

# FRIENDS CLUB NEWSLETTER

## SPRING 2018

*Celebrating more than 26 years of serving the Alzheimer's community!*

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Brooke Kenny, Executive Director  
Leah Covert, Program Director  
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Dear Friends,

The Board of Friends Club invited me to serve as Chairman and I accepted with pleasure. This organization has been serving families with Alzheimer's disease for 26 years and we will continue the excellent work of our founders, Joan Turner and Molly Tully, previous boards, Directors, and volunteers of Friends Club.

My husband, Bill, was a member of Friends Club and appreciated the opportunity to gather with other men, discuss sports and whatever else men discuss, and have a break from the challenges of Alzheimer's disease. For me, I had a block of time in which I could do anything – or nothing. I met great women who have remained friends, and learned more about what was to come and how to cope with it.

It is estimated that many more people will be diagnosed with Alzheimer's disease in the coming years. At Friends Club, we are receiving more and more expressions of interest in joining us. Our challenge is to find ways to serve more families in the Alzheimer's community while continuing our special level of care. Thirty percent of the cost to attend Friends Club is subsidized by charitable giving. To all who contributed to us in 2017 – Thank you! We appreciate your support. We hope that you will consider Friends Club when planning your 2018 giving and estate planning.

Warmly,  
Elise Schoux  
Chairman, Friends Club Board of Directors



*Elise Schoux and her husband, Bill, a former FC member.*

## **New Free Museum Programs for People with Memory Loss Debut**

Just Us at the National Gallery of Art – First and third Mondays, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

This program provides interactive, discussion-based experiences in the galleries for people with early-stage dementia and their caregivers. Participants explore two or three works of art during each 90-minute program. The theme changes for every session. Space is limited and registration is required. Call Lorena Bradford to register: 202-842-6905/

See Me at the National Museum of African Art – Fourth Tuesday, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

This program runs April through August. The experience of looking closely allows us to appreciate beauty, exchange ideas, share memories or simply respond to the work in front of us. Program is geared toward individuals living with dementia, together with their care partners, for an interactive and multi-sensory tour of the museum.

See Me at the National Portrait Gallery – Second Tuesday, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

In collaboration with Arts & Minds (<https://artsandminds.org/>) the National Portrait Gallery will be hosting a program for adults with mild to moderate dementia and their caregivers. A team of museum educators and docents will be facilitating small group discussions about some of the museum's most treasured works of art. Registration is required. Call 202-633-2921 or email [access@si.org](mailto:access@si.org). Use the entrance located on G Street, NW.

See Me at the Freer/Sackler – Third Wednesday, 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

This is a program for adults with mild to moderate dementia and their caregivers. The Freer/Sackler Galleries showcase art from throughout Asia, crossing varied time periods, cultures and countries. The program runs through July 18. Space is limited and registration is required. Call 202-633-2921 or email [access@si.org](mailto:access@si.org).

See Me at the Smithsonian American Art Museum – First Wednesday (Except July), 2 p.m. – 3:30 p.m.

The Smithsonian American Art Museum, the nation's first collection of American art, is an unparalleled record of the American experience. The collection captures aspirations, character and imagination of the American people throughout three centuries. Its artworks reveal key aspects of America's rich artistic and cultural history from the colonial period to today. Dates are April 4, May 2, June 6 and July 11. Space is limited and registration is required. Call 202-633-2921 or email [access@si.org](mailto:access@si.org).

AND A REMINDER – Conversations at The Kreeger – Second and third Mondays, 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.

*Conversations*, a program for individuals with memory disorders and their caregivers, provides a forum for dialogue and connection through art and music. Each hour-long program includes an interactive gallery talk and a musical component provided by our partner, Levine Music. The experience is designed to stimulate reflection, reduce stress, and increase communication and sociability. Registration is required. Call (202) 337-3050 x 318 or email [conversations@kreegermuseum.org](mailto:conversations@kreegermuseum.org).

