



SENIORS' CHAT

Don's Column



Hello, Happy Hands Members and Friends,

At the September 4 Monthly Meeting, Stan Smith will demonstrate Tai Chi before lunch, and we will have a presentation by Jill Kotchen on "The State of Florida".

On September 25, NVRC will host a presentation on SCAMS. See page 15 for more information. In-person attendance is encouraged.

See pages 3-4 for a recap of the August 7 Monthly Meeting. Twenty-five people attended in person. Lois Herberger gave a presentation on "Eiffel Tower" before lunch. We played Scrabble and Rummikub after lunch, while others chatted.

As usual, Stay Happy Safely with Our Awesome Hands!

~ Don





HAPPY BIRTHDAY

...to the folks with
birthdays in **September**

Sharon Svenningsen [3rd]
Geneva Riffe [7th]
Thelma Schroeder [9th]
Kerry Mike [28th]



Happy Hands In-Person Meeting

September 4 at 10:00 AM

We will have our in-person monthly meeting on September 4 at 10:00 AM - 2:00 PM. See below for the menu, which is Mexican-Style.

If you want to bring something, please contact Pat Beech at pgbeech@aol.com. **If you do not bring food, please pay \$8.00.**

If you are not on the list, but plan to bring something, please contact Pat.

Please bring **YOUR OWN BEVERAGES**.

Before lunch, Stan Smith will give a brief demonstration on Tai Chi.
After lunch, Jill Kotchen will give a presentation on "The State of Florida."



Guacamole Dip with Mexican Chips — Bob Hickey,
Julie Greenfield
Queso Dip with Mexican Chips — Bob Hickey
Taco Dip with Cut-Up Veggies and Crackers — Eileen Goran

Hard Taco Shells — Lois Herberger, Jill Kotchen
Soft Taco Shells (Flour, Corn, and Wheat) — Lois Herberger

Meat (no Spicy):

- * Ground Beef (2 lbs) — Bob Hickey
- * Shredded Chicken (2 lbs) — Bob Hickey
- * Chili Casserole — Melanie Williams
- * Meatless for Vegans — Eddie Drawdy

Salsa Options (no Spicy):

- * Salsa with Black Beans — Cathleen Potosky
- * Chunky Tomato Salsa — Barry Harlan
- * Tortilla Chips — Mary Nguyen, Steve Williams

Side Dishes:

- * Refried Beans — Mary Ann Beatty
- * Black Beans (2 cans each) — Lynn Keefe,
Margaret Huang
- * Sweet Corn — _____
- * Cous Cous Salad — Vicki Shank
- * Watermelon (precut) — Jean Buffardi

Taco Fixings — Jill Moebus, Cathy &
Rick Thompson

- * Shredded Cheese
- * Diced Tomatoes
- * Shredded Lettuce
- * Diced Onions
- * Black Olives
- * Sour Cream
- * Tabasco

Desserts:

- * Mexican Cookies — Tim Beatty,
Eleni Triantafell

Paper Supplies — Pat Beech
Water — Jonathan Kiell




RECAP

Recap of Monthly Meeting on August 7, 2024


RECAP

At the August 7 meeting, we had 25 attendees. Here is the YouTube link: https://youtu.be/zMyeKH-xo_Q. The presentation on Eiffel Tower brought up two interesting topics: the secret room and the engraved names of 72 scientists.

