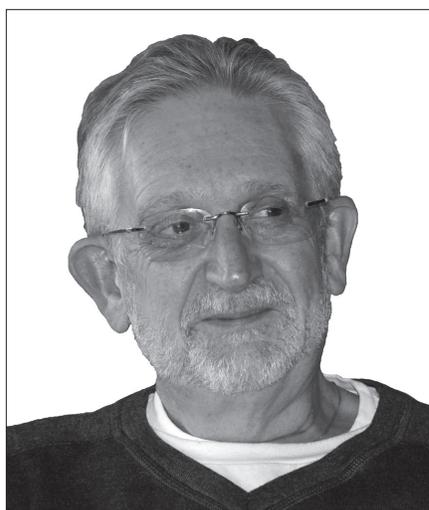


## Message from the Board President

For some reason, I'm singing the words of the Cole Porter song, "Another Opening, Another Show" as I write these words. Chautauqua and the Ecumenical Community, being seasonal institutions, go through the annual cycle of openings and closings. Indeed, many (we hope) will be gathering in these next weeks to help open the three venerable buildings which comprise our Ecumenical Community home. And when the water is turned on, the rooms and kitchens and bathrooms scrubbed, the curtains washed and re-hung, rooms and hallways painted, and the myriad of other chores completed, then we, too, will be ready for "another show."

This will be the next-to-last time that Sandy and Bob Boehm, our faithful and competent managers, will oversee the opening of the buildings. Next year will be their last season as managers, and one of the many tasks the Board has taken on this year is to find suitable replacements for them. We know that this won't be an easy task; Sandy and Bob have devoted so much of their time and talent to their role as managers. However, I'm reminded of a sermon preached at the induction of a new minister into a parish some years ago. The preacher said, "I bet you're thinking that Charlie [the new Incumbent] has big shoes to fill. Well, Bob [the former Incumbent] took his shoes with him, and Charlie



has brought his own, and they fit him very well!" Wise words for that occasion, and for our present situation. We take it on faith that there is some one or ones out there who will take on the task that the Boehm's have done so well during their tenure. Maybe that someone is you, or someone you know. Perhaps you would consider speaking to others about the position—all the pertinent information is on the Ecumenical Community web site ([ecoc-chautauqua.org](http://ecoc-chautauqua.org)). Please keep the Board and the selection committee in your thoughts and prayers during these next weeks and months.

Openings and closings, beginnings and endings; our lives are full of these events. I was reminded of this truth recently with the death of my mother who lived to an amazing one hundred and one and a half years. Confusion

and dementia clouded her mind in her last years, but her body was strong, and her spirit was still evident. No one will fill her shoes, but her legacy of love and faithful living inspires us who are left to follow her example. Beginnings and endings form us, shape us, and sustain us throughout our lives.

So we come to the beginning of another season at Chautauqua and our beloved Ecumenical Community. This will be my last year as a member and chair of the Board of Directors. We will face new beginnings, new challenges, and, we trust, new achievements in providing accommodation and a caring community within the wider Chautauqua community. Your Board thanks you for your past support, and solicits that continued support as we face "another opening of another show."

*(The Reverend) Paul Kett*  
President, Ecumenical Community Board  
of Directors ■

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# Fund-raising Update

The Capital Fund Campaign of the ECOC is in the final eight months of a three-year effort to raise funds to renovate the buildings—restoring original facades, adding an elevator and modifying bedrooms for handicap accessibility, providing a larger gathering space, and updating wiring and plumbing.

As of the end of April, pledges have reached \$278,219. Gifts and payments on pledges total \$207,162, putting the campaign just 4% short of the goal for the time period.

Last February, letters were sent to 287 members of the ECOC community who had not donated or pledged. Some have responded with a final year gift. Chairperson Robert Boell hopes to reach \$300,000 by June 21, when the season opens. You can contact Bob at 801 Yale Avenue, #408, Swarthmore, PA, 19081; or email: bob.boell@ecunet.org.

