GEORGETOWN ARTS 2015 OPENS FEBRUARY 12 AT HOUSE OF SWEDEN

BY CASSANDRA BLOHOWIAK
CAG Art Show Committee

GEORGETOWN ARTS 2015, CAG’s 6th annual community art show, will showcase the talents of Georgetown’s artists at House of Sweden, February 12–15. The show opens with a reception on Thursday evening, February 12 from 6–9. Following Thursday’s opening party, Georgetown ARTS will be open Friday through Sunday, February 15 from 11am to 5pm.

The show features artwork by local Georgetown residents and artists who have studios in Georgetown. Media include oil and watercolor paintings, prints, sculpture and photography. All art is suitable for viewing by adults and families with children. Committee Chair, Laura-Anne Tiscornia, said there will be “art talks” on Saturday and Sunday at 2 pm. On Saturday, Artist’s Proof Art Gallery director, Peggy Sparks, will talk about buying art and the Georgetown art scene. On Sunday, artists Ross Ruot, Jane Lepscky, Andrey Bogoslovsky, Guy Fairlamb, Sherry Kaskey and Dariush Vaziri will discuss their art work, inspiration and techniques.

Most works are for sale, and this year’s show will also offer lower-priced, unframed works from Friday through Sunday. The show’s proceeds support CAG’s work preserving the historic character, quality of life, safety and community connections in Georgetown.

Our sponsor and host, House of Sweden, is a stunning contemporary architectural design on the Potomac water front with footpaths to Georgetown’s restaurants, parks, shops, theatres and galleries. Opened in 2006, it is home to the Embassies of Sweden and Iceland, and includes an event center and two floors of corporate office suites.

Prior shows have garnered large and lively interest. According to The Georgetowner, the inaugural show “was packed” and offered Georgetown’s “gentler contributions to the world of art,” which are often eclipsed by its “political locus.” In 2014, nearly 1,000 people attended the show.

The Citizens Association of Georgetown invites all to view the varied artwork and enjoy the creativity of local artists at House of Sweden. Plus visitors to the show can enter a drawing to win a special work of art!

Continue to page 5 for list of this year’s artists.
“GOODNESS IS THE ONLY INVESTMENT THAT NEVER FAILS.”

- Henry David Thoreau

As a leader in Georgetown’s real estate community, our firm proudly supports the Georgetown community. We are proud to sponsor the following events and organizations:

Citizens Association of Georgetown
Concerts in the Park
Dumbarton Oaks Park Conservancy
Friends of Book Hill Park Reception
Friends of Montrose Park
Friends of Rose Park
Friends of Volta Park
Georgetown House Tour (St. John’s)
Georgetown Jingle
(Georgetown University Hospital)
Hyde-Addison Elementary School Gala
Tudor Place

February is membership dues renewal month for CAG. Thank you to all who recently renewed your membership, along with making a contribution to our Public Safety program for 2015.

Our 2015 membership letter (see right) has a heading: MEMBERS MAKE A DIFFERENCE. Your support throughout the years as a member of CAG is literally what keeps our doors open. Our office staff, on a daily basis, provides all of us who volunteer with the professional support needed to effectively advance the interests of our community.

Enjoy the rest of the newsletter, but please do renew (or join as a new member) if you have not already done so. You do make a difference.

Thank you.

Pamela H. Moore, President

P.S. We look forward to sending you the 2015 CAG Priority Merchant card when you join or renew. It provides you with discounts while you support Georgetown businesses.
Then consider the new way of throwing a party: Food Trucks. It’s also a new way to build a business. They pull up to your house (hopefully there is a space there to pull up into) and the guests order directly from the truck. (What would Lady Vere de Vere think of that?) Usually these trucks have just one thing they offer, not a variety. For instance the Farmers’ Market across from the Safeway—a great venue—has a successful system whereby each week there is a different truck selling a different kind of food.

Two Georgetowners, Suzanne Simon and Bettina Stern, business partners, started out with a tent at a farmers market. Now they are about to buy a building that belongs to the old line Georgetown construction firm of G. Morris Steinbraker & Son. Located behind Patagonia on Grace Street, it was founded in 1944. The building has exposed brick walls and country floors, a perfect setting for a farmers’ market. They expect to open in June.

So this is the trend: from tent to bricks and mortar. From impermanence to permanence. From mobile to stationary.

This new venture is to be called Chaisa, a word derived from the Mayan culture. It will capitalize on the ever-expanding interest in fresh produce, in a compatible setting. “Farm to taco” is the tagline they use. They consider Georgetown a promising venue for this venture because we like to eat local, with fresh produce, and because there are many subcultures here. It will be chef driven and supplied by local farmers. At first there was some question about whether Georgetown was cool enough and had enough millennials. Translation: sufficiently hip and with it. It was determined that we do and are. Whew!