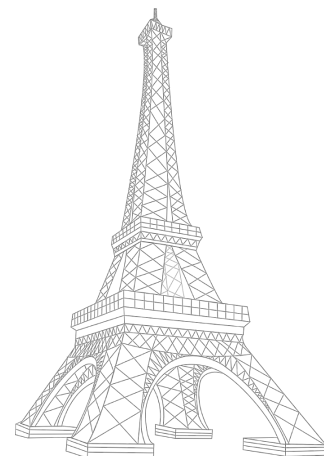
Secret room:

* <https://www.onverticality.com/blog/eiffel-tower-apartment>

Engraved names of 72 scientists:

* https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/List_of_the_72_names_on_the_Eiffel_Tower

* <https://www.toureiffel.paris/en/news/130-years/whose-are-72-names-inscribed-eiffel-tower-and-why-are-they-there>



Cathleen Potosky, Thelma Schoeder,
Barry Harlan, and Vicki Shank



Vicki Shank, Laurie Dowling,
and Don Ames



Serry Fahmy
and Eileen Goran



Jonathan Kiell, Tim Beatty,
Tom Dowling, and
Melanie Williams



Deanna Dunham, Eileen Goran,
Jill Moebus, Lanny Quarles,
and Mary Ann Beatty



June Freeman,
Bethany Adner, and
Margaret Huang

RECAP

Recap of Monthly Meeting

(continued from page 3)

RECAP



Denise Proulx, and
Peggy & Paul Daniels



Eileen Goran and
Bob Hickey



Mary Ann Beatty
and Pat Beech



Darren Marquardt
and Melanie Williams



50/50 Raffle
1st Prize
Bethany Adner



50/50 Raffle
2nd Prize
Mary Ann Beatty



SURPRISE!!!
Ice Cream for
the attendees



Playing Scrabble



Watching the presentation



Socializing



Playing Rummikub





In Loving Memory



John Thomas "Tom" Lindsey, Jr. died on August 6, 2024 in Fairchance, PA (formerly of Bowie, MD). He was born on March 5, 1937 in Durham, NC. He graduated from North Carolina School for the Deaf in Morganton, and Gallaudet University. He is survived by his daughters, Julia Lough and Peggy Springsteen. He is also survived by his companion, Louise Liebman (picture on right — taken at the HH Picnic on June 5, 2013). He was a long-time member of Happy Hands Deaf Seniors.



Source: <https://www.deancwhitmarshfuneralhome.com/obituary/John-LindseyJr>



George "Lody" Lodewyk Schroeder died on July 30, 2024. He was born on May 1, 1929 in Indonesia. After his mother's death, his father and family moved to the Netherlands. Lody married his high school sweetheart, Nelly van Harten, on June 26, 1952. They had five children: Carl, Meriam, David, Yvonne, and Olger.

Lody was predeceased by Nelly (February 5, 1924), and his three sons, Carl (2013), David (1993), and Olger (1996). He is survived by daughters, Meriam and Yvonne; four grandchildren, Justin, Vivienne, Michael, and Deborah; and two great grand-daughters, Delilah and Magnolia.

Lody and Nelly (his wife of 71 years) will be laid to rest alongside their sons in the North Sea. A memorial service to honor both will take place at Gallaudet University and The Villages, FL in Spring 2025.

Source:

* <https://www.facebook.com/share/p/9cRjp4kfgCESAKt5/>

* https://www.nvrc.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/08/GeorgeSchroeder_Obit.pdf

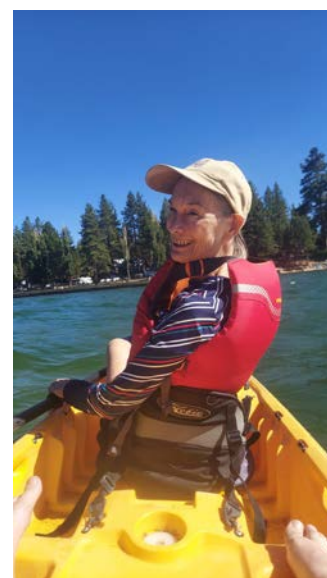


Jenny Kathleen McKenzie of Roanoke died on July 20, 2024 after a valiant fight against metastasized breast cancer that had gone to her bones. She was born in Seattle, WA on October 6, 1947. She graduated from Gallaudet University in 1973. She was involved with the Virginia Association of Deaf Blind.

