

OLDE RALEIGH COMMONS

SPRING 2023 NEWSLETTER

ORC Board of Directors Bio's

Claudia Hill is a recent arrival in Raleigh (March 2022) after decades in Charlotte. She works full time for Jack Henry and Associates providing software to Banks and Credit Unions. She and husband Craig have two daughters and two grandsons. In her spare time, Claudia enjoys traveling, reading, and spending time with family and friends. This is Claudia's first year on the board and she is currently serving as Secretary.

A native of Greensboro, NC, **Diann Kearney** attended NCSU and earned a bachelor's and Ed.D. in education and education administration. She recently retired after 36 years in public education having served as a teacher, coach, and elementary, middle and high school principal. She now serves as an interim principal and principal coach with Wake County Public Schools. Diann and Dennis have been married for 37 years and have a son, Patrick, who lives and works in Raleigh. The Kearneys enjoy spending time in Naples, Florida, cheering on the Wolfpack, and traveling. This is Diann's third year on the board and she is currently serving as Vice President.

Gordon D. Newby is The Goodrich C. White Professor Emeritus of Middle Eastern and South Asian Studies at Emory University. He has taught at Washington State University, Brandeis University, North Carolina State University, and Emory University. Gordon and his wife, Wendy Levin Newby, Ph.D., raised their four children in Raleigh before moving to Atlanta, and happily returned after retiring from Emory. Since retirement, Gordon and Wendy, while still engaged in their academic fields, are enjoying visiting with their children and seven grandchildren, traveling, and Gordon enjoys cooking cuisines from various countries. This is Gordon's first year on the board and he is serving as Treasurer.

Bob Cortez moved to ORC in July of 2019 from Pelham in Westchester County, New York. He and his wife, Linda, have two daughters and one newborn granddaughter. In his spare time, Bob enjoys collecting shoelace nibs and parking in the Veterans spot at Harris Teeter while wearing his old Air Force fatigues. This is Bob's third year on the board and he is serving as President.

Welcome new residents, Donald and Sarah Fishburne

Donald is a semi-retired Episcopal priest. He and Sarah help faith groups plan holy pilgrimages, as well as helping families and groups of friends plan group travel in North America and overseas. Donald noted, "We're grateful to you for the kind welcome we are receiving from you as we move in. Thank you! It's fun to become part of the community. We come here from Pawleys Island, SC after having lived in the Carolinas, Georgia, Florida, and Tennessee. We're very pleased to be closer to our first grandchild, Isabel, now six months young, and to our larger families in Durham, Raleigh, Wake Forest and Lake Gaston. We are fortunate to look forward to a bit of time this summer in Maine, where we have worked and lived for about twenty summers."

Baron Cooper Book Buddies - Spring Update

Our very own book club currently has twelve ladies meeting the first Monday of the month in the lobby of 3701 from 3:00 until 4:30. There are members from both buildings. The Duraleigh Road Wake County Library provides a book kit each month which includes a booklet that we use to choose the books we want to read. Those selections are requested on their website every six months and represent a varied genre of titles. When we meet we discuss the questions that come in the book kit which fosters very lively conversations. Afterward, we socialize for about a half hour. We have a Christmas social for our December meeting. All the residents of The Commons are invited to join. Reach out to Karen Prather for more information or to join the book club.

Social Committee Update

When Betty Barber moved to Springmoor in January, we lost an “original” in more ways than one. Betty was a charter member of our Social Committee and now holds an “emeritus” title on the committee. We asked Karen Prather to join us at the end of last year when it was confirmed that Betty was moving and she agreed. Your Social Committee now consists of Ginny Dropkin, Carmen Geis, Karen Johnson, and Karen Prather.

There was a long while that the committee was inactive due to Covid and social distancing but last spring, we started activities again, beginning with a Dessert and Prosecco Social in front of 3700. We had so many delicious desserts brought by enthusiastic residents, we were scrambling to find room for them all on the tables! It was obvious that we were ready to socialize again after being stuck at home for so long.

In the summer, we held an Appetizer and Wine gathering in the 3700 garage. Again, residents responded enthusiastically with all kinds of wonderful appetizers. It was there we all got to meet new residents, Craig and Claudia Hill before they even moved in!

We also revived the Olde Raleigh Commons Dinner Group in the summer. The group was divided into three smaller groups who enjoyed dining at three nearby Italian restaurants with everybody gathering afterwards at Karen J’s condo for coffee and dessert. All events were well attended but none got the participation we saw in the fall for our Barbecue Dinner get together held in the parking lot. We put away quite a bit of barbecue and banana pudding and there were folks lingering in their lawn chairs, still visiting after dark!

Then in December, your social committee came up with a Festive Deck the Halls Happy Hour in the third floor hallway of 3701, followed by a Holiday Tour of Homes...also quite well attended. Again, many thanks to our tour hosts...Karen and Ted Prather, Diann and Dennis Kearney, Craig and Claudia Hill, and John and Judy Buckelew who opened their lovely homes to their community. You all did a beautiful job!