In other news, last November the ECOC learned that their grant proposal to New York State was denied. But at about the same time, the fund-raising effort received a boost of free publicity when an article about the Capital Campaign appeared in the fall issue of *The Chautauquan*.

In March, representatives from the Board met with Tom Becker, President of Chautauqua Institution, and Geof Follansbee, Vice President of Development, to bring them up-to-date on the fund-raising efforts and to ask for their support in reaching out to the larger Chautauqua community. The Chautauqua administration has been very supportive, although they can not offer any direct assistance. Geof Follansbee has graciously offered to help vet any leads on donors, and advise the Board about foundations in Jamestown. The Board is already working on a proposal to a foundation in Buffalo. ■

# Managers' Report

Bob and Sandy Boehm



The 2008 season is almost here! We still have several rooms available weeks 1, 2, 4, 6 and 9. Call us for reservations at 330-821-1872 until May 20, after that please call Chautauqua at 716-357-3814.

Spring work weekend this year will be Friday, May 30, to Sunday, June 1. We will go to dinner at the Springs at 5:30 on Friday night and we will have a pot luck dinner on Saturday night. Please bring something to share for the pot luck. We have all kinds of jobs that need to be done, from cleaning, yard work, repairing things to painting and wallpapering.

Come for a day or come all three days and join us in helping to open up the ECOC. Along with the work that gets done, we have a lot of fun and fellowship. Just give us a call and let us know you are coming.

All of our wonderful hosts and hostesses will be returning this year and look forward to seeing all of you again. Hosts and hostesses for the first 5 weeks will be: Marge and Ed Johnston in the Shaw, Jeanie and Tom Kerns in the Bird-Werner and Mary and George Dillingham in the Westervelt. Host and hostesses for weeks 6 through 9 will be: Sue Loper in the Shaw, Lois and Nels Sandberg in the Bird-Werner and E. Carol Maxwell in the Westervelt.

If you are interested in being a host couple, please give Sandy a call or see her this summer. We like to have a list of couples that would be able to take over if one of our current couples can't come back. It truly is a most rewarding job.

We look forward to seeing all of you again and catching up on your news. ■

## Search Continues

The ECOC Board of Directors continues its search for new managers to take over when Bob and Sandy step down in 2010. The positions have been publicized on the ECOC web site and newsletter, in *The Chautauquan*, and in the *Jamestown Post-Journal*.

Qualified candidates should be dedicated to the ECOC and its values, have the freedom to work full time during the season and part time off-season, plus have skills in build-

ing maintenance, management and/or room registration. A couple who can fulfill all three roles is preferred. Applicants should be willing to train with Bob and Sandy during part of the 2009 season, and be ready to start employment in January 2010. Hiring will take place in 2008.

Please consider applying. Check the web site, [www.ecoc-chautauqua.org](http://www.ecoc-chautauqua.org), for details, or call Board member Richard Schaeffer, 585-235-6541 or 585-313-4736. ■

# Meet Your Board: Part 1

The Ecumenical Community Board of Directors is eager to meet you, and hear your ideas and concerns. The Board sets the policies and procedures for the ECOC, provides oversight and support to the managers, and

makes sure that the finances are reviewed annually. The ten Board members, plus a Shaw family rep, meet every June and August. We'll feature the remaining members in the fall issue of the newsletter.

## William Brockman



Bill Brockman, of Boca Raton, Florida, serves as Board Treasurer, plus co-chair of the Continue the Legacy financial campaign. This is

his second term on the Board; he served as President during his first term. Bill and his wife, Maggie, manage the Hall of Missions during the Chautauqua season.

Bill is a retired United Methodist minister specializing in pastoral counseling. He and Maggie have a grown son and daughter, who spend at least a week each summer at the ECOC with their families.

Bill believes, "The ECOC is a wonderful ministry of hospitality and represents some of the finest values of Chautauqua: a welcoming community, simple living and affordable accommodations."

## Deborah First



A Board member since 2006, Deb First currently serves as Board Secretary. She has worked to maintain affordable housing at Chautauqua

ever since she and her husband, Ted, retired and moved here ten years ago.