Source: <https://memorial.oakeys.com/jenny-mckenzie/5466036/>

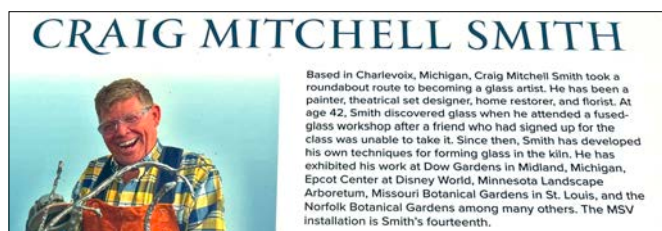
Jean Buffardi's Trip to South Lake Tahoe, CA

Lou and Jean Buffardi travelled to California to see their son, Kevin, and Jean's twin sister's son Todd and his family. Kevin teaches in Chico and Todd and his family live near Sacramento. We loved South Tahoe with perfect weather all week and clear, blue water. One day, Kevin and Jean rented a kayak. Like Game Day at Happy Hands on August 7, we played Quiddler and Scrabble on the beach or in the shaded yard of the house. One day, a bear walked by, looking for food. Fortunately, we weren't eating and Kevin's dog, Bella, was sleeping. The bear just walked on down the street.



“Gardens of Glass: The Art of Craig Mitchell Smith”

Pat Beech went to the “Gardens of Glass” exhibition at Museum of the Shenandoah Valley (MSV) in Winchester on 08-13-2024. This exhibition had 30 glass sculptures. Since 2006, Craig Mitchell Smith has been creating in glass using innovative kiln-firing methods. This exhibition ends on October 13. For more information, see: <https://www.themsv.org/events/gardens-of-glass-the-art-of-craig-mitchell-smith/>.



“Moonbridge”

Formed with blue and iridescent glass wrapping around the entire length of the stainless-steel frame.



“Daffodil Wind”

Thirty glass blossoms dance on stainless-steel arched stems.



“Hollyhocks”

Inspired by the original celluloid hollyhocks used in “Wizard of Oz.”



“Wisteria”

Each blossom is an expressionistic painting with clear, white, and blue glass chips used as brush strokes.



“Crepe Myrtle”

One tiny portion of a crepe myrtle explodes in this lavish red crepe myrtle branch.



“Wave Crest”

This reflects Smith’s fascination with water. He “painted” it into existence with hundreds of pieces of broken glass “water droplets.”

“Gardens of Glass”

(continued from page 7)



“Fireball”

Smith created this 150-pound orb ablaze in flame-colored glass.



“Trumpet Flower”

This is evocative of the flowers in Smith’s mother’s bridal bouquet.



“Starflower”

This blossom evokes fireworks.



“Spring”

Shaped like a spring and colored to evoke the season of spring. This piece is constructed of three stainless-steel springs with blue, champagne, and violet glass.



“Geranium”

Moved by a gift, the artist created this sculpture of bright red glass blossoms.



“Hydrangea”

150 florets of the two glass hydrangea blossoms



“Making A Wish”

This complex, stainless- steel dandelion bursts with delicate fans of iridized glass.



“Gardens of Glass”

(continued from page 8)



“Autumn Chandelier”

Golden amber to burnished copper-colored glass leaves adorn this massive chandelier.



“Tree of Life”

Inspired by the energy of the tree of life in the film “Avatar”



“Orange Blossom”

Smith’s vivid childhood memory snuggling into grandma’s ornate brooch inspired this piece constructed of stainless steel with bold orange, tangerine, and yellow glass “gems”.



“Dance of the Dragonflies”

Smith and his team hand-painted the lacey patterns of the dragonfly wings using an air-capture enamel process. Black iridescent glass conveys the dragonfly eyes.



For more information, see: <https://www.themsv.org/events/gardens-of-glass-the-art-of-craig-mitchell-smith/>.

