Dear Members and Friends:

I’m always looking for ways to tell the Village story – how individual lives are changed through connection and community. Recently, we received an email from a volunteer named Kathleen, bursting with gratitude for the counsel she received from one of our members – a benefit of volunteering that she hadn’t foreseen.

Kathleen was applying for a fellowship and needed some last-minute feedback. With no other women in her life she can call on for this kind of advice, she reached out to Judy, who helped her talk it through and find just the right language. Kathleen was awarded the fellowship and credits Judy with her success. She concludes by saying that as a volunteer, she receives more than she gives – a common response.

Another way we tell the story is with data – the facts and figures that demonstrate our impact: 35 programs a month; 65 new members this year; 5500 hours of volunteer service; members’ degree of satisfaction. Each of our funders, private foundations as well as the City of San Francisco, require that we report to them using both stories and data to illustrate our work. Future funding depends on it!

Please take 15 minutes to complete the survey we sent to you last month or online at www.surveymonkey.com/r/SFV2020membersurvey. The results inform not only our funders but help staff and board members plan for the new year. San Francisco Village is a collaborative effort! We want to know what’s working for you, what could be improved, new program ideas, and how you’re benefiting from membership. We’ll share the results with you at the State-of-the-Village meeting February 20th.

In the meantime, enjoy the holidays and don’t forget to RSVP for the holiday party on December 11th!!

Warm regards,
Kate
Did You Know?

Your SFV Membership Renewal for 2020!
Members, keep your eyes out for your membership renewal forms arriving in the mail early December. Please fill out the requested information, and mail it back (or bring it in) to the office before 12/31.

Office Closure
SFV will be closed on December 25th and 26th (Wednesday and Thursday). Please note that the calendar you received by mail indicates the 24th in error. We will also be closed on Wednesday, January 1st.

Volunteer Opportunities
San Francisco Village offers numerous volunteer opportunities year-round, supporting both office operations and members across the city. We’d love to have you join the crew! Contact Jill Ellefsen at jill@sfvillage.org to sign up to receive our twice weekly emails detailing the many volunteer options available to you through San Francisco Village.

Newsletter Mailing
Monday, December 23, 12 - 1:30 PM
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org

Every month, San Francisco Village seeks a handful of volunteers to prepare the newsletters for mailing. The tasks are fairly simple – stuffing, labeling, stamping and sealing envelopes – but with a small staff, we would not be able to get them done on our own. If you are interested and able to help with the mailing, please let us know! We are grateful for your support.

December Events

The Oral Tradition: A Harmony of Past, Present and Future through Storytelling
Mondays, December 2, 9, & 16, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org

Join a storytelling circle to learn the traditional forms of fairy tale, folk tale, fable, myth, and legend. Deep listening to universal themes tunes the imagination and strikes memory chords for a personal story that wants a voice. Learn techniques through group exercises, play and practice.
Olive Hackett-Shaughnessy has been a professional storyteller since 1986. She is a wandering bard/consultant who brings folk tales, fairy tales and myths from the ancient oral tradition back to life for audiences of all ages and stages and career paths including: students, parents, teachers, writers, nurses, patients, accountants, veterans, pre-schoolers and senior citizens. Her voice entrances. Her rich vocabulary is the artist’s brush. Her presentations and workshops are lively interactive experiences that encourage compassion and community.

**Nutcracker Chair Dance Ballet Class and Lecture**
Tuesday, December 3, 2:00 – 3:30 PM  
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.  
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org

The American holiday tradition of *Nutcracker* performances started here in San Francisco in 1944, and this December San Francisco Ballet celebrates 75 years of the *Nutcracker*. Join San Francisco Ballet School Faculty Member Cecelia Beam and Piano Supervisor Jamie Narushchen in a one-hour *Nutcracker* inspired Chair Dance Class. This class is done entirely in a chair and suitable for all abilities. Community and family members, care partners and friends are all welcome! Wear loose and comfortable clothing. Immediately following the dance class, San Francisco Ballet’s Associate Director Jennie Scholick, PhD will give a brief history of San Francisco Ballet’s Nutcracker, along with former soloist Lauren Strongin who will share what it’s like to dance this holiday favorite.

**LGBTQ Film Festival – Final Showing!**
Wednesday, December 4, 1:00 – 3:00 PM  
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.  
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org  
This series started in September, and all are welcomed to join.