We began 2023 with Olde Raleigh Commons Dinner Group at The Angus Barn right after Valentine’s Day. There were 17 of us and we mixed up the seating so most of us were sitting close to folks we didn’t know as well as we do now. Turned out to be a most enjoyable evening. Great company and great food! Plus many had doggie bags for dinner the next night!

Your Social Committee will meet again soon to put our heads together for our next few gatherings. Ideas tossed around are burgers and a game at a local sports bar, Cinco de Mayo or Derby Day, Dinner Group Progressive Dinner, Barbecue on the Grounds again. By the time you get this newsletter, you may have already heard from us! If not, stay tuned!



2023 Annual Meeting

Mark your calendars - the 2023 annual meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25 at 7:00 pm.

A zoom meeting link will be shared in the days prior to the meeting.

SUMMER SUPPER SHRIMP AND PASTA SALAD from Claudia Hill

- 1-pound large shrimp, peeled and deveined
- 8 oz pasta of choice (I use bow ties)
- ½ cup mayonnaise
- ½ cup plain Greek yogurt (can use all Mayo if preferred)
- ¾ Tsp Dijon mustard
- 1 TBSP white wine
- 3 TBSP fresh Dill, minced
- ½ medium red onion, minced
- 3 stalks of celery, minced
- 10 oz Pineapple Tidbits, drained
- 1 1/2 Tsp Kosher Salt
- ½ Tsp ground Black Pepper

Cook pasta. Rinse in cold water and set aside.

Place cleaned and peeled shrimp on baking sheet. Drizzle with olive oil and sprinkle with half of the salt and pepper. Toss to combine and spread out in a single layer. Roast for approximately 5 minutes or until pink at 400 degrees. In a separate bowl, whisk the mayo, Greek yogurt, mustard, wine, dill, rest of salt & pepper. Combine with the pasta and shrimp. Add red onion, celery, pineapple. Cover & refrigerate for a few hours or overnight to let flavors combine.

Community Pollinators 2023



FROM GORDON NEWBY'S KITCHEN WORLD RECIPES ADAPTED FOR THE AMERICAN KITCHEN

POTS DE CRÉME AU CHOCOLATE

INGREDIENTS:

- 6 Oz. Good quality semisweet chocolate chips (or 2 oz. bittersweet and 4 oz. semisweet depending on taste. (Remember that the chocolate provides the only sweetener in the recipe.)
- 2 large eggs
- 2 TBS strongly brewed coffee. Part of your third cup of espresso will do.
- 1 tsp. dark rum or rum flavoring if you have had the last of the rum with your coffee.
- 1 TB orange liqueur
- 1 TB fresh orange zest
- 3/4 cup scalded milk

METHOD:

Place chocolate, eggs, coffee, rum, liqueur, and zest in a blender and process for 30 to 45 seconds until all ingredients are thoroughly mixed and the chocolate is finely chopped. Pour in the very hot scalded milk and process again for about 10 seconds or until smooth.

Pour into small custard or tea cups and chill until set, about two hours. Serve with slightly sweetened homemade whipped cream or crème fraîche.

TIME:

Active preparation about 10 minutes

Total time about 2 hours

SERVES: 8

NOTE: This recipe can be easily doubled or tripled if your blender or Vitamix has the capacity. Remember to use very hot scalded milk; it is what cooks the eggs.

If you are preparing this for someone who is hallāl, substitute orange-flavored extract (low alcohol) and add it to the scalded milk. This will cause the alcohol to evaporate. If you wish this to be parve, use parve chocolate and unflavored soy milk.

Condo Owners' Travel Checklist

While the benefits of living in a condominium development are many, there are a few challenges that warrant the attention of homeowners and their association. If residents are "seasonal" or travel for extended periods of time, it is necessary to have some agreements in place to limit the potential for damage while a condo is uninhabited.

The greatest potential damage to yours and your neighbors' units is from a water leak. It would be prudent to turn all water to your unit off, but remember that for most of us the water heater is the source of our heat and thus should remain operating in winter months.

Most property management companies encourage owners and boards to establish practices but reminding owners of the importance of having practices in place falls on the homeowners association.

We encourage owners to consider the following, as appropriate, when leaving your condo for any period of time beyond a couple days.

1. Identify a neighbor or family member who can check on your condo. They should perform a thorough walk-thru at least monthly, checking ceilings, under sinks, around water heaters, washing machines, etc. for any signs of water leaks.
2. Set the thermostat back to an appropriate summer/winter temperature.
3. Put a hold or forward on your USPS mail (easily done on line). Make arrangements for someone to pick up any UPS, FedEx, or similar packages expected during your absence.
4. Stop newspaper deliveries until your return.
5. Unplug electronics, chargers, telephone/internet/TV cables, etc.
6. Leave a set of your car keys so that your car can be moved in the event of construction in the garage or an emergency. You might consider having someone start and drive your car periodically.
7. Put a couple tablespoons of olive oil in your plumbing drains (sinks, showers, etc.) to prevent p-traps from drying out and letting sewer gas fumes into your home.