“Gardens of Glass”

(continued from page 9)



“Bromeliad”

The artist created this plant, because he was frustrated by his inability to keep a bromeliad plant alive. He was fascinated by bracts, which are modified leaf-like structures on a plant that attract insects.



“Water Lilies”

Smith’s tour of an ancient temple in Sri Lanka inspired this creation of deep blue glass water lilies.



“Eastern Tiger Swallowtail”

Inspired by Virginia’s state insect, Smith created the 10 glass butterflies.



“Goldenrod”

This sculpture displays hundreds of tiny yellow glass florets.



“Lilac”

Smith rendered this lilac in full bloom using glossy and frosted violet glass. The stem with textured and polished leaves highlights the lilac’s beauty.



“Blue Star Rising”

This refers to the planet Venus, which often appears as a blue tinted star. This 200-pound orb includes 72 blue glass “rays”.

“Gardens of Glass”

(continued from page 10)



“Apple Blossom”

Delicate whisper-pink blossoms bloom from a stainless-steel branch.



“Heliconia”

Smith was inspired to create this piece, because his trips to Hawaii were inspired by the flower.



“Anthurium”

Red, pink, and white glass anthurium blossoms on a frame with green glass leaves



“California Poppies”

Inspired by fields of wild poppies that Smith saw on hillsides during a drive in California, he created those tangerine glass blossoms.



“Grapevine”

Violet and purple glass grape clusters sway on a grapevine. Each grape is singulary cut and fired.



“Gardens of Glass”

(continued from page 11)



“Blue Reeds”

Smith’s lifelong passion for life emerging along river and stream beds



“Lily of the Valley”

This piece honors Julian Wood Glass Jr and R. Lee Taylor, who were the creators of the MSV gardens. Tradition holds that the blossoms of the lily of the valley represents falling tears.

For more information, see: <https://www.themsv.org/events/gardens-of-glass-the-art-of-craig-mitchell-smith/>.



Ashby Ponds Lew Carr



Celebrating Lew Carr’s 97th Birthday at Ashby Ponds on 08-19-24



Sitting: Lew Carr
Standing: Paula Olejarz, Eve Christian, Jill Moebus, Robert & Linda Whitworth, and Pat Beech



Lew Carr with daughter Tricia and her husband Bob



Aug-Sep Birthday Celebration on 08-26-2024



Sitting: Pat Beech, Melanie Williams,
and Steve Williams

Standing: Eileen Goran, Lois Herberger,
Jonathan Kiell, Lynn Keefe,
and Thelma Schroeder

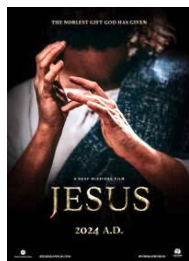


The Birthday Group

Lynn Keefe, Thelma Schroeder,
Melanie Williams, and Eileen Goran



JESUS: A Deaf Missions Film



JESUS: A DEAF MISSIONS FILM will be shown entirely in ASL on Friday October 4 at 6:30PM at Fairfax Church of Christ. This film will take you on a journey with Jesus and disciples during His brief 3-year ministry on earth. To get tickets, here is the link: <https://brushfire.com/faithcontentnetwork/jesus-adeafmissionsfilm/583278>. Tickets are \$12.55 for Adult and \$10.45 for Child. The trailer for this film can be seen at: <http://jesusdeaffilm.com/>.



Celebrating Dorothy Miles



Dorothy Miles' estate collaborated with Google Doodles to celebrate Dorothy. Youmee Lee created this animated Doodle, which launched on August 19, 2024. The Doodle shows Dorothy signing "follow the sun from rise to set, or bounce it like a ball" from her poem "Language for the Eye." To see her sign the poem, here is YouTube Video: <https://youtu.be/VPbVc0nLB54>. Dorothy was a poet and community activist. She is widely considered to be a pioneer of sign language poetry. To see this Doodle, here is the link: <https://doodles.google/doodle/celebrating-dorothy-miles/>. For more info about Dorothy, see: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Dorothy_Miles.



