



I'ON AT HOME NEWS

Member Newsletter for May, 2017

Greetings from I'On At Home! We hope you enjoy this issue of our newsletter. Please feel free to share it with anyone who might be interested.

BENEFITS OF IAH

Board members are also IAH members, so we regularly participate in IAH programs. When we do this, we always enjoy hearing what other attendees like (and don't like) about our organization. We have been encouraged lately by comments from neighbors who are beginning to understand how IAH can benefit them and others.

One recent conversation, in particular, stands out. A member explained that he was initially dubious about joining IAH because he and his wife do not need services at this point. Having attended several IAH events, he said, "Now I understand the value of building community among those of us in this 55 and up age group. In the short term, we can enjoy the IAH programs and activities. While we may not realize it, at the same time, we are developing relationships and trust. When we do need services, we will feel comfortable about asking, because we know our neighbors. I also see why it's important to join and support IAH as it gets started. That way, we are helping to ensure the capacity of the organization, so the assistance is available to us when our need arises."



IAH members attend a tour of the American College for Building Arts

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN I'ON AT HOME

While our official membership drive was January-March, we are delighted to have new IAH members any time during the year. Membership terms are rolling, meaning that you will be a member for 12 months from the time you actually join. For more information, [visit our website.](#)

DID YOU KNOW...?

It will cost over \$32,000 to operate I'On At Home this year. "Why do we have to pay for memberships," some people ask, "when all of the services are provided by volunteers?" Good question, and we're happy to respond. In fact, our IRS Form 990 (tax return for nonprofits) will be posted on our website for everyone to see.

Insurance (liability, accident, etc.), professional fees (CPA, attorney, Village to Village Network membership) and technology (website, etc.) are big expenses totaling \$7,829. Events and programs will cost approximately \$3,400.

Our Board of Directors and volunteers have been working hard, some of them for more than 2 years, to get IAH to this point. The demands of managing and coordinating all of our activities have been requiring 20 hours per week or more from several of us, a workload not sustainable over time.

For this reason, we are pleased to announce that we have engaged a paid staff person for 15 hours per week beginning May 15. This, of course, will be the biggest expense in our budget this year, at \$14,400. We join the 90% of the over 200 villages who have found paid staff necessary to maintain their organizations, and our member dues are right in line with national averages.

If you have questions about our finances, please contact our Treasurer, [Kay Chitty](#). See below for more information about our new part-time staff person, Arlyn Stoy.

WELCOME OUR NEW I'ON AT HOME COORDINATOR

As of May 15, Arlyn Stoy will join I'On At Home to handle some of the many administrative and operational responsibilities involved in assuring that our organization runs smoothly and meets members' needs. To date, all of this workload has been carried out by individual Board and committee members, and believe us when we say that it's a lot of work! Arlyn will be working an average of 15 hours per week to help lighten the load.

Bringing her experience as an employee, and then long-time volunteer, at the Coastal Community Foundation, Arlyn will focus on assuring timely and responsive services for IAH members, on coordinating volunteers, and on communications. She will also be the point person for screening new vendors for inclusion on our Preferred Provider list. Arlyn will work from home but will be in I'On regularly and often.

IAH PROGRAMS UPDATE



IAH Members enjoy the Celebrity Chef Dinner and the Kentucky Derby Party

June is just around the corner and we wanted to share with you our [current lineup of events for the month](#). (scroll down past the May events to see those for June).

If you see something in May that you would like to attend, you may register for that as well. If the event is full, contact ion@ionathome.org and we may be able to fit you in, or if there is enough interest, plan an additional session.

Events for June include (to see more information click on the blue link):

June 5, 2017

[Great Decisions Forum:](#) This month, we'll discuss Saudia Arabia. After watching a DVD featuring experts in the area, we will talk about the material we have read.

June 9, 2017

[Flower Arranging Together!:](#) We will meet at 10:00 AM, go to Trader Joe's to pick out our flowers and then make a wonderful arrangement to take home.

June 12, 2017

[Developing Friendships: 36 Questions to Explore:](#) This month we will do an exercise where we ask each other questions that have been developed to help us really get to know each other.

June 13, 2017

[Learn to use Snapchat:](#) Amaze your grandchildren by learning the app that they use to communicate with their friends. Snapchat lets you easily interact with selected contacts, view live stories from around the world, and explore news. Life's more fun when you live in the moment!

June 16, 2017

[Let's Discuss a Documentary:](#) This has been one of the most popular events in other communities. We watch and then discuss, over a glass of wine or beverage. Carol has chosen "Virunga", a fascinating documentary about a film crew that started out filming gorillas but ended up seeing poaching in The Congo in its most savage form.

June 21, 2017

[Pearls of Wisdom For Active Aging:](#) Burt Keller and Bill Simpson write a very popular column called "Aging for Amateurs" for the Charleston Post and Courier. Join us as they share their pearls of wisdom!

June 22, 2017

[Collector's Circle:](#) Don't you love to see what other people collect and why? Join Kay and Charlie Chitty as they share the collecting they have done over the years and how they chose what was important to them.

June 24, 2017

[Salt of the Earth Party:](#) Join hosts Cheryl and Bob Pitts as they share with you their favorite salts. You will sample more than 20 different types with bread and butter. Then, when you find your favorite, you can (optionally, of course) try it with a shot of tequila! Wine will be available as well as other beverages.

NEW IDEAS

We're always looking for new program ideas, so please send us your suggestions! Here are a couple that are in the works or under consideration:

- **Lecture series:** We are starting this in September. We have some presenters who have been recommended, but we are looking for more. Many of our neighbors have had very interesting lives and have a great deal of knowledge in their areas of expertise. So, please, if you know an interesting person in I'On or the larger community, send in their names.
- **Arts and Crafts Workshop and Meditation (2 separate programs):** People have asked about these. If you would be interested in either, please send an email to Barbara Fowler at ion@ionathome.org or call 843-284-3590.

The program committee consists of Barbara Fowler, Lori Bate, Delores Rosebrock, Barbara Wade, LaVon McNaughton, Kathryn Murray, Cheryl Pitts and Fred White.

CONTACT US

Just to be sure you have this information:

- Website: www.ionathome.org
 - E-mail: ion@ionathome.org
 - Phone: 843-284-3590 (office hours 9:00 AM-1:00 PM Monday-Friday; leave a message and someone will get back to you)
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RESOURCES AND INTERESTING INFORMATION

In this space, we will share news articles and other information related to aging in place (click on the blue, underlined text to follow the live link). If you find something like this, please let us know at ion@ionathome.org.

1. Groer, Annie (2017, May) [“Baby boomers join ‘aging-at-home villages’ for yoga, happy hour, cooking classes, and biking”](#) Washington Post.

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