She is active with Chautauqua Area Habitat for Humanity, and with American Friends of Neve Shalom / Wahat al-Salam, a bilingual, Jewish-Arab village, "the Oasis of Peace," in Israel.

Deb is also a Bible study and religious education teacher at Fredonia Friends Meeting (Quaker). A retired professor, she enjoys rug hooking, piano-recorder duets with Ted, and spending time with their three children and eight grandchildren (five of whom live nearby in Ripley).

## Ann Hoffman



Both Ann Hoffman and her husband Ed have served on the Board; Ann's new term began in 2007. They say they have loved

the ECOC for over 30 years, and have "painted, papered, scrubbed and climbed everywhere in the three ECOC buildings."

Ann, a retired reading specialist, and Ed, also a retired teacher, live in Boiling Springs, Pennsylvania, where they love to walk, read, go to movies and art galleries. They have two grown children.

"Working and associating with ECOC people has had a tremendous impact on my life. I love the open, accepting attitudes and sense of community established in my many visits to Chautauqua. I've made many lifelong friends here," she says.

## Edward Johnston



Ed Johnston begins his five-year term on the Board this year, and has been invited to serve on the Finance Committee. He also plans to use

his computer background to enhance the use of computers at the ECOC.

Ed and his family have been coming to the ECOC for 30 years. He and his wife, Marge, begin their fourth year as hosts in the Shaw kitchen this year. Ed also volunteers before and after the season, doing painting and room remodeling.

Ed retired a few years ago from his job as a computer systems project leader at Alcoa Aluminum. He enjoys music, tennis, carpentry and volunteering. Married 36 years, Ed and Marge live in Pittsburgh, and have two children and one grandchild.

## Richard Schaeffer



Rick Schaeffer was elected to the Board in 2007. He is on the Employment Committee, and is very active in the search for new building

managers. In addition, Rick works pre- and post-season, painting and plastering in the ECOC buildings with Ed Johnston. Rick says he feels strongly about maintaining affordable housing at Chautauqua.

After working at the George Eastman House in Rochester, New York, Rick was self-employed for 35 years, until recent "semi-retirement."

Rick met his wife, Marcy, at the ECOC, and they return there every year to celebrate their anniversary. Rick enjoys his two step-children, four cats, model railroading, and building stone walls in his garden.

## Nancy Shaw Kealey



### Shaw Rep

Nancy Shaw Kealey was raised helping "Grandma Shaw" open and close the ECOC, starting back in 1935!

Since then, she has been kitchen host and helped with painting, sewing, cleaning and cooking. Her husband Frank has helped building, painting and repairing, too.

She hopes "the ECOC will never lose sight of providing basic housing for clergy and Christian workers to enjoy the awesome offerings of a Chautauqua Institution season."

Nancy and Frank, both retired, live in Warsaw, Indiana, and travel to Texas to work for the winter. They are blessed with seven children, 20 grandchildren, and four great-grandchildren. ■

# Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua

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## ECOC Calendar

May 30-June 1	Spring work weekend
June 11-13	Spring Board meeting
June 21	Season begins
August 13-15	Summer Board meeting
August 24	Season ends
Sept. 5-14	Fall work week



## Chautauqua 2008 Themes

Week 1	June 21-28	Sport in America
Week 2	June 29-July 5	Restoring Legitimacy to our Election System
Week 3	July 6-12	Roger Rosenblatt and Friends: On Writing
Week 4	July 13-19	The Ethical Frontiers of Science
Week 5	July 20-26	American Foreign Policy: Leadership and Dialogue
Week 6	July 27-Aug. 2	Healing the Globe
Week 7	August 3-9	Faith in Public Life
Week 8	August 10-16	What's for Dinner: Food and Politics in the 21st Century
Week 9	August 17-24	Darwin and Linnaeus: Their Impact on Our View of the Natural World

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](http://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](mailto:mklein5@rochester.rr.com)

The Ecumenical Community of Chautauqua (ECOC), a not-for-profit corporation with a 503C3 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.