Rock The Block on 07-26-2024



In the Spring of each year, the City of Fairfax invites local non-profits to apply to provide volunteer staff to support several events at their monthly Rock the Block summer concert series. Participating enables the non-profits to share in revenues, accept donations from attendees, and advertise their organization's messages. NVRC was selected again this year and over a dozen NVRC staff and volunteers (including some of the Happy Hands members) worked as "bartenders" at the beer garden.

The Event management checked ID's and sold tickets, which could be exchanged for beer, so the NVRC crew only had to operate the beer taps (pour) and exchange beer for tickets. Once our crew poured and filled cups, a second NVRC crew worked the front table "bar" exchanging beer for tickets.

Our NVRC team had a blast engaging with the community! Sign language interpreters were also requested and were present on the stage for the musical performance. [Photos Credit: NVRC]



Scott Connatser, Don Ames, and Al Manfredonio poured beer from the taps on the beer truck; three different types of beer were offered.



Jonathan Kiell, Jill Moebus, Renee Connor, and Barbara Silber chatted with customers, shared information about NVRC, and exchanged tickets for cups of beer.



Laurie Dowling, Kim Pellechi, Jeremy Smith, and Barbara Eger-Klatt visited Rock The Block.



Maryland Renaissance Festival ASL Events



There will be ASL Interpretations on September 7 and October 6. The schedule of interpreted shows will be posted online @ 5 days before each ASL day. You can get a copy of the list of the interpreted shows at the Guest Services Pavilion, when you arrive. SHARAVA Interpreter Service is providing this service.

Check: <https://rennfest.com/special-events/> for more information. The Driving Locator info is 1821 Crownsville Road, Annapolis, MD 21401.

NVRC “SCAMS”

Presentation on 09-25-2024

NVRC will host a presentation on SCAMS for Happy Hands Deaf Seniors (open to the public) on September 25 at 11:00AM-2:00PM. There will be two separate presentations.

NVRC encourages in-person at this presentation. For those who cannot come, here is the registration link: [https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMoc-qtpjgiGdJJ22MJkLklt-lnjxl-7FFP#/registration](https://us02web.zoom.us/join/join?from=invitation&url=https://us02web.zoom.us/join/join?from=invitation&url=https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZMoc-qtpjgiGdJJ22MJkLklt-lnjxl-7FFP#/registration).
PLEASE RSVP BY SEPTEMBER 23.



Please bring **YOUR OWN LUNCH BAG and BEVERAGES.**

Tentative Schedule:

11:00-12:00 *Online Scams: Protecting Yourself and Avoiding Loss* by Kevin J. Nolan, Jr.

12:00-12:30 *Relay Rules and Scams* by Felecia Smith, Virginia Relay Manager

12:30-2:00 Lunch



Kevin J. Nolan, Jr. grew up in western Massachusetts and is a graduate of American University (B.A. – Justice) and of Gallaudet University (M.A. – Deaf Education). He has worked in the fields of education, advocacy and leadership at the state, national, and international levels. Previously, he worked as a Legislative Correspondent for the United States Senate and as an Education Specialist at the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education under the State Director of Special Education. Following his work for the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education, he worked for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing Program of Boston Children’s Hospital as the Outreach and Support Services Coordinator. Prior to joining Sprint/T-Mobile he was the Director of Special Projects and Compliance at The Learning Center for the Deaf. He has worked for the Gallaudet Leadership Institute and has led several cultural exchange programs between deaf adults and students in Massachusetts and China/India. Currently he is the Accessibility Relationship Manager for IP Relay with T-Mobile Accessibility. In his spare time, Kevin is an avid reader and passionate supporter of all Boston area sports teams.



