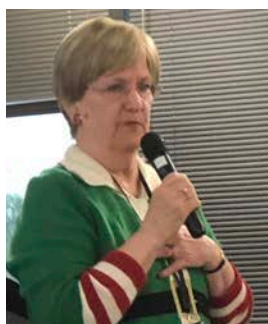
Cathleen Potosky



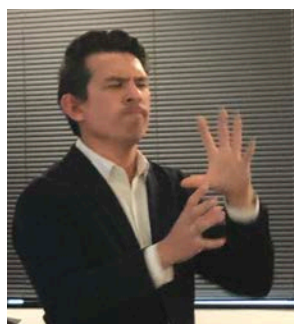
Jill Moebus



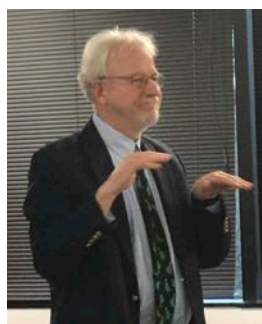
Dr. Joan Ehrlich  
Loudoun Co. Outreach



Bonnie O'Leary  
Outreach Manager



Charles Sterling  
Board Treasurer



Tom Dowling  
Board Member





# NVAD Holiday Lunch

## 12-17-2022



Columbus Grill Restaurant in Manassas



Front Row: Rita Hickey, Janice Barker,  
and Kim Pellechi  
Back Row: Bill Hickey,  
Daniel Murray,  
and Donna Hobbs



Front Row: Jennifer Connatser, Raj Witteborg,  
Lisa Wolf, Helena Ngalle, and Kevin Fitzgerald  
Back Row: Scott Connatser, Mike Yared,  
Shelly Helfer-Burgess, and Howard Ennaco



Front Row: Daniel Berke and Jeremy Smith  
Back Row: Regina Sleeper, Serry Fahmy,  
Benny Warden, and Cecile "Cel" Lim



Made by Rosemary's  
Fabulous Cakes  
(see page 10)



Front Row: Eileen Goran, Stan Smith,  
Lois Herberger, and Tom Dowling  
Back Row: Pat Beech, Steve & Melanie Williams,  
Joanthan Kiell, and Jill Moebus



Front Row: Shunling Lee, Laurie Dowling,  
Vicki Shank, and Barry Harlan  
Back Row: Tony Lee, Jan & Margott Skrobisz,  
and Linda Pezdirtz



Gina Sentz and  
Tim Lavelle



Front Row: Kea & Al Manfredonio,  
Joan Corley, and Sharon Ellis Sandoval  
Back Row: Yvonne & Jimmie Dickens,  
and Jeanne & Tim Lavelle



Front Row: Gary Viall, George & Barbara Sidawy,  
Wendy Ting, and Kitty Shenoy  
Back Row: Donna Graff-Viall,  
Robin & Darrin Forshay, and Blue Shenoy



Jeanne Lavelle  
and Amra Hrnjez



Front Row: Peggy Daniels, Robert Goodwin,  
Jamie Berke, and Patricia Raswant  
Back Row: Paul Daniels, Eddie Drawdy,  
Bill Athy, and Arun Raswant





# DeSanto Centre for the Deaf



DeSanto Centre for the Deaf is based in Livingstone, Zambia. It was established because there is not enough educational resources for the over 250 Deaf adults and children. DeSanto provides education tailored to Deaf students, including two healthy meals a day, and transportation to and from school for each student. Lisa Zahra is the Founder/Director of DEAAF and The DeSanto Centre for the Deaf (one and the same). She has been volunteering for 20+ years. Her teachers are dedicated and committed in continuing to teach their Deaf students.



## Funds needed:

DeSanto is in dire straits as its funding has come to a screeching halt. DeSanto wants to continue its work and provide for the community. For donations, see: <https://kidsofk.org/donations/desanto/>. The parents are pleading with DeSanto to remain open, because DeSanto has helped the Deaf children excel in many ways. The teachers have not been paid for almost two months now. It could be more than that if DeSanto does not get additional funds.

