

BAY TO SOUND NEIGHBORS

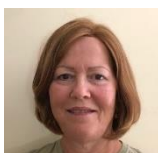


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FROM THE PRESIDENT

Happy New Year! As we ring in 2023, we can't



help but look back at our accomplishments during the past year. In 2022, the number of seniors in Dennis and Yarmouth that Bay to Sound Neighbors (B2SN) serves continued to grow and as importantly, so did our volunteer force. In fact, Bay to Sound Neighbors volunteers completed 1,400 member requests for services in 2022, of which 83% were transportation requests, about 7% were home & garden requests and the rest were requests for technology assistance, friendly visits, and respite time. Thank you to all the volunteers that gave of themselves this past year to help B2SN further our mission in the community.

In the coming year, we intend to offer more social opportunities for members to gather. Our Social Committee is already busy planning a few small and large group get togethers. This year also marks our 5th anniversary as a nonprofit organization serving seniors in Dennis and Yarmouth. We plan to celebrate this important milestone later this year with a birthday luncheon.

B2SN could not have reached the five-year mark in our history without the many volunteers who care and want to help their fellow neighbors on the mid-Cape. We are also truly blessed with a group of people who give of their time serving on our board and committees. They are the backbone of the operation, and we couldn't do what we do without them.

We need a few more people to volunteer a few hours a week helping a few of our teams. I promise – it is very rewarding personally! Please consider making a commitment to lead or co-lead one of our committees. It's not hard work. For more information on what is involved, contact me at cdonohue141@gmail.com.

Carol Donohue
President



Welcome New Volunteers!

Many new volunteers have joined us over the past few months. We celebrate you for your desire to help your fellow neighbors in Yarmouth and Dennis at a time in their lives when their needs are greater. Welcome aboard!

Susan Minucci
Valerie Whiteman
Mary Hatch
Susan Corbo
Paula Deluga
Betty O'Quinn
Aaron Lowe
Pam Richter

Elaine Singer
Shawn Hatch
Karen Richardson
Christine Young
Doreen LaBaire
Soraya Bandeli
Jane McGimsey



Winter is here! Inclement Weather Policy Reminder

If Mother Nature is kind to us, we are hoping for another mild winter. So far, so good. But just in case, here's a reminder of our winter inclement weather policy: We do not offer services when Dennis-Yarmouth Schools are closed. For late start and early close of schools, service is left to the discretion of the volunteer. Call us at 508-470-0585 if in doubt.



THE LOCKBOX PROGRAM

A Lockbox allows the Fire Department to enter your home in an emergency, without causing any damage. In the event that you are unable to unlock the door for the ambulance crews, in the case of illness or injury, or if you are away and your fire alarm system has been activated, the Fire Department would be able to access your home quickly if you have a lockbox.

How it works is that the Fire Department installs a high security metal lockbox that is attached to your home.

You place a copy of your house key inside the lockbox. Only the Fire Department retains the key to the lockbox for use in an emergency. The lockbox is secure and available to emergency crews in the case of an emergency. Having a lockbox provides security for your house key, while keeping it available for the emergency crew, instead of resorting to hidden keys or a neighbor.

Lockboxes can be purchased through your town's Fire Department for a small fee. Cost waivers are available dependent on need. All you have to do is obtain an application online on the town's fire department website *or* you can call the Fire Department and let them know you want to have a lockbox installed and then you can provide them with the information needed for the application. The Fire Department will then schedule an appointment to install the lockbox.

For questions or to request a lockbox, contact the Fire Prevention Department at either the Dennis Fire Department (508) 398-0363 or Yarmouth Fire Department (508) 398-2212.

WHAT MEMBERS ARE SAYING.....

We are always happy to receive good wishes and sentiments from members about our volunteer services. It reminds us of why our organization exists; to serve senior members of the community who want to remain in their homes but need a little extra help. Thank you!