Their website is www.chaisa.com. Check it out.

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**GEORGETOWN BRIDGES: BRICKS AND MORTAR WILL NOT STAY…WILL NOT STAY**

BY EDITH SCHAER

Historic Preservation and Zoning Committee

“Georgetown bridges falling down Falling down, falling down Georgetown bridges falling down My fair lady”

His nursery rhyme may come to mind over the next several years, with the reconstruction or replacement of Key Bridge, the Pennsylvania Avenue Bridge over Rock Creek, and the 31st Street Bridge over the C&O Canal.

Work on the 31st Street Bridge will be the most disruptive, as the existing bridge, built in 1929, will be demolished and replaced. This will result in the closing of 31st Street between M and South Street, while a new span is installed. Replacement of this bridge will complete a major highway initiative to replace or reconstruct the five bridges that cross the canal in Georgetown. Construction will protect the historic character of the bridge. It is planned to start this fall and will take up to 18 months.

A major reconstruction of Key Bridge is scheduled to begin in May. Much of the work will be done below the bridge deck, and thus limit the effects on traffic flow. As a concrete structure, the bridge is experiencing spalling and deterioration of its columns, main and spandrel arches, arch struts, and floor beams. At the bridge deck level, improvements for bicycle and pedestrian safety are planned, and better lighting will be installed. Construction is expected to take two years.

Reconstruction of the Pennsylvania Avenue bridge will result in long-duration lane closures during the 15 months that work will be underway. ANC 2E has recommended that eastbound traffic be maintained during this period, with westbound traffic diverted to the M Street Bridge. Repairs of the Pennsylvania Avenue Bridge are needed at the bearings, arch ribs, columns, and struts have deteriorated; the floor beams have experienced section loss; and the grade beams are undermined. The ANC has also suggested that work on the bridge occur on extended hours to shorten construction time. Pedestrian accessibility will be improved and new lighting installed. Reconstruction is scheduled to begin by this fall.

As succeeding quatrains in the nursery rhyme presently suggest, bridges, without good repair, are not lasting edifices.

**GEORGETOWNCitizens | FEBRUARY 2015**

**ARTISTS**

IN GEORGETOWN ARTS 2015

Fabiano Amin
Carole Anderson
Mason Anderson
Marlom Barsoum
Rando Bernstein
Cherry Baumbusch
Carla Bicks
Andrey Bogoslovsky
Camille Bozzoli
Laurel Bray
Susan Cookson
Betsy Cookey
Wendy Cortez
Judy Davis
Albena Dimitrova
Barbara Downs
Anne Emmet
Guy Fairlamb
Robert Housman
Cynthia Howar
Martha Johns
Sherry Keskey
Stephanie Knight
Joan Kinkel
Diana Laurie
Sidney Lawrence
Jane Lapsky
Francine Mandrois
Megan McNitt
Elba Molino
Denise Pacella
Wendy Plotkin-Mates
Ros Ruot
Rabin Sutliff
Laure-Anne Tisconia
Darush Vaziri
Emma Whitaker

(Committee members in bold type)

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**EVERY DOG WILL HAVE ITS DAY**

BY CRAIG WILSON

Ips Goffier, 10, lives on the corner of 30th. and Q streets in Georgetown in a big round white tower with his mom and dad, Ambassadors Tatiana and Michael Goficier, his butter Ronnie, and his pet bird Pascal. He recently granted an interview to the CAG Newsletter.

Q: Pips, tell us about yourself.

A: Lots to tell! So little time! Especially since my dad says I suffer from ADDY! Full disclosure: I’m a naturalized American dog. I’m originally a Russian Toy Terrier born in Moscow. My breed is so rare that I’m considered a Russian national treasure, and they have to tattoo my inner thigh with a special number when I was a pup before letting me fly out of the country.

Q: We have never heard of your breed. What is the story behind it?

A: Pure royalty! At the end of the 19th century, Russian Tsar Nicholas II wrote his cousin, British King George V, complaining that his palace in St. Petersburg was infested with rats. King George V sent him a bunch of Manchester terriers to exterminate them. But Russian being Russian, proudly say extreme in all things— they soon bred them down to a quarter of the size, to exterminate mice!

Q: So how many times have you committed mice-side in your lifetime?

A: Never! I got all of my ancestors. They proved hopeless at it and became “mustuff dogs,” peeking out of aristocratic ladies’ muffins at parties.

Q: Sounds like a posh life.

