



## At Home in Greenwich

139 East Putnam Avenue

Greenwich, CT 06830

203.422.2342

# news

Summer 2008

## A New Home for At Home in Greenwich

By the time you receive this issue of AT HOME News, At Home in Greenwich will be happily ensconced in its new home at 139 East Putnam Avenue on the campus of the 2nd Congregational Church (entrance on N. Maple Avenue). We are delighted with our new space which Reverend Naylor so graciously facilitated and was provided to us at below market rent. We now have ample room to grow with multiple phones, storage, and meeting areas at a cost we can afford. Lise invites members to drop in to say hello whenever they're in the area. Jot down our new phone number listed above.

We are grateful to Bob Arnold and Family Centers for their hospitality for the past 18 months. Bob's generosity and vision gave us our start and enabled us to grow to more than 100 members. Many, many thanks.



L. Heriz

*Lise Jameson, Executive Director, and Marylin Chou, President and Founder, welcome members to the new At Home in Greenwich office.*

### Independence & Peace of Mind

At Home in Greenwich offers Greenwich residents over 50 a flexible plan and the peace of mind to enjoy a safe, independent and active life while remaining in their own homes as they grow older.

### Aging at Home with Dignity

By partnering with proven service providers, At Home in Greenwich can offer its members all the benefits of assisted living at home:

- Social & cultural activities
- Home health care
- Household & home maintenance services
- Transportation
- Problem solving

As a non-profit membership organization, At Home in Greenwich provides a multitude of programs and services more cost-effectively than most conventional retirement communities. At Home in Greenwich members can choose from an a la carte menu of services; some are included in the annual membership fee and others are provided at reduced rates.

## ANNOUNCING THE AT HOME IN GREENWICH FUND AND OTHER GOOD NEWS

At Home in Greenwich is committed to welcoming all individuals who want to ensure a safer and healthier life by becoming members. However, we realize that the membership fee (\$500 per individual, \$650 per couple) may be a stumbling block for some. Now, thanks to the generosity of several donors, At Home in Greenwich is pleased to announce a new scholarship program designed to help those who need financial assistance with the membership fee.

To qualify for this assistance, applicants must live in Greenwich, be 50 years of age or older, and have a verifiable gross annual income of under \$53,600. Applicants will contribute \$100 (for individuals) or \$125 (for couples) towards the annual At Home in Greenwich membership fee; the balance will be paid by The Fund. This arrangement is made in strict confidence between the Executive Director and the potential member. Contact Lise Jameson at the At Home in Greenwich office for further details.

Thanks to the outstanding efforts of Morley Kahn and our legal go-to Advisory Council member Kristina Kelly, At Home in Greenwich has been granted 501(c)(3) status. This non-profit status is an important milestone for us since it makes contributions to our organization tax-deductible. Previously, we were under the umbrella of Family Center's non-profit status.

## LETTER FROM LISE

I am always thrilled to respond to the many calls for service that keep my telephone jangling. We have developed a reliable, competent list of providers to serve your needs.

**Looking for a ride to the airport?** We have a driver who will get you there on time....

**Getting a bit behind with your paperwork?** We have bill-payers who will organize you...

**Our computer experts** will unfreeze your frame and teach you new tricks you didn't realize your computer could do...

**We have a great cleaning company, a roofer, and painters.**

**Our hauler** will remove any unwanted stuff that's cluttering your living space...

**We have two women who will prepare meals for you:** one will deliver a delicious meal ready to put on the table; the other will cook in your home and prepare multiple meals for the week.

At Home in Greenwich will not only find a solution to any problem (What's the least expensive way to get to Westchester Airport? Can someone replace my storm door with a screen door? Anyone available for ironing? Can someone pick up a bag of dog food?), but we always follow up to make sure your needs were met. So far the feedback has been very positive, but we want to hear about disappointments too. Please keep those calls coming. I love to hear from you.

## A SALUTE TO OUR VOLUNTEERS

Our volunteers are priceless! They are the glue that holds At Home in Greenwich together. We are so grateful to the band of volunteers who happily stuff envelopes, answer the phone, and assist in so many ways. But we want to pay special tribute to our "regulars," the folks who return week after week to lend a hand, coax us on, and offer advice.

If you call the office first thing Monday morning, you'll be greeted with the cheerful voice of Avis Beckler. Anne Bschorr sends out letters and follows up on service information. Mike Sampson is often at the vetting meetings along with Jim Connor. Mike also drives members to their doctor's appointments. Alta Denny is always available to collate papers or stuff envelopes. Louise Herz is a whiz at the computer as well as with her camera, and we count on her to send out our publicity releases. The towering Rudy Hroziencik gives an experienced perspective when vetting contractors and builders. His wife Peg tackles data entry with a great eye for detail. Hermine Aborn and Sally Kuck cheerfully answer the phone and prepare the mail. Helen Hawkins is quick to organize and complete any task that's handed her.

