

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

Message from the Board

Susan Helm, President, Board of Directors

Dear Friends,

I recently read an article which described loneliness as being one of the major contributing causes of heart attacks, other major illnesses, and even death. It occurred to me that no one is lonely at the ECOC—it is impossible to be disconnected there! And how great to be a part of such a community! Someone commented last summer that it was unbelievable that lasting friendships were formed so quickly—it is amazing. We gather in kitchens and on porches and share our lives and our stories—aren't we lucky (and healthy!)?

Your ECOC board and staff are busy working on plans for the summer — new board members, programs for the summer, and work on the Securing the Future campaign. If you haven't pledged for that, please do! It is going very slowly, and there is so much which needs to be done—wouldn't it be nice to have more bathrooms? As of May 10, we have pledges and one-time gifts of \$181,388.

Also important, if you can, come early or stay late to help get the buildings ready or put them to bed—we need you. It is fun, and we need your help for the Work Weeks (May 30 to June 2, June 13 to 20, August 25 to 28 and September 2 to 4).

I have been busy sorting out students for the Chautauqua Connec-



tions project—this year, the ECOC will sponsor several. There will be three dancers: a 15-year-old boy, a 16-year-old girl, and a 17-year-old boy, who has been “ours” for the last two years. We will also have an orchestra student, and an intern from the *Chautauquan Daily*. These young people are delightful, and love meeting the ECOC guests, eating ice cream, and maybe having other treats. Make a point to introduce yourself, I think you will be glad you did.

I can't wait to see many of you this summer. Take care and happy spring! Don't hesitate to contact me if I can help you in any way!

Susan Helm
smhelm@clockwinders.net
502-897-3870 (before May 21)
716-357-5799 (after May 21) ■

Great News on Campaign

Jan Hoffman, Development Chair

We are excited to report that we have received over \$100,000 toward Securing the Future, our three-year campaign that is beginning this season. The Board and you, our guests and friends, have pledged over \$180,000. We are over half the way toward a much brighter future!

The \$300,000 that we hope to raise will guarantee a safer, well-maintained home for our guests, and help us offer hospitality in our three houses.

As our foundations have been built upon the dreams of others, so fulfilling the dream of three beautiful houses, full of life with lovely porches, comfortable, safe housing and friendly conversation in efficient kitchens rests on us and our contributions.

Thank you for the dollars promised and those already received. We do not take it lightly that you contribute generously and often to the ECOC. We look forward to seeing you this summer, to meeting the people you recommend to the ECOC, and to sharing the ongoing dream of a future for the ECOC. ■

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Managers' Report



Ed and Marge Johnston, Lois and Nels Sandberg

Hello to our ECOC friends,

The snow is finally disappearing, and Chautauqua is waking up. We are looking forward to our 2014 season, renewing friendships and making new ones.

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

Bird-Werner:

Tom & Jeanie Kerns
Mike & Michele Montford
Carl & Sandy Williams

Westervelt:

Paul & Kathleen Kett
John & Joan Schick
Craig Dolbeer
Mike & Michele Montford

David Bagshaw & Diane Mann

Shaw:

George & Mary Dillingham
Don & Linda Burgard
Jack & Mary Knepp

The Board decided to give more people a chance to host at the ECOC, so we have approximately 3-week stints. Because of schedules, some of the times are one week or four weeks. We greatly appreciate their willingness to help.

We also have some very sad hostess news. Jan Dolbeer, who was scheduled to host last season and this season, lost her fight with cancer in February. We will miss Jan very much and extend our sympathy to her husband Craig and their family. Jan and Craig regularly made the trip from Ontario, Canada, for work weekends both before and after seasons. We are so glad that Craig will be here to host this season.

We also are extremely happy to have E. Carol Maxwell with us for the whole nine weeks. She is our full-time

registrar who has been working very hard to place all guests in rooms. She, along with the Managers, will be greeting all of you at registration on Saturdays.

Work Weekends and Work Weeks are extremely important in the life of our three houses. Help is needed to open the houses for the season. There are jobs for all skills (or non-skilled) for spring opening and fall closing (cleaning, washing, painting, light carpentry, etc.) Come any time during the listed dates. Please contact the Managers (ecocmanagers@gmail.com) as to the days you can help.

Spring:

May 30–June 2 & June 13–20

Fall:

August 25–28 & September 2–4

We look forward to hard work and good fellowship!

– Managers Lois and Nels Sandberg
& Ed and Marge Johnston,
ECOCManagers@gmail.com ■

Notes from the Registrar

E. Carol Maxwell



I am happy to report at this time that 91% of our rooms are booked for the Season. The Managers, Hosts and

Hostesses and I are looking forward to greeting all our guests this summer! Many long-attending guests will be returning and we will be meeting some new guests this year!

We know how much everyone loves to stay in our three special homes—Shaw House, Bird-Werner House and Westervelt House—and we

are disappointed not to have enough rooms to fill all the lodging requests! We have Wait Lists for Weeks 1, 2, 3, 6, 7 and 8. Week 4 (July 12 thru 19) we have several vacancies; a few for Week 5 (July 19 thru 26) and a few for Week 9 (Aug 16 thru 23).

We wish we had more rooms to rent so more guests could join us. If you would like a room one of the weeks with vacancies, send your request to ecocregistrar@gmail.com.

