

A community of religious inclusion and compassion, providing hospitality and affordable accommodations, promoting dialogue, fellowship and growth.

President's Message

Nathan Day Wilson, President, Board of Directors



Many thanks for remarks about last fall's column in which I emphasized that we benefit from the vision, hard work and bold generosity of others! We drink from wells that we did not dig.

I promised to send my email address: Nathan@fccshelby.org. If you would like to be in contact, email is often the most efficient way.

Today's message is less a cohesive column than a series of sound bites. Hopefully the bites collectively communicate the excitement and energy leading into this season.

1. Please use the words "thank you" freely this summer. Managers, hosts, our registrar, our web architect, the editor of this newsletter, those who serve on committees, ECOC directors and others are committed to the ECOC, its guests and its mission. Please thank them. It's a privilege for me to know and work with them.

2. Please attend the weekly brown bag discussions. The topics are wide-ranging and interesting. The dialogue is likely to enrich.

3. Please attend the socials. They are wonderful opportunities to build community.

4. We are making facility improvements as finances permit and priorities dictate. Your donations of ideas and money can be sent to ECOC, Box 988, Chautauqua, NY 14722. They will be put to good use!

5. The fall volunteer weeks are listed later in the newsletter. Your help any of that time is much appreciated.

6. I hope you sign up for the brand new listserv, which is detailed later in this newsletter. It should prove to be a timely way to stay informed about ECOC events, room openings and the like.

7. If you are interested in serving on the ECOC Board or committees, please tell me. Available committees are Property, Programming, Hospitality, Finance, Development, Nominating and Personnel. Volunteering for one (or more) is not a life sentence.

8. I anticipate thorough deliberations and thoughtful decisions about our facilities and property development. I hope we will listen to others' desires as well as present our own.

I hope you can tell from the above sound bites that the ECOC is a dynamic organization. I also hope you can tell that my priorities as Board president include open communication and consensus building. So, I look forward to hearing from you. ■

Capital Fund Update

Robert Boell

Recent gifts to the Capital Fund have been received In Honor of Toni Goldfarb and James & Elisabeth Groninger. A memorial donation was made in memory of Rev. Mark Henderson. In addition, the ECOC has received matching fund grants to the Capital Fund from Pfizer Foundation and GE Foundation.

There is presently no active "Capital Fund Campaign." However, the fund is open as a repository for those who want to contribute to the ongoing physical needs of the ECOC. Checks may be made to ECOC, marked "Capital Fund," and sent to:

ECOC
Att: Robert Boell
P.O. Box 988
Chautauqua, NY 14722. ■

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Managers' Report



Ed and Marge Johnston, Lois and Nels Sandberg

Dear friends of ECOC,

We are excited to be back at the ECOC this summer as the managers. We are looking forward to seeing our old friends and making some new ones.

Work continued this winter on our houses. We have started improvements on the Westervelt. Several rooms are being refurbished with new carpets or rugs. Two rooms have been combined to make a larger "family" room, and the kitchen is being painted and recarpeted. This is a small start on much-needed updating. Most rooms in the Westervelt have had ceiling fans installed, which really helps with air circulation.

We are very happy to welcome our hosts and hostesses for this season:

Shaw

George and Mary Dillingham
(Weeks 1–9)

Bird-Werner

Tom and Jeanie Kerns (Weeks 1–5)
Michael and Michelle Montford
(Weeks 6–7)
Carl and Sandy Williams
(Weeks 8–9)

Westervelt

E. Carol Maxwell (Weeks 1–2, 8–9)
Jack and Mary Knepp (Weeks 3–5)
Nathan and Janice Wilson
(Weeks 6–7)

Don't forget to let us know if you can help with the work weeks and/or weekends. The work that gets done during these days helps us keep our costs down and makes our houses look welcoming for the season.

— Managers Lois and Nels Sandberg
(Weeks 1–5) & Ed and Marge Johnston
(Weeks 6–9)
ECOCManagers@gmail.com ■

We Need Your Help!

It's time to get ready for the 2012 Season at the ECOC! There is always a lot to do before we are ready to open and welcome our guests. Please come join us and share your talents! Types of tasks needing attention: cleaning, washing, hanging curtains, painting, light carpentry and more. Come when you can; leave when you must.

SPRING (any time during this period)
June 1–3 and 15–22

FALL (any time during this period)
August 27–30 and Sept. 4–7

You should bring your own linens, food and tools. Plan on a dish to share for Saturday night's potluck and fellowship.

Please contact the Managers about the date of your arrival, at:
ECOCManagers@gmail.com ■

Notes from the Registrar

E. Carol Maxwell

The 2012 season is almost here! We are fully booked (with a waiting list) Weeks 1 through 5. We have a few vacancies Week 6, more for Weeks 7 and 8, and many openings for Week 9. If you'd like to reserve a room, you can call me at 716-581-3659 (before the season) or 716-357-3814 (during the summer), or email me any time at ecoregistrar@gmail.com. A reminder: If you are planning to use the kitchens, please remember that shelf and refrigerator space are shared (and limited).

I wish you all a safe journey, and I

look forward to seeing you this summer!

Philip & Phillip Return

Once again this year, Philip Martin-Nielson and Phillip Wells will be available on Saturdays to carry luggage and kitchen supplies for our guests. Tipping the young men for this helpful service will be very much appreciated. Thank you!

Our Dance Students

Sara Grace Lee, one of the ECOC's "adopted" dance students in

2010 and 2011 is now studying dance with the Pennsylvania Ballet Company in Philadelphia.

Philip Martin-Nielson, a member of the Chautauqua Dance-Apprentice program, will be taking classes and performing this summer! We are delighted that this is Philip's third year to be one of our "Connections"!