# *MOMENTS OF JOY*



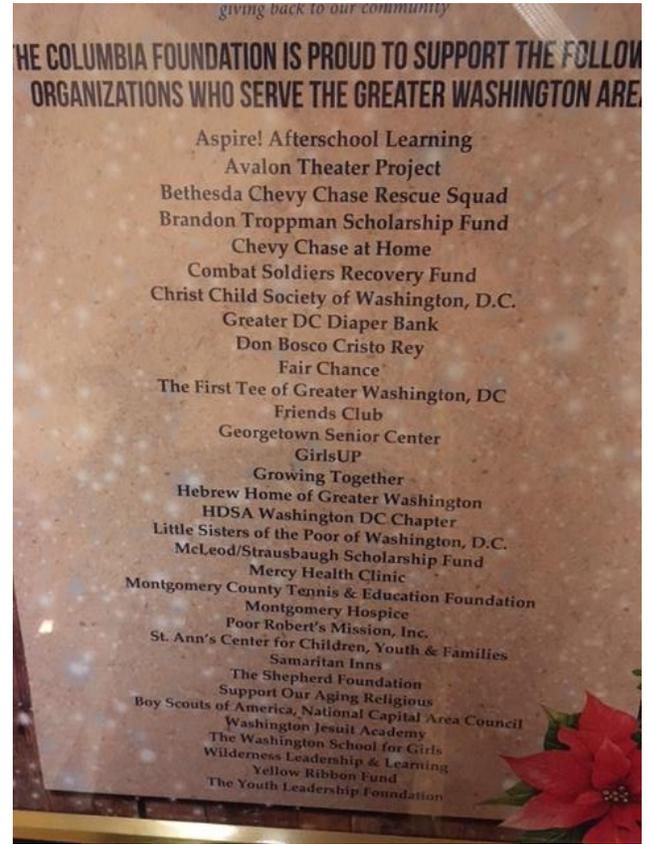
Drum instructor Wall Matthews from Arts for the Aging leads a February drumming class.



Peter S. and Bruce M. enjoy some time together on a typical Friends Club morning.



FC Board Member Judy Arndt, left, helps with a with a snowflake craft project as part of our ongoing intergenerational program with Bradley Hills Presbyterian Nursery School.



## Friends Club Receives Grant from Columbia Country Club Foundation

Friends Club is honored to receive a \$1,000 grant from the Columbia Country Club Foundation, which offers financial support to a variety of non-profit organizations throughout the greater Washington, D.C. area.

We would like to thank Mary Grace Sloan for her involvement in helping Friends Club to apply for and receive this financial support. MG is one of Friends Club's biggest supporters and actively engages with the community on our behalf to help spread the word about Friends Club.

We can't thank you enough MG (Pictured above at the December awards ceremony)!

Thank you to Giant Food and Harris Teeter for donating lunch to Friends Club in March!



# New Alzheimer's Association Memory Café Opens at Westfield Montgomery Mall

Oasis and Suburban Hospital are hosting a new Memory Café. Memory Cafés offer a fun and relaxed way for people living with early-stage memory loss and their care partners to connect with one another through social events that promote interaction and companionship.

Upcoming Dates: March 2 & April 6

Time: 2-3:30 p.m.

Location: Washington Metropolitan Oasis  
Macy's Home Store / Westfield Montgomery Mall  
7125 Democracy Boulevard, Bethesda

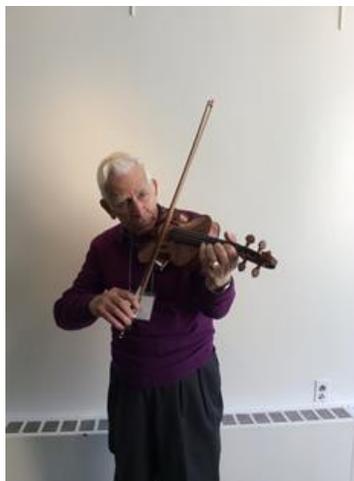
**Pre-registration is required.** Call 301-469-6800 (press 1, then Ext. 211) or email [washingtonmetro@oasisnet.org](mailto:washingtonmetro@oasisnet.org).

Reference Class #511

## ~IN MEMORIAM~

### *William Charles Dackis*

August 28, 1924 – November 1, 2016



Friends Club just learned of the passing of Bill Dackis in late 2016. Bill often played violin for his Friends Club buddies, and we were all thankful to have the opportunity to enjoy his musical gifts.

Before becoming an executive at Trane Co., Bill earned a bachelor of science in mechanical engineering from Duke University. He also served in the U.S. Navy.