Web: <https://deaaf.org/>

Contact: Lisa Zahra at [lisainzambia@gmail.com](mailto:lisainzambia@gmail.com)

Address: 59 Mose Street, Livingstone, Zambia



## November & December Birthdays Celebration



### The Birthday Group

Al Manfredonio, Jill Kotchen, Jean Buffardi,  
Barbara Eger-Klatt, and Sam Yates

Artie's in Fairfax on  
11-30-2022



Sam Yates, Walter Klatt, Al Manfredonio,  
Jill Kotchen, Pat Beech, Jean Buffardi,  
Barbara Eger-Klatt, and Lanny Quarles



# Events for January 2023

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 	2	3	4 HH Monthly (p. 2) 10AM-2PM	5	6	7
8	9 DSSCP (p. 8)	10	11 Clyde's (p. 9) 12PM	12	13	14
15 Social Night at Wegmans (p. 10) 7PM	16 	17 NVRC ASL Zoom Social (see p. 10)	18 Fine Tuners 10AM-12PM	19	20	21
22	23	24 NVRC ASL Zoom Social (see p. 10)	25 Social Chat (p. 10) via Zoom 10:00-12:00	26 DSSCP (p. 10)	27	28
29	30	31 NVRC ASL Zoom Social (see p. 10)				

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## Celebrating New Year 2023



Happy Hands will celebrate the new year, 2023, on January 11 @ 12:00PM at Clyde's Willow Creek Farm in Broadlands, just west of Dulles Airport in Loudoun County.

Address: 42920 Broadlands Blvd, Broadlands VA 20148

URL: <https://www.clydes.com/location/willow-creek-farm/>

Please contact Pat Beech [[pgbeech@aol.com](mailto:pgbeech@aol.com)] for more information. More details will be provided, as time nears.



FYI, the closest Metro Station is Ashburn Station [<https://www.wmata.com/rider-guide/silver-line-extension/Ashburn.cfm>]. You could get Uber or Lyft from Ashburn Station to Clyde's Willow Creek Farm.



E-mail: [info@nvrc.org](mailto:info@nvrc.org)  
 URL: [www.nvrc.org](http://www.nvrc.org)  
 VP 571-350-8656  
 10467 White Granite Drive  
 Suite 312  
 Oakton, VA 22124



URL: <http://nvrc.org/resources>  
 Don Ames, Chair  
[\[dames@cox.net\]](mailto:dames@cox.net)

The Happy Hands gatherings are held monthly on the first Wednesday from 10:00AM to 2:00PM. We have lunches. We provide presentations, workshops, activities, etc.



## Happy Hands Social Chat 01-25-2023



Stan Smith will give a presentation on Hearst Castle. Here is Zoom info:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81991350113>  
 Meeting ID: 819 9135 0113

## DSSCP Chats

2nd Monday of the month at 4:30-5:30PM, starting on January 9, 2023

4th Thursday of the month at 7:00-8:00PM, starting on January 26, 2023

For more information, contact Barbara Eger-Klatt at [seniors@nvrc.org](mailto:seniors@nvrc.org).

## NVRC ASL Zoom Chats

Tuesdays at 8PM-9PM, starting on January 17

For more information, contact Barbara Eger-Klatt at [seniors@nvrc.org](mailto:seniors@nvrc.org).

## Silent Social at Wegmans

This occurs on the first and third Sundays of each month at 7:00PM in Fairfax Wegmans at the corner of Route 29 and Monument Drive (Upper Level, near the stairs).

Registration is suggested. The dates are January 1 and 15.

For more info, contact Jonathan Kiell at [jona3ki@msn.com](mailto:jona3ki@msn.com) or see: <https://www.meetup.com/aslbridge/>.

Please come join the very informal chat; the group often includes students and interpreters looking to learn and practice ASL. You can also get your groceries while you are there!

### Small Jobs

Handyman

**Tim Lavelle**

VP 571-350-8029  
 Text 571-223-8464  
[TWL50@cox.net](mailto:TWL50@cox.net)

**Rosemary Latin**  
 cake decorator

Rosemary's Fabulous Cakes  
 Cakes & Cupcakes for All Occasions

(301)401-6276 text

[RTLatin@gmail.com](mailto:RTLatin@gmail.com)

[www.rosemarysfabulouscakes.webstarts.com](http://www.rosemarysfabulouscakes.webstarts.com)