Our new "Connection" this summer is **Errol Kurtz**, a Festival dancer, and we look forward to meeting him when the Season begins. ■

Web Site News

Bob Tupaj

The ECOC is introducing a new way to communicate—by using a community listserv. You will find the listserv on the ECOC home page, <http://www.ecoc-chautauqua.org>.

After clicking on the link to access the listserv, enter your email address and password, and re-enter the password on next line as well. Select Yes to Daily Digest (unless you prefer receiving an email message after someone posts to the list). After you subscribe, expect an email to confirm your subscription along with instructions on posting messages to the listserv. That's it!

The listserv will be used to keep members updated on ECOC activities plus information on last-minute room vacancies. Please keep in mind that this

is a public list, so only post messages you want everyone on the list to see (information for the community only). If you have any questions about the listserv, or web site ideas and comments, contact me at rdtupaj@zoominternet.net.

You can also check out our blog. To reach it, click on the "Latest News" graphic on the ECOC home page or go to <http://ecocchaut.wordpress.com/>. We began the blog in 2009 to keep you updated on the progress of the Shaw kitchen renovation. Later we featured news and photos of the new elevator. We'll use the blog to announce new features added to the ECOC web site plus other community projects being planned. ■

Meet Our Webmaster



About five years ago the Board approached ECOC guest (and professional webmaster) Bob Tupaj and asked him to create a web site for the Ecumenical

Community. Bob was happy to oblige, and he has managed our web site ever since.

Bob monitors the site and makes updates when requested, checks usage stats from time to time, and changes hosting companies as needed. He is always looking into new features that can be added to make the site more interactive and interesting, such as photos of rooms, a blog, a listserv, a Facebook page, etc. He also hopes to develop a mobile site sometime in the future.

Introduced to Chautauqua Institution back in the early 1990's, Bob became an instant convert. He has attended almost every year since then, and stayed at the ECOC every time.

Bob grew up in Utica, New York, but now he calls Youngstown, Ohio, his home. He has worked as a web site manager/portal administrator for Youngstown State University for over 10 years. Before that, he was a reference librarian and webmaster for YSU Maag Library. He also worked as a Coordinator of Religious Education at a parish in Geneva, New York, for three years.

Bob received a Master of Library Science degree from the State University of New York at Buffalo and a M.A. in Theology from St. Bernard's Institute in Rochester.

Bob is an avid swimmer (4–5 days a week!) and enjoys walking, biking, and cross-country skiing. He also likes reading, taking photographs, listening to his shortwave radio, surfing the Web, and taking painting classes at his local YMCA. ■

2011 Scholarship Winner

Deborah First

Meet John Barber, a young man who grew up in Chautauqua County, performed with the all-county chorus in the amphitheater but had never felt that Chautauqua itself would be part of his world. A devoted husband and father, John works every day with teens in need at the Jamestown YMCA.

In 2010, the ECOC Board created a Chautauqua County scholarship award to be given to someone whose work in the County reflected the mission and understanding of Chautauqua's founders: there are those whose work does not bring personal gain but is in the service of the greater good of all. Nominees were solicited from regional foundations and several mission-based and/or social service agencies. From that list, the ECOC Scholarship committee selected John. The ECOC welcomed John and his family to the

Westervelt during Week 5 last summer.

The children had a glorious week at Club and the whole family enjoyed each evening's entertainment. While the family kitchen kept them from meeting everyone in the building right away, they were not yet finished unpacking when one of the other Westervelt families knocked on their door and invited the children out to play. Seeing the children able to be safe and independent, having the joy of strolling together and going to lectures, the family experienced rest, renewal and refreshment.

There were a few hitches in this first year of the award and John is happy to help us sort those out for the next year's recipients. Meanwhile, John and his family are looking forward to future work weekends, and spreading the good news back at work about the hidden gem that we know as the ECOC. ■

Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua

P.O. Box 988
 25 Roberts Avenue
 Chautauqua, New York 14722
 716-357-3814 (Summer)
 716-581-3659 (Winter)
www.ecoc-chautauqua.org

ECOC Calendar

June 1 to 3 & June 15 to 22	Spring Work Weeks (anytime during period)
June 21 & 22	Spring Board meeting
June 23	Season begins
August 26	Season ends
August 27 & 28	Annual Board meeting
August 27 to 30 & Sept. 4 to 7	Fall Work Weeks (anytime during period)



Chautauqua 2012 Themes

Week 1	June 24—30	Roger Rosenblatt and Friends on the Literary Arts
Week 2	July 1—7	The Lehrer Report: What Informed Voters Need to Know
Week 3	July 8—14	Inspire. Commit. Act.
Week 4	July 15—21	Water Matters
Week 5	July 22—28	Pakistan: Straddling the Boundary Between Asia and the Middle East
Week 6	July 29—Aug. 4	Digital Identity
Week 7	August 5—11	The Ethics of Cheating
Week 8	August 12—18	Radicalism
Week 9	August 19—25	The Presidents Club

The Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua Newsletter is published twice a year, in spring and fall, and mailed to interested guests. It is also available on the ECOC web site: www.ecoc-chautauqua.org.

Editor and layout: Marcella Klein

To submit articles or photos, or notify us of an address change, email mklein5@rochester.rr.com

The Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua (ECOC), a not-for-profit corporation with a 501(c)(3) designation, was founded in 2003 to provide low-cost housing for clergy, religious workers and lay people of all faiths.

The Ministers' Union (MU) was founded in 1929 to provide low-cost housing to clergy, clergy families and religious workers attending Chautauqua Institution.

The MU and ECOC share many values, but are separate corporations with separate boards of directors.