Born and raised in Atlanta, GA, Felecia Smith moved to Richmond, VA in 1999. She attended the JSRCC’s Interpreter Training Program and became an interpreter in 2006. During the first two years of her interpreting career, she worked as a sign language interpreter for Hanover School system before transitioning to work at Purple Communications in 2008. Shortly after joining Purple, she earned a National Interpreting Certification (NIC) and for 13 years performed in various roles as Interpreter, VRS Trainer, Center Supervisor, Center Manager and for the last 2 years, Regional Manager of Operations. As Regional Manager, she was responsible for the oversight of 7 centers in 4 different states on the east coast. She joined VDDHH in 2021 as the Virginia Relay Manager and now works to spread awareness of services offered through Virginia Relay and offer training to organizations to ensure that they can recognize and process all relay calls. In her free time, she enjoys refurbishing furniture and working on various projects around the house.



What Do "Deafness" & "Hearing Loss" Mean to You?

Come learn more at Celebrate Communication 2024! See the latest in hearing assistive technologies, apps, local agency services, hearing aids, tinnitus, cochlear implants, captioning, ASL, and much more. Find ENTs and audiologists. Meet Deaf crafters. Face painting and Yellow Dog make it fun for the family!



Over 30 Exhibitors



Meet Yellow Dog



Family-friendly activities



Saturday, September 28, 2024
11 AM - 3 PM



Springfield Town Center

(Main entrance, between the Yard House and Maggiano's restaurant. Lower level, next to the Lego store and Starbucks.)



Scan me for
more info!

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Northern Virginia Resource Center
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2024 SEPTEMBER

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 Social Night at Wegmans (p. 18)	2 	3	4 HH Monthly Meeting (p. 2)	5	6 	7 
8 	9	10	11 HH Social at Wegmans (p. 18)	12 	13 	14 
15 Social Night at Wegmans (p. 18)	16	17 	18 Fine Tuners Meeting 10AM-12PM	19	20	21 
22 	23 	24	25 SCAMS Presentation via Zoom at NVRC (p. 15)	26	27	28  (p. 16)
29	30					

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Thanks to:

- Lois Herberger for presenting “Eiffel Tower” at the August 7 Monthly Meeting
- Tom Dowling for showing videos of Eiffel Tower at the August 7 Monthly Meeting
- Pat Beech, Jill Moebus, Cathleen Potosky, and Melanie Williams for bringing board games to the August 7 Monthly Meeting
- Pat Beech for recording the Monthly Meeting on August 7; and converting that to YouTube
- Jonathan Kiell for helping with the PowerPoint presentation on August 7
- Pat Beech for creating the PowerPoint files for “Eiffel Tower”
- Everyone who helped with room set-up before and clean-up after the meeting on August 7
- Pat Beech for doing the monthly HH Newsletter issue
- Melanie Williams and Jonathan Kiell for proofreading the monthly HH Newsletter issue
- Debbie Jones and Pat Beech for preparing the monthly HH Newsletter hardcopies for mail





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Don Ames, Chair
[\[dames@cox.net\]](mailto:dames@cox.net)

URL: <https://www.nvrc.org/happy-hands/>



Fine Tuners for 2024-2025

Front Row: Don Ames (Chair),
 Eddie Drawdy (Vice Chair),
 Melanie Williams (Secretary),
 and Steve Williams (Treasurer)

Back Row (All are Members-At-Large): Jill Moebus,
 Lois Herberger, Bob Hickey, and Cathleen Potosky

Thanks for donating to Happy Hands:

- Barry Harlan &
 Vicki Shank



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 for the Silent Social Chat are September 1 and 15. FYI, some people arrive early (6:00PM) and grab some of Wegmans prepared food for dinner.



The date for HH Lunchtime Social Chat is September 11 at 10:30AM.

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

Additional Happy Hands 2024 Members (102 members as of August 27, 2024)

Membership: Thanks for joining or renewing your membership for 2024.

- Janet Blakely
- Marty Blakely