A: Sure was, until the Russian Revolution came along. Communist dictator Lenin declared us symbols of the corrupt aristocracy and actually passed a law saying we should all be killed! True story! Probably only dogs ever put on an “enemy of the people” list. At one point, there were only about 200 of us left, all hidden in Siberia. Then Prezorovka came along and we were able to come out of the shadows!

Q: What a story! You sound so cosmopolitan! Travelled much?

A: You should see my doggy passport! Besides Russia and U.S., I’ve been to Austria, Saudi Arabia, where my mom was studying Arabic, in Saddam Hussein’s Iraq in 1990, and in the Kyrgyz Republic, where my mom was the U.S. Ambassador. Russian passport! All my mom’s dad’s dad was! It was so great, I was a little one. We had to move to the Kyrgyz Republic and when I was 17, I got to decide to get a divorce. The kids stayed behind with her. I occasionally see some of them on Facebook. One of my little bitches modelling doggy dresses with lots of frills on them.

Q: So are you an embittered divorcee?

A: Absolutely not! I still believe in love! As a matter of fact, I was very interested in your article profiling Tallulah last month. She looks hot! She says she’s a virgin. I could help with that. I have tons of experience!

Q: As a world traveler, what would you say are the best things about living in Georgetown?

A: The park! So many dogs! So many smells! I’m a friendly sort and get along with everybody. I particularly like to go down Lover’s Lane and go swimming in the creek in Dumbarton Oaks Park.

Q: Anybody would like to change about Georgetown?

A: Put some mountains in it. In the Kyrgyz Republic, me and my mom would go mountain climbing. I’d run circles around her as she climbed it! I figure I did 4 times the climbing that she did!

Q: Describe your accent.

A: Lazy summer afternoon. Sitting on the terrace of our house with my parents chewing balls. Problem is, I can destroy a ball in about a minute. I have to buy me lots of them but they are understanding sorts. As my dad says, I may be 10 years old but I’m still just a wee pup!
b y R o b e r t D e v a n e y
The Georgetown

“Grew up in a small town,” said developer Richard Levy, one of those recently interviewed for the oral history project of the Citizen Association of Georgetown. He meant both Georgetown and Washington, D.C., he said. It was a sentiment echoed by those at the table and by many in the audience.

The facts may be the same, but the feelings are more vivid. That is why Georgetowners of all stripes crowded the grand room of the City Tavern Jan. 13 for another live presentation of the CAG project, coordinated by committee chair Carey Farrell.

Five prominent residents, at one time or another, were there to tell their story about growing up, living or working in Washington, D.C.’s oldest and most famous neighborhood: Anne Emmet, son of Georgetown architect Tom Luebke; Philip Levy, son of real estate pioneer Sam Levy; Philipp and Richard Levy, second and third generation members, respectively, of the Levy family, which owns the well-known developer Richard Levy, one of those grew up in a small town,” said Emmett, an artist, was ready with some insight into old social traditions. Sons of real estate pioneer Sam Levy, Philipp and Richard Levy recalled growing up on M Street above the family store, Stevens, with his wife and business George Stevens, Jr., fourth-generation producer of the Kennedy Center Honors, raised three children on Aron Lane. Tischler has been a writer and educator at the Georgetown Reformed Church for over four decades.

With a nod to the old and new, Stevens began the talk, saying that it “is so lovely to live here,” recalling the elegant specialty shops, such as one run by Dorcas Hadcock, along with Neimars Market and the French Market. She also recalled Memehan’s Hardware Store on M Street. She noted that with Jackie Kennedy the town had gotten real style. Nevertheless, she said that Georgetown “hasn’t changed that much.”

Richard Levy, who learned more Georgetown history while researching for his West Heating and Cooling business, referred to the Georgetown Center Homes, which he noted “hadn’t changed that much.”

Emett began by mentioning that her mother, a “junk heap” and she was not allowed to go there. She and her girlfriends got to meet the King of Jordan. Then, at a different time, they went with the boys to Wisconsin and M, carrying paint cans and brushes. They held the wet brushes against the turning cars – and never got caught (The audience howled). She said the town has changed a lot. Emett did stress one of Georgetown’s enduring qualities: “Friends, neighborhoods, all we took care of each other.”

