

MARIN  
VILLAGES



# San Rafael Village

## January 2020 Calendar of Events

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

### **A FAREWELL NOTE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR LISA BRINKMANN**

The reality of my pending retirement hit home recently at one of the holiday parties, when it was noted that I had spent close to a decade promoting the importance of Villages and the need for community-based organizations to provide another link in the social safety net to ensure “good” aging for the older adults in our community. Somehow a decade sounded **so** much longer than ten years!

I am very grateful to the many individuals who have believed in the mission of Marin Villages from our beginnings and throughout the last 7+ years. Imagine, engaging older adults from diverse backgrounds, with unique skills and experiences, in a movement to connect neighbors, encourage community participation, and promote extending one’s independence for the sole purpose of creating an active, healthy and safe environment in which to age—look what we’ve accomplished!

I am very proud of the organization we’ve become. These first ten years found us learning from our experiences, building systems and processes to meet the changing needs of the organization, and establishing guiding principles to reinforce our mission of helping older adults remain active, connected, and independent in the place they call home.

The next decade is very appropriately starting with the year 2020, as it will see us sharpening our vision to ensure success for the next ten years. I thank all our members, volunteers, and donors—current and those who may no longer be with us—for your generosity in sharing your experiences, time and beneficence. I will look back with warm and fond memories of all the lessons I’ve learned, and know my life has been enriched by all of you. Thank you.

### **VILLAGE EVENTS**

**Wednesday, January 1**

**NOT HOME ALONE for the HOLIDAYS**

San Rafael Village has formed a new group for the holiday season. Are you home alone, have no plans, and would welcome getting together with others? Spend New Year’s Day with Donnalee and other villagers for a special potluck dinner at Valerie Stilson’s home. The potluck starts at 2:00 p.m. and ends at 7:30 p.m. For those who wish, this dinner will be followed by a movie. Interested? Contact Donnalee at [ibrakeforestatesales@comcast.net](mailto:ibrakeforestatesales@comcast.net) or 415-302-9244.

**Thursday, January 2**

**2:00PM**

**DEALING WITH LOSS**

Dealing with Loss, a six-session support group comes together once a month **and is looking for two new members**. This intimate exchange of like-spirited people ready for deep personal sharing, support, and

learning new tools will be facilitated by Jackie Hewitt, who brings more than two decades of grief support to the group. It is a forum for sharing, as well as supporting and encouraging one another as we move through one of life's greatest challenges. This group meets on the first Thursday of each month. Contact Jackie Hewitt at [jackiejoyous@gmail.com](mailto:jackiejoyous@gmail.com) or 707-849-9786 to answer any questions.

**Monday, January 6                    2:00 – 4:00                    **BOOK CHAT****

Book Chat is a gathering to chat about books we have read, enjoyed or not, with comments and discussion. We do not all read the same book and it is not necessary to have read anything recently. Let us know what you are reading! The meeting will be at the home of Alison Fuller, 304 N. San Pedro Court, San Rafael. Please RSVP to Val at [valerie.stilson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:valerie.stilson@sbcglobal.net) or call 415-479-1439.

**Wednesday, January 8            2:00PM                                    **FIRST WEDNESDAY COFFEE****

San Rafael Village will start the New Year with coffee at Villa Marin. Our neighbors on the hill have invited us to join them to see old friends, meet new ones, and tour their facility, if interested. Shuttle service to Villa Marin will be provided beginning at 1:30pm since parking is very limited. We will meet at Northgate Mall in the parking area at the corner of Las Gallinas and Northgate Drive. Please RSVP to Joy Bloom at [joy@ejbloom.com](mailto:joy@ejbloom.com) or 415-717-0173.

**Wednesday, January 8            11:00AM                                    **MEMBERSHIP/VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE****

**Change of date and time just for January.** Help us recruit new members and volunteers. Contact Jane Solomons at 415-492-8041 or [cartersolo@comcast.net](mailto:cartersolo@comcast.net) for more information.