Bill spoke Greek and was a member of the Greek Orthodox Church. In addition to playing violin, he enjoyed chess and was a champion bridge player. He also liked Sudoku puzzles, Scrabble and Gin Rummy. As a child, he started "The Friendly Club," which was a comic book lending library.

Bill traveled extensively to Europe, Asia and Africa.

Bill was the husband of Elle Rallis Dackis and the father of Grace Buas (Michael), Charles Dackis, and Penelope Dackis (Basil Nikas). He was a devoted grandfather of Matthew Buas, Michelle Pulman (Simon), Melissa Dackis, Christine Nickas, Alexandra Nickas, William Dackis and Eric Dackis. WE are grateful to have had Bill as member of the Club. Rest in peace.



## **Herbert Levine**

September 11, 1933 – December 5, 2017



Herb was a retired professor of political science at the University of Southwestern Louisiana. He was a friendly and familiar face at the Monday Friends Club meeting.

Herb had many publications to his credit. Among them were the college texts “Political Issues Debated: An Introduction to Politics” (Prentice Hall) and “Point-Counterpoint: Readings in American Politics” (St. Martin’s Press).

Herb was born in New York City and was a graduate of Columbia University. He taught at USL for 20 years, where he won a distinguished teaching award. He moved to Chevy Chase, Md. in 1985 to pursue his writing

interests. He was a member of Washington Independent Writers and the Authors Guild.

Herb traveled to various countries as a teacher on a ship known as “Floating University.” He was a member of the Cosmos Club of Washington, D.C.

Herb was especially passionate about helping college students to get published to better their careers. He was an educator to the core. His family describes him as a kind and gentle man who loved to hear political opinions, even if they were different from his own.

We will miss your sense of humor in our Monday group. Rest in peace, Herb.

## **James R. McKee**

June 8, 1940 – December 15, 2017



Jim graduated from Mercersburg Academy and received his BA in economics from Lycoming College. He earned his Ph.D. in economics from the Maxwell School, Syracuse University. In his first year of graduate study he met the love of his life, Mary Jane Schmitz. They were married the following year and enjoyed more than 52 years together.

In the Syracuse area, Jim held teaching positions at several institutions, including SUNY Oswego, LeMoyne College and Syracuse University. In 1975, he accepted a position at the International Monetary Fund in Washington, D.C. He retired in 2003, and in addition to consulting, he served on the Property Tax Assessment Appeal Board of Montgomery County.

Jim was a member of Congressional Country Club and the Isaac Walton League. He enjoyed skiing, skating, sailing, stamp collecting and gardening. He was also extremely handy around the house.

In addition to his wife, Jim is survived by two daughters: Nancy Osborne (Chris) of Vienna, Va., and Amy McKee (Greg Olson) of Washington, D.C. He is also survived by his brother, David McKee (Judy) of Vienna, Va., and four beloved grandchildren, Britt, Ben, Emma and Alexandra.

We will always remember Jim’s smile, which could light up an entire room. We will miss you, Jim.

# SPECIAL NOTICES

## UPCOMING CLUB CLOSURES

Monday, April 2  
Easter Monday

Monday, May 28  
Memorial Day

### Alzheimer's Foundation of America Younger-Onset Telephone Peer Support Group

For those who know someone with dementia who is under the age of 65, you are invited to participate in a telephone support group held each Wednesday afternoon from 4-5p.m. EST.

To register, call 866-232-8484

## BIRTHDAYS

### MARCH

Doug P.	8
Jim K.	11
Chuck W.	21
Joe M.	28
Mark W.	30

### APRIL

Marty G.	1
B.J. G.	4
Peter S.	14

### MAY

Brooke K.	2
Bob G.	15
Molly T.	19
Debbie D.	30

*Happy Birthday*



## Upcoming Friends Club Support Group Meetings

All meetings are held from 9:30 – 11 a.m. in the church library

### March

Monday, March 5  
Wednesday, March 21

### April

NO MEETING Monday, April 2  
(Easter Monday)  
Wednesday, April 18

### May

Monday, May 7  
Wednesday, May 16

*~Save the Date~*

## CAREGIVERS LUNCHEON

Friday, April 13

11 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Congressional Country Club

Hosted by Chuck Weir

Formal Invitation to Follow