Tischler, known as the longest-serving and most prolific writer for the Georgetowner, said he began writing in 1980 for the newspaper, which just celebrated its 60th anniversary. He wrote immediately about Sen. Ted Kennedy and then about burlesque dancer Blaze Starr (not in the same story or breath, we assure you). He has written about 2,000 articles about the town and its people and called the place “steadfast” and “classy.” He gave a quick list of notables for him—George Stevens, Ed Shorpy, Don Shannon, Virginia Allen, Chris Murray—and worried about not naming others. Tischler gave a tip of his hat to author Kirby Kelley, who, he said, “is famous but never acts like it.” Indicating his love of the arts, he also said, “The best view of Georgetown is from the Kennedy Center, and the best view of the Kennedy Center is from Georgetown”—and that he hoped to keep writing 2,000 more stories.

If you want to interview or be interviewed for the oral history project, contact the Citizens Association of Georgetown, c/o@georgetown.org, 202-337-7513.

Oral historians at the City Tavern: Gary Tischler, Anne Emmet, Philip Levy and Richard Levy (Elizabeth Stevens not pictured).

Telling the Story of Georgetown, Person by Person

By Robert Devaney

The Georgetowner

As the popular saying goes, “If you are out and about, walk by 3107 Dumbarton Street and take a look at what is going on at that house. The house is referred to in the recently published book The Georgetown Set: “But John Foster (Dulles) moved to 3107 Dumbarton, a few blocks south of his brother’s house.”

The current owner of the house, who lives in Chevy Chase, removed the chimney, rooftop balustrade, and multipaned windows and has covered the historic red brick house in stucco—all without the necessary reviews. It is easy to see the recently applied stucco on both the front and the east side of the house, as well as what appears to be a retaining wall.

Neighbors were horrified when the exterior renovations began, and concerned Georgetowners alerted ANC2e and the DC Department of Consumer and Regulatory Affairs (DCRA). The owner has ignored two stop work orders issued in December and in early January. In fact, a neighbor reported that on the morning of January 10, after the January 8 stop work order was issued, it was found torn off and on the sidewalk in front of the garage.

Tom Lukeb, secretary to the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts and the Old Georgetown Board, said “This is one of the most egregious violations of process we’ve seen in a long time.” Lukeb said the board did not see or approve the alterations or what he called “a tremendous amount of demolition.”

Congress passed the Old Georgetown Act in 1950 (Public Law 81-808), which set forth and designated the Georgetown Historic District. The Act gave the U.S. Commission of Fine Arts the authority to appoint a committee, the Old Georgetown Board, to conduct design reviews of private structures within Georgetown boundaries. All plans for exterior alterations, new construction, demolition and/or subdivision in our historic district require a building permit and must be reviewed by the Historic Preservation Review Board and the Commission of Fine Arts.

This owner has ignored all the regulations in place and in some cases by the city—drop dead! What a tragedy. If you check the owner out on Google it appears they buy houses and flip them. Maybe this person does not expect to live here.

Neighbors, the Citizens Association of Georgetown, our elected officials and the professional staff in the departments that regulate exterior alterations, are working together to correct this abuse to one of our historic homes. Hopefully, the law will be enforced and the stucco will be removed and the owner will begin the permitting and review processes that are in place to protect this unique residential community we call home.

By V. V. Harrison

The famous Liberty Eagle Pin has landed at 3236 Prospect Street, N.W., where Ann Hand’s elegant new store is located. The one hundred and fifty year old town House, across the street from Peacock Café and Café Milano (which, by the way, has an entire named for Ann Hand), is a perfect venue for the original, sophisticated and imaginative jewels, both real and costume, designed by long time Washingtonian and former Georgetown resident, Ann Hand.

When I visited several days ago, I was shown around by Maria Magana, store General Manager, who has been with the well-known Washington designer for over fifteen years. “The first floor of the shop is chock full of an eclectic collection of pins, earrings, necklaces, bracelets, cuff links, scarves and fragrances all personally designed by the creative hand of Ms. Hand. Upstairs is the design studio, where internet orders are filled for her numerous clients around the globe.

By Pamala Moore

Historic Preservation and Zoning Committee

New Location for Ann Hand

The walls of the show rooms are decorated with pictures of Presidents, First Ladies, Ambassadors, Cabinet Officers, and Movie Stars, as well as personal letters from luminaries such as of Nancy Reagan, Madeline Albright, and Pamela Harriman. Ms. Harriman wore her Liberty Eagle pin to France as Ambassador in Paris.

The range of Hand’s patriotic pins is vast, saluting on the four services, Blue Star Mothers, and military academies. There are a number of campaign, congressional and commemorative pins, paper weights, and letter openers. Among the beautiful silk scarves, made in France, are depictions of Mount Vernon, the Capitol and the Jefferson Memorial.

No doubt about it, Ann Hand has put her stamp on the Washington jewel scene, by creating classic pieces that continue to reflect her motto... “Design to inspire.”