All this energy and good cheer make the At Home in Greenwich office a lively and welcoming oasis. Please join us in our new quarters. We'll find a job for you!

## HAVE A LITTLE EXTRA TIME THIS SUMMER?

At Home in Greenwich is looking for volunteers to drive and accompany members to doctors' appointments. Volunteers are also needed to check in on homebound members from time to time. Call Lise if you can help.

# PROGRAM NOTES

*Marcia Coyle,  
Joan Murphy, and  
Barbara Martin  
as they prepare to  
stroll through the  
Bronx Botanical  
Gardens.*



**O**ur winter, spring, and summer Calendars were overflowing with exciting events and opportunities from our popular “dinearound” gatherings at local restaurants to potluck suppers where members sampled each other’s favorite dishes. There were a series of zip-code get-togethers at members’ homes and trips to the Bronx Botanical Gardens, Westport Playhouse, the Avon Film Center, and Stamford Theatre Works. There were lively discussions at our current events meetings (thanks to the Whiteheads for hosting) and private docent-led tours at the Bruce Museum and NYC’s Rubin Museum of Art. And the list goes on...

**If you are interested in joining our NYC Theater Group,** please mark your personal calendar for Wednesday August 6 at 4 pm. Members will meet at Barbara Martin’s home to make plans for some fall and winter theater-going. Please RSVP to Barbara at 869.2799 (thebamer@optonline.net).

**Other summer plans are for visits to Caramoor and the Westport Playhouse** plus all the wondrous local offerings in Greenwich: the ferryboat Cruise to Nowhere, Sunday Music at Greenwich Point, Jazz on the Sound, Shakespeare in the Park. Be sure to check out the details on the Program Highlights and Calendar of Events we send members each month.

Thanks so much to Barbara Martin, Elinor Appleton, Kate McClelland, Audrey Kahn, Brook Calkin and Marcia Coyle for their help in planning and expediting these programs.

Please send all your ideas for future programming to Phyllis Herman (661.0949 or phyllherman@yahoo.com). Or better yet, join the Program Committee!

**T**he monthly poetry discussions led by At Home in Greenwich member and celebrated poet Mary Ann Hoberman continue to enrich and inspire the lives of those who attend. Our latest challenge was to memorize and recite a poem of our own choosing. Sound daunting? Mary Ann’s brand new poem written especially for the AT HOME newsletter will convince you to give it a try. Incidentally, if you want to join the poetry group which next meets on July 25, call Mary Ann at 661.8495.

## **In Praise of Memorization**

As we grow older, day by day,  
Our words, like birds,  
Do fly away.  
And every time we make a blunder,  
Is it the awful A?  
We wonder.  
But scientists have taken note  
And found a helpful  
Antidote:  
Learn something new and they explain  
You’ll carve fresh pathways  
In your brain,  
Neural networks, nice and new.  
That is all  
You have to do.  
So I suggest that for a start  
You turn to the poetic art  
And learn a little poem by heart.  
And when at last you do succeed,  
Your brain will thank you.  
Guaranteed.

—Mary Ann Hoberman 5/27/08

## **BE PREPARED FOR EMERGENCIES**

Greenwich Emergency Message Line:  
**1.866.245.4260**

Call this number if you are concerned and want information about any weather- or disaster-related emergency in Greenwich.

**Do you have a File of Life on your refrigerator door?** This file should contain all your medical information and contacts needed in case an emergency arises. You can get a file free of charge by calling the Red Cross at 869.8444. Or, better still, ask Lise to bring one to your next home visit.



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At Home in Greenwich members love to get together, making new friends and reconnecting with old. Below are just a couple of photos from our zip-code gatherings, the left for 06831 at Marcia Coyle's and the right at Christene Gerli's all-zip-code tea.



L. Jameson

**Nancy Stengel, Kay Schacter, Morley Kahn, Marcia Coyle, Mary Ann Hoberman, Louise Herz, Rhona Johnson, Jean Shen, front: Virginia Haddow, Marylin Chou**



L. Herz

**Barbara Martin, Lise Jameson, Avis Beckler, Anne MacDonald**

**At Home in Greenwich is a non-profit organization dedicated to enriching the lives of Greenwich seniors who want to remain in their own homes as they grow older.**

Clip & mail to:

At Home in Greenwich, 139 East Putnam Avenue, Greenwich, CT 06830

Please  send or  call me with more information.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please send information about making a contribution to At Home in Greenwich.

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Editor: Phyllis Herman