*Tangerine* (2015) is an American comedy-drama film directed by Sean Baker. The story follows a transgender sex worker who discovers her boyfriend and pimp has been cheating on her. The film was shot with three iPhone 5S smartphones.

**2020 Census: Why Your Participation Matters**
Thursday, December 5, 10:30 AM -12:00 PM  
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.  
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org

The 2020 Census has been controversial and confusing, with many saying that our democracy is at risk. Hear about SFCounts, the City’s plan to navigate physical, language and digital barriers to ensure that every San Franciscan, immigrant or not, is accurately and fairly counted in the 2020 Census. Every person matters and our communities need your help.

Adrienne Pon is a San Francisco native and Executive Director of the Office of Civic Engagement & Immigrant Affairs (OCEIA) for the City and County of San Francisco. OCEIA is a policy, grantmaking, compliance and direct service office that provides a broad range of programs and services, including citizenship, community safety, immigrant assistance and integration, language access, workforce
Follow Me for an Afternoon of Tai Chi and Qigong
Thursdays December 5 & 12, 2:30 – 3:15 PM
Will not meet on Thanksgiving, 11/28
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org
This series started in October, and all are welcomed to join.

Practice Tai Chi without worrying about memorizing forms and learn from an instructor who uses the stepwise method — watch me, follow me, and let’s do it together. These 9 sessions will include skills of Qigong discipline, the perfect blend of Tai Chi and Qigong. This program holds the endorsement of many leading organizations, including the CDC, Arthritis Foundation, Administration on Aging, and American College of Sports Medicine. For more information visit https://taichiforhealthinstitute.org/. Led by Caroline Lew - a Certified Instructor from Tai Chi for Health Institute.

CANCELED – RESCHEDULED PROGRAM TBD
Beyond Grumps and Spinsters: American Movies Take on Aging
Friday, December 6, 1pm-2:30pm
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org

Despite representing 20 percent of the American population, seniors have been barely visible over the long history of American movies. When older characters are prominent, they’re often reduced to dispiriting stereotypes. Why has American cinema had such difficulty portraying aging in multi-dimensional, authentic ways? And might we finally be entering a golden age for “silver” movies? In this lively talk, brimming with clips from decades of Hollywood and independent cinema, film curator and documentary director Peter L. Stein presents an entertaining look at the way films have both reflected and influenced American perceptions of aging.

Peter L. Stein is a Peabody Award-winning documentary filmmaker and freelance film writer, programmer and presenter. For eight years he was Executive Director of the San Francisco Jewish Film Festival and currently serves as Senior Programmer for Frameline, the San Francisco International LGBTQ Film Festival. More information at www.peterLstein.com.

Lunch with Provocative People – Final Session
Tuesday, Dec 10, 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org
This series started in October, and all are welcomed to join.

Who would you like to have lunch with? We provide the people – you bring your lunch! The focus of this group will be on learning about provocative people in our midst (in the USA & elsewhere). Written and video material will be used to discover the wisdom and character of each person. Bring your lunch to enjoy during the discussion period. A
planning committee of members was created to organize and lead the sessions. The underlying notion is that each of us has something to teach – and learn from one another.

**December 10:** “The most powerful woman in the world,” so designated by Forbes Magazine for a record fourteenth time. Germany’s Chancellor Angela Merkel has led her country for four consecutive terms, but says she will not run again. Learn the fascinating backstory of a remarkable woman who has been the de facto leader of the European Union for the last decade. Presented by Karen Crommie

**Let’s Talk About Sex**
**Tuesday, December 10, 1:30pm-3pm**
**SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.**
**RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org**

As we age, our needs related to intimacy and sexuality can change. Learning more about our intimacy and sexuality can encourage us all to discuss this topic openly and advocate for our needs where necessary. Come join us for a lively, professionally led, discussion about normalizing sexuality in older adults and sexual health in the aging population, led by Nathalie Huitema-Nuijens, MS, PhD student.

Nathalie Huitema is a Sexologist (ASC certified), Gerontologist MS., sexuality consultant and trainer. Her focus is on sexuality in older adults and people with chronic diseases, like dementia, Parkinson, MS, stroke survivors. She was the first sexologist working in a nursing home in the Netherlands.

**Annual Holiday Party**
**Wednesday, December 11, 5:45 – 8:00 PM, boarding starts at 5:30 PM**
**Empress Cruise, meet at SF Pier 40, 89 King Street**
**Required RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org**

Join us for an evening of food, wine and merrymaking to celebrate the holidays! In the spirit of the season, let’s come together as a community and share some laughter and gratitude with fellow Village members and volunteers.