Some banks will pay you a dollar or donate the money on your behalf when you cancel the monthly paper statements you get in the mail. If every household took advantage of online bank statements, the money saved could send more than seventeen thousand recent high school graduates to a public university for a year! — Lee Child

Georgetown Garden Club
I/WE WANT TO BE A MEMBER(S) OF THE CITIZENS ASSOCIATION OF GEORGETOWN FOR 2015!

Name
Address
Telephone (home)     (office)
E-mail (important—print clearly!)

I would like to volunteer to help! My areas of interest are: ☐ Historic Preservation & Zoning  ☐ Programs  ☐ Concerts in the Parks  ☐ Membership Outreach  ☐ Traffic & Parking  ☐ ABC issues  ☐ Trees  ☐ Publications/Newsletter  ☐ Trash & Rodents  ☐ Oral History  ☐ Public Safety Committee or Block Captain  ☐ Art Show  ☐ Graphic Design  ☐ Board  ☐ Gala  ☐ Other.

Membership Category (please check one):  ☐ $55 Individual Resident  ☐ $75 Couple Resident  ☐ $75 Business or Associate (non-voting)  ☐ $10 Student (non-voting)  ☐ CAG Dues are tax-deductible.

Form of Payment :   Amount: $ ______  ☐ Check (made payable to CAG)  ☐ Visa  ☐ Mastercard  ☐ American Express  (Note: CAG Dues are tax-deductible)

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Mail to: Citizens Association of Georgetown, 1365 Wisconsin Ave, NW, Suite 200, Washington DC 20007 or FAX to: 202-333-1088 OR pay online at www.cagtown.org

PLANING FOR SUMMER CONCERTS IS UNDERWAY… SAVE THE DATES!

BY HANNAH ISLES
Concerts Chair

It may be cold outside, but CAG’s Concerts in the Parks committee is thinking summer! The committee met on January 7th at the Georgetown Club to celebrate the success of the 2014 season, and begin planning for 2015, and they can promise fun times ahead.

This year’s concerts are scheduled for:  
Sunday, May 17th in Volta Park  
Sunday, June 14th in Volta Park  
Sunday, July 12th in Rose Park

The Concerts in the Parks series continues to draw ever larger crowds of families and friends of all ages from the Georgetown community and beyond because of the great bands, fun family activities and recent addition of food trucks. The 2015 season promises to be among the best they have had thanks to the generosity of our loyal sponsors and the dedication of our hard working committee, including: Jennifer Altemus, Robin Baker, Betsy Corley, Renee Esfandiary, Kelly Doolan, Jessica Heywood, Kathleen Jenkins, Michelle Korsho, Amy Kuhnert, Leslie Maysak, Elizabeth Miller, Erin Mullan, Tina Nadler, Cinny Poole, Shannon Pryor, Jennifer Reno, Colman Riddell, Reagan Smith, Erin Sobansky, Elena Tomkins, Madeline Wade, Dorothy Williams and Trish Yan.

If you would like to join the concerts committee or become a sponsor please contact the CAG.

HISTORIC PRESERVATION
CAG brings years of experience and technical skills to bear on the intricacies of historic preservation regulations, enforcement and regulatory agencies.

PUBLIC SAFETY
Over 80 well informed block captains keep neighbors immediately alerted to crime; CAG pays private security guards to patrol neighborhood in marked cars.

NEWSLETTER & WEBSITE

TRASH & RODENTS
CAG works with neighbors. The Department of Public Works, and the Department of Health to keep our neighborhood clean.

TOWN/COUNCIL ACTIVITIES
CAG works constantly with Georgetown University, the Police Department and other community groups on student-related issues.
News Bytes

The Avery Georgetown LLC has proposed building a 15-room boutique inn in the two small existing office buildings at 2616 and 2620 P Street…The Fillmore School property, located at 1801 35th Street, has been listed for $14 million with TTR Sotheby's International Realty by seller George Washington University which acquired the historic schoolhouse and its more than one acre of land last year as part of a deal with the National Gallery of Art and the Corcoran Gallery of Art…FOREVER 21 opened at 3222 M Street…Georgetown Lombardi Comprehensive Cancer Center will host a show by famed photographer “William Wegman: Out of the Box,” a solo exhibition of 22 framed photographs featuring his most recognizable subject matter: Weimaraner dogs (Georgetown Lombardi Atrium is at MedStar Georgetown University Hospital, 3800 Reservoir Rd. NW, Entrance 1.)…The Alex, named after Georgetown resident, Alexander Graham Bell, is slated to open in The Graham Georgetown in February—expect homages to Bell including a Steampunk design scheme in the new restaurant and lounge.

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William K. Moody
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