**Thursday, January 9                    2:00PM                                    **MAH JONG****

On the first and third Thursdays of the month, villagers interested in learning/playing Mah Jong are encouraged to sign up and purchase your cards before you attend. There is an experienced teacher at each event to help those who are new to the game. Contact Gail Gifford at 415-456-9466 for more information and to purchase your cards. The group will meet at Lynn Nebenzahl's home, 823 Butternut Drive, San Rafael.

**Friday, January 10                    1:30PM                                    **PROGRAM COMMITTEE****

Interested in helping to plan activities and social events for San Rafael Village? Consider joining the Program Committee. Contact Carole Sherick at [csherick@gmail.com](mailto:csherick@gmail.com) or 415-479-0930.

**Monday, January 13                    approx. 4:00PM                    **MOVIE GROUP****

We meet for a late-afternoon movie and dinner. On the Thursday before the second Monday of each month (our monthly movie date), those villagers on the movie-goers list will receive notice of which movie has been selected. If interested in becoming part of this group and receiving monthly notices, contact Joan Hartwell at [joanh@aol.com](mailto:joanh@aol.com) or 415-479-9101.

**Wednesday, January 15 2:00PM READ IT OUT LOUD!**

Have you read and remembered a poem, old letter, journal entry or memoir, maybe a letter to the editor or a special paragraph or two from a novel or biography, or even something you've written yourself? Sometimes these short texts linger and are so thought provoking that one feels the urge to share and discuss them. We will meet at the home of Susan Mines. Interested? Contact Val at [valerie.stilson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:valerie.stilson@sbcglobal.net) or 415-479-1439.

**Friday, January 17 1:30PM STEERING COMMITTEE**

Are you interested in helping guide and further develop San Rafael Village? Do you have organizational and administrative skill you can contribute to the Steering Committee? If so, please contact Sparkie Spaeth at [oksparkie@aol.com](mailto:oksparkie@aol.com) or 415-250-3172.

**Wednesday, January 22 12:30PM GREAT BOOKS CLUB**

Great Books Club will meet on the fourth Wednesday of each month from 12:30 – 2:00PM at the home of Ginni Saunders. We will continue reading from the Great Books Conversations 2, available from the Great Books Foundation. If you have questions, please email Ginni Saunders at [ginnisaunders@gmail.com](mailto:ginnisaunders@gmail.com).

**Thursday, January 23 12:30PM VILLAGES BOOK CLUB**

This club meets on the fourth Thursday of each month at a member's home. All members and volunteers are welcome to join us. The book for January is to be determined. If you would consider joining us this month, you don't have to read the first book, just come meet us and see what a lovely group of readers we are and enjoy the lively discussion. For more information, please call Karen at 415-403-3345.

**Thursday, January 23 2:00PM MAH JONG**

On the first and third Thursdays of the month, villagers interested in learning/playing Mah Jong are encouraged to sign up and purchase your cards before you attend. There is an experienced teacher at each event to help those who are new to the game. Contact Gail Gifford at 415-456-9466 for more information and to purchase your cards. The group will meet at Lynn Nebenzahl's home, 823 Butternut Drive, San Rafael.

**Tuesday, January 28 12:00PM LUNCH OUT!**

Bogie's Restaurant, 1335 4th Street, San Rafael (this is Bogie's new location!). Bogie's is a very welcoming "down-home" restaurant, serving American cuisine. Note: If you park in the garage at 3rd and C Streets, Bogie's will validate your parking ticket. Please bring cash to pay for your lunch, in return they will give us individual checks. Please RSVP to [valerie.stilson@sbcglobal.net](mailto:valerie.stilson@sbcglobal.net) or 415-479-1439.

Friday, January 31

2:00PM

MEMOIR WRITING GROUP

Susan Mines facilitates our Memoir Writing Group. This group has been meeting monthly for over two years and welcomes new members. Contact Susan at [souzele@comcast.net](mailto:souzele@comcast.net) or 415-479-0351 for more information.

**HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM SAN RAFAEL VILLAGE!**