Travel safely, and see you soon!

E. Carol, Registrar ■

THANK YOU'S

Thanks to the many people who did small jobs around the houses. There are weeks when staff cannot keep up with repairs!

Thanks to all who helped ECOC participate in the Chautauqua composting project. This involves taking our compost to the collection site once or sometimes twice each day.

Thank you to the following folks who filled in at the last minute when hosts could not come to ECOC: Paul and Kathleen Kett, Don and Linda Burgard, Diane Mann and David Bagshaw, Jack and Mary Knepp, and Carl and Sandy Williams.

Meet Our New Hosts & Hostesses

David Bagshaw & Diane Mann



David and Diane live in Burlington, Ontario. David works as a metallurgical representative for a Toronto-

based steel company, while Diane is a physical therapist who visits patients in their homes.

Both of them are very close to their families. They spend a lot of their leisure time at their Lake Erie cottage, which they share with David's family. Diane has moved back to her parents' house to take care of her aging parents, who are in their 90's.

David has stayed at the ECOC for 30 years, and Diane for more than 10. They volunteered many times for spring and fall work weekends. They note, "We enjoy the opportunities to open and close the buildings and to see Chautauqua during the off-season. At the ECOC, we especially value the opportunity to meet new people and to share a living space with so many interesting people."

Joan & John Schick



Last year John and Joan helped prepare the ECOC for the season, then stayed on as first-time guests. Now they are thrilled to be hosts.

John worked as a professional counselor at Lakeland Community College in Kirtland, Ohio, where Joan also worked as part of an outreach program. Joan is a speech and language therapist, working in public schools for most of her career. They have three children.

The couple sold their Ohio home in 2013 and moved to Naples, Florida. There, Joan volunteers with a faith-based community center doing early intervention literacy with young children of a primarily Hispanic population. John volunteered at the same center with first-generation young men and women seeking college admission.

They love to travel all over the world. John enjoys photography, and Joan is a great cook and is devoted to their seven grandchildren.

Linda & Don Burgard



The Burgards have been coming to the ECOC for about 12 years; last year they filled in as substitute hosts.

Since their first visit to the ECOC, they have not wanted to stay anywhere else. "We love the kitchen fellowship and it is one of the highlights for us each year. Relationships are special to us and ECOC provides a great place for those to develop," they said.

Don is presently a United Methodist pastor, about to retire in June after 44 years in pastoral ministry. Linda is a retired vocal music teacher and former life insurance manager. Their home is in Columbia, Maryland.

Don enjoys biking, gardening, hiking, and sports (anything physical), while Linda likes crossword puzzles and Sudoku. Together, they enjoy travel, theater, music, reading, and their family. They celebrated their 50th wedding anniversary this year, and have two children and five grandchildren.

Paul & Kathleen Kett



Paul and Kathleen live in St. Agatha, a small village in Ontario. Paul is a retired Anglican priest; he served in

active parish ministry for 26 years. Before that, he taught biology and chemistry in the secondary school system. Kathleen is a family practice physician who works in a busy clinic in nearby Wellesley, Ontario. They especially enjoy music, theater, reading, and physical fitness. They have two sons and a daughter-in-law.

Both have been active in the life of ECOC. Paul was a Board member for five years, and was president for four of those years. Kathleen has served on the Hospitality Committee. Last year they served as first-time hosts in the Westervelt. They say, "We feel very much at home at the ECOC, and value the many good friends we have made over the years. It is wonderful to be able to live in a caring community while at Chautauqua; perhaps this is most evidenced in the community kitchen experiences we enjoy so much."

Our Other Hosts

We featured two of our host couples, **George & Mary Dillingham** and **Tom & Jeanie Kerns**, in the Spring 2010 issue of the *ECOC News*. The others, **Craig Dolbeer**, **Jack & Mary Knepp**, **Michael & Michele Montford** and **Carl & Sandy Williams** were introduced in the Spring 2013 issue. To read their profiles, look for copies of the past newsletters on our web site, www.ecoc-chautauqua.org.



George & Mary Dillingham
[Shaw]



Craig Dolbeer
[Westervelt]



Tom & Jeanie Kerns
[Bird-Werner]



Mary & Jack Knepp [Shaw]



Michele & Michael Montford
[Bird-Werner & Westervelt]



Carl & Sandy Williams
[Bird-Werner] ■

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ECOC Calendar

May 30–June 2 & June 13–20	Spring Work Weeks (anytime during period)
June 18 & 19	Spring Board meeting
June 21	Season begins
August 24	Season ends
August 25 & 26	Annual Board meeting
August 25–28 & Sept. 2–4	Fall Work Weeks (anytime during period)



Chautauqua 2014 Themes

Week 1	June 22–28	Roger Rosenblatt and Friends
Week 2	June 29–July 5	Feeding a Hungry Planet
Week 3	July 6–12	The Ethics of Privacy
Week 4	July 13–19	Emerging Citizenship: The Egyptian Experience
Week 5	July 20–26	The American West
Week 6	July 27–Aug. 2	Brazil: Rising Superpower
Week 7	August 3–9	A Week with Ken Burns: Historian, Documentarian and American Conscience
Week 8	August 10–16	Chautauqua's Global Public Square
Week 9	August 17–23	Health Care: From Bench to Bedside

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.

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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.