"Your service is wonderful. I don't know what I would do without you." *Barbara Gold*

"To all the wonderful people at B2SN – thank you for all that you do." *Carol and Bill McClymont*

"Just wanted to thank you all for making my life much easier. Everyone is so nice and helpful." *Marianne Puchals*

Answers: 1. Alaska 2. Arkansas 3. California 4. South Dakota 5. Hawaii

MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: Meet Loretta Slovak

Born in the North End of Boston, Lorretta Slovak has been playing the piano since she was a young child. Her mother had emigrated from Italy and had a keen appreciation for music and the arts, encouraging a young Loretta to learn the piano. She had several excellent teachers during her early years both in Boston and later in New York and her talent was recognized by many area symphonies. As a teenager, she was asked to play at the children's concert on the Boston esplanade, with conductor Arthur Fieldler. Loretta was also honored at age 18 to play at Tanglewood. Her family moved to New Jersey and Loretta continued taking lessons in NYC. At 17, she was accepted at Juilliard, in New York, where she spent six years studying classical piano. It was there she met her husband, also a pianist. While they each had separate careers, Loretta and her husband even played as duo pianists with Arthur Fielder and the Boston Pops, among the wonderful memories she cherishes.



Loretta Slovak and her wall of memories.

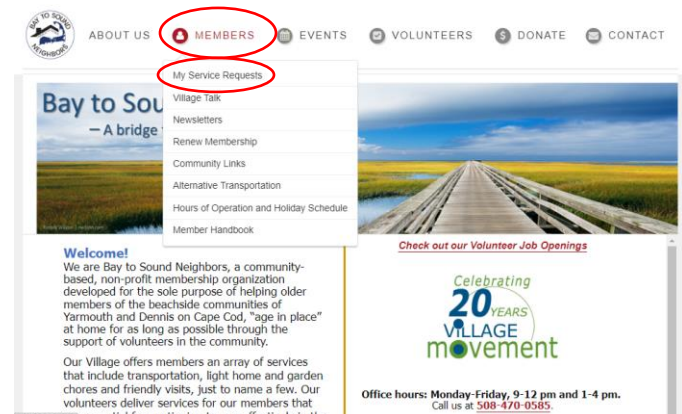
By 1965, Loretta and her husband had 4 children and two pianos in their home. You might say they were the dueling pianists. Sadly, tragedy struck the family. Her husband was killed in a plane crash as he was returning home from his work with the Cincinnati Symphony. Lorraine had her children to care for and was left to carry on and support her family. Eventually, once she was able to secure childcare, she began taking the train into NYC to offer piano lessons to students. As she says, "music can help you survive anything."

Some years later, Loretta married again and had one more child. By 1976, the family had packed up and moved to the Cape, after spending many summers here. In 1979, Loretta was offered a job with the Cape Cod

Conservatory teaching piano, a role that has brought her so much pleasure. Thinking back now about the more than three decades she has spent with the Conservatory and offering piano lessons in her home, she has many special memories of her students. "They become like your children" says Loretta. A wall in her home is graced with photos of some of her many students from over the years and she is incredibly proud of them. She still enjoys trading emails with them and hearing about their stories of success. As the saying goes "a life enjoyed is a life shared" and that certainly rings true for Loretta Slovak.

**** TIPS FOR MEMBERS ****

After you place a request with Bay to Sound Neighbors, did you know you can check the status of your request? If you have a computer or tablet and are connected to the internet, you can go to your browser and type in baytosoundneighbors.com. Once there, click sign in, enter your email address and password, then click Members>My Service Requests. You will see a list of your requests with the status. This is helpful if you have many outstanding requests and would like to know the request status. Members cannot make any changes to their own requests, however. Please always call us if you need to make a change. For reference, this information is also available in your B2SN Member Manual.



Members can check the status of their service requests on the Bay to Sound Neighbors website.



Bay to Sound Neighbors

The Villager

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South Dennis, MA 02660

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How well do you know the “states”?

1. Which state is the home of the longest coastline in the U.S.?
2. Which state is the home of the only active diamond mine in the U.S.?
3. Which state is the home of the “General Sherman,” a 3,500-year-old tree and a stand of bristlecone pines 4,000 years old which are the world’s oldest living things?
4. Pierre is the capital of what U.S. state?
5. Which state is the home of the only royal palace in the U.S.?

Answers on page 2.

JOIN US!

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