**Spanish Film Showing: Julieta (2016)**
**Monday, December 16th, 1:30pm-3:30pm**
**SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.**
**RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org**

The Grupo de Conversación en Español invites you to watch *Julieta* (2016): After a chance meeting, middle-aged Julieta (Emma Suarez) learns that her long-lost daughter has resurfaced in Madrid. This begins a painful reflection by Julieta into her checkered past, flashing back to the moments of pain that defined her current life. This drama is directed by Spanish master Pedro Almodóvar. The movie will be shown in Spanish with Spanish subtitles.
San Francisco Holiday Lights Walking Tour
Tuesday, December 17, 4:30 – 6:30 PM
Starting Place: Sheraton Palace Hotel (meet inside at Market Street entrance)
RSVP to info@sfvillage.org or (415) 387-1375
RSVP required; Space limited

Back by popular demand! This fun-filled tour is unique every year with new and fun decorations and surprises along the way, and provides insights into San Francisco history as well as current city trivia. The tour will be led by SFV member, Marilyn Straka, who runs On the Level Tours with no hills or steps. Join Marilyn and other members for a private tour to see downtown San Francisco and all that glitters during the Season!

Current Psychedelic Research: A Resurgence of Interest
Wednesday, December 18, 1:30 – 3:00 PM
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org

Psychedelics are powerful psychoactive substances that alter perception and mood and affect numerous cognitive processes. They are generally considered physiologically safe and do not lead to dependence or addiction. They have been employed since pre-history in many sociocultural and ritual contexts. After decades of research inactivity, the potential of psychedelics to alleviate the distress associated with a terminal illness has been significantly advanced by the results of recent studies investigating the efficacy of psilocybin in the treatment of anxiety and depression in patients with life-threatening cancer. This presentation will discuss the history of psychedelic research, the unique legal, ethical and regulatory issues that surround clinical use, and the renewed interest psychedelic drugs and their potential as novel treatments for end-of-life anxiety, substance use, PTSD, anxiety and mood disorders.

Recurring Events

Knitting Circle and Crafting Hangout
1st and 3rd Monday every month, Dec. 2 and 16, 1:30 – 3 PM
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.

For the month of December, in addition to working on our ongoing personal projects, we will also have a beading table set up with a beautiful selection of donated beads and all of the materials to make earrings, bracelets and necklaces. Instruction available. Please RSVP to jill@sfvillage.org or 415-387-1375 x2

Grupo de Conversación en Español
Mondays, December 9 and 30, 9:30 - 10:30 AM
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org

Add a little more conversation in Spanish to your life! This group, led by members, is aimed at intermediate speakers and those who speak
fluently; there will be no formal instruction. Not sure if your Spanish is up for it? Check it out!

**Longevity Explorers Circle**

**Longevity Explorers Circle**

**Tuesday, December 3, 2:00 -- 3:30 PM**

**The Franciscan Room, The Sequoias Continuing Care Community, 1400 Geary Blvd. (between Laguna and Gough)**

**Tuesday, January 7, 2:00 -- 3:30 PM**

**SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.**

RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org

Join an intimate group to discuss solutions to the challenges of growing older. The group will be facilitated by Dr. Richard Caro, co-founder of Tech-enhanced Life, PBC & Longevity Explorers which focus on the intersection of healthcare, aging, and technology. Find out about new products that can help postpone the day when growing older starts to get in the way of living life to the fullest. Share your ideas about what works and what does not work well with others from your community and members of other circles. Add your ideas and hear from your peers about “solutions someone needs to develop”.

**Aging Well with Meditation**

**Aging Well with Meditation**

**Wednesdays, December 4, 11, & 18, 11:00 AM – 12:00 PM**

**SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.**

No RSVP required. All levels of experience are welcome.

Meditation is a mind-body training that improves your ability to pay attention to the things that matter. Mindfulness mediation – paying attention purposefully and non-judgmentally in the present moment – is associated with lower stress, improved self-awareness, positive brain changes, more compassion, and better sleep. The group is led by Rachel Lanzerotti, Certified Yoga Therapist, a long-time practitioner and teacher of yoga and mindfulness meditation. Come learn to practice meditation together. All levels of experience are welcome for this drop-in group.

**Play Reading Group**

**Play Reading Group**

**Thursday, December 12, 4PM**

**150 Lombard St., Telegraph Landing Club Room**

RSVP to Midge Fox at (415) 984-0613.

Have an urge to emote? To be a drama queen? To be someone completely different from or even the same as yourself? If the answer is yes, then come join our One-Act Play Reading group. We meet on the second Thursday of the month from 4:00-6:00 at 150 Lombard St. in the Telegraph Landing Club Room. We will next be reading *Glory in the Flower* by William Inge. The play can be found in 24 Favorite One Act Plays edited by Bennett Cerf and Van H. Cartmell.

If you have questions, please call or write Midge Fox at the information above. No audition required. All readers/actors welcome. Feel free to come in costume appropriate to the play, if desired. Bringing snacks or beverage to share, purely optional. We look forward to welcoming new thespians to our group.
Solo Agers’ Circle
Friday, Dec. 13, 10:30AM – 12PM
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org

Holidays and Self-Care: Giving Ourselves the Gift of Sanity During Stressful Times. Led by Dr. Patrick Arbore.

Holidays can be a positive time for some people and a difficult time for others. Problems or emotions repressed during other months may surface during the holidays. It is not uncommon for people to experience stress, frustration, sadness, loneliness, grief, lethargy, depression or resentment as the season changes from fall to winter and the holidays draw closer. In this workshop, participants will have an opportunity to explore their own feelings about the holidays. Additionally, participants will examine ways in which they can manage the stressors that often accompany holiday events. An emphasis will be placed on learning to trust our need to have boundaries so that we do not burn-out during the holiday season.

Book Group
Monday, December 23, 4pm
RSVP to Brooke Anderson at (415) 672-2437
Call for time and location

Our December book group will be held on Monday, the 23rd. Venue TBD. We will be discussing “The Japanese Lover” by Isabelle Allende. Please contact Brooke Anderson at the number above to join.

Neighborhood Circles

One of our members recently noted that Neighborhood Circles are a great way for her friends to learn more about San Francisco Village. Please feel free to extend an invitation to a friend to “dip their toe” into the Village by participating in an upcoming outing. If he/she is further interested in membership, please contact Jill Ellefsen at jill@sfvillage.org or 415-387-1375 x 2.

West of Twin Peaks Circle

Only one event this busy month for our Circle, but hope you have all signed up for the Village Holiday Cruise on December 11th! Otherwise, come December 3rd for drinks and bites at the Beach Chalet overlooking the Pacific Ocean. $10 for a burger and beer. 3-5pm, 1000 Great Highway. Contact Elaine with any questions! elaine@mannon.com or 415-469-9832.

94121
San Francisco Village members and friends from 94121 and beyond continue to meet at various venues around our zip code. Please call Patricia Kaussen at 415-387-7299 if you wish to join 10 to 15 friendly neighbors and friends sharing in some convivial and scintillating conversation. We meet about every 4 to 6 weeks. Our December gathering will be held on December 6th, 1:30PM.
94109/94133
Our neighborhood circle will meet on December 11th at 3pm at a member’s home to discuss our visit to the Italian Community Center and North Beach. As the holiday season is approaching, we will share our favorite holiday memories. Please RSVP to Bobbie Rothman at rrothman2174@gmail.com or Juliet Rothman at rothman@berkeley.edu for more details.

94117
The 94117 Neighborhood Circle (Haight Ashbury / Cole Valley) will next meet on Friday, December 13th, from 2-4 pm. For this get-together, we have decided to leave the agenda open. We find topics arise during our monthly conversations. We will enjoy getting to know each other better and sharing what we have done over the past month - our pleasures, challenges and insights. This get-together will be at the home of Karen and David Crommie. For location details, contact Bill Haskell at bhaskell@sonic.net or 415-661-2670. Or contact Jill Ellefsen at jill@sfvillage.org or 415-387-1375 x 2.

Sunset Circle
Sunset Circle will NOT meet in December. Our next meeting will by on Wednesday, January 15, from 2:20-4PM. We will have a speaker about emergency preparedness. Please RSVP to Olive at 415-566-1149 or to olvestories@gmail.com. It will be a real help to know how many will gather for this special meeting for setting up the room.

LGBTQ Circle
3rd Friday of every month: December 20th from 1-2:30pm. As we round out 2019 and look ahead to 2020, let’s gather this last meeting of the year, share some and food and drink potluck style, spread good cheer through some holiday storytelling, and share intentions for the year ahead. Please RSVP to Jill@sfvillage.org or 415-387-1375 x 2.

Bernal Circle
Our Holiday Get Together will be on Saturday, December 28th @ 7:00pm at Joan and Manny’s house. For information, please call Joan at 415-285-6919.

94102/94103
Until our regular meetings resume, meet up with 94102/03 circle members every Tuesday night at the Orbit Room’s Trivia Night, 1900 Market St., starting at 8pm. Join Team Village as we battle wits with the younger generation. All are welcome! RSVP to jill@sfvillage.org or 415-387-1375 x2.

Searching for Your Neighborhood Circle?
Check out our listing of all circles and contact Jill Ellefsen if you’d like to join, jill@sfvillage.org:

- **Bernal, Potrero, Mission, Bayview**, 94110, 94107, 94134
- **Castro, Noe Valley**, 94114
- **Cole Valley, Haight**, 94117
- **Financial Dist., Embarcadero**, 94111, 94104, 94105, 94108
- **Inner Richmond**, 94118, 94129
- **Marina, Cow Hollow, Pacific Heights, Western Addition**, 94123, 94115
- **Nob Hill, North Beach, Telegraph Hill, Chinatown, Russian Hill**, 94109, 94133
Member to Member

My Commitment to Positive Climate Action: Bill Haskell

At the last session of the excellent Climate Crisis series that ended in September, I made a commitment to organize a letter writing campaign for members who want SFV to: (1) endorse particular climate legislation at the federal, state, or local level; or (2) thank a political or social leader working on behalf of positive climate action.

My request is this: if you have legislation you want endorsed by SFV members, please send me an email stating what that legislation is AND why you believe it should be endorsed. If you have a political or social leader you believe should be thanked by SFV members for her or his work on behalf of positive climate action, please send an email to me stating who that person is AND why you believe they should be thanked. My email address is bhaskell@sonic.net. I will take the information you send me and convert it into an endorsement letter or a thank-you letter and place it on SFV stationery. FYI – the date for letter signing will be Thursday, December 12th, from 1:30 to 2:15 pm. The SFV conference room will be reserved, if possible, for this member letter signing event. In the coming months, if there are sufficient pieces of legislation to be endorsed, or a number of political or social leaders to be thanked, this could be a monthly event. **This letter writing campaign can be our collective effort to achieve ongoing positive climate action!**

Free Supplies Available

SFV Member Elaine Mannon has an extra, un-used supply of HP ink 02 - both colored and black ink. They are free to anyone who has an HP color printer that uses 02 ink. Please contact Elaine if you’d like to have it, elaine@mannon.com.

Around Town

My Life, My Stories

This local non-profit is dedicated to building a more connected community that is inclusive of all ages. They’re inviting you to their first ever intergenerational holiday party. It’s free! Join for a cocktail and conversation. Details: Wed., December 4, 2019, 6-9:30pm, The Red Victorian, 1665 Haight Street, 94117.

Plastic-free Holiday Market

Our SFV community recently spent much of the fall educating ourselves on the global climate crisis and positive actions we can take to better the world together. As such, we’d like to draw your attention to the Plastic-free Holiday Market held on Dec. 8th from 10am-5pm at the Fort Mason Firehouse (2 Marina Blvd., 94123). The market will feature vendors selling eco-friendly gifts.
Community Health Resource Center (CHRC)
The CHRC is a non-profit organization that provides a range of beneficial health education programs including nutritional guidance, social work counseling, educational lectures, and more. They have ongoing support groups such as the Cancer Buddy Program, Stroke Survivor, and Coping with Cancer. For more info about the groups, call the CHRC at 415-923-3155 or ask SFV staff for a flyer.

Census Team 2020 is Hiring in SF
Recruitment has begun for the 2020 Census Team in San Francisco, for both supervisory and non-supervisory positions. All these positions provide the perfect opportunity to earn some extra income. Salary: $24.00-$33.00 per hour. Job Timeline and frequently asked questions can be found at https://2020census.gov/jobs/faqs.html.

Save The Date!

Dance Generators
Lecture
Wednesday, Jan 29, 12:30 – 1:30 PM
SFV, 3220 Fulton St. at 8th Ave.
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org

Movement Series
Saturdays, 2/8, 2/29, 3/28, 4/11 & 4/25, 11:00 AM – 12:30 PM
Koret Health & Recreation Center, 2130 Fulton Street Entrance at the corner of Parker & Turk Blvd
RSVP to (415) 387-1375 or info@sfvillage.org
RSVP Required for USF building security

Dance Generators is an intergenerational dance company housed at the University of San Francisco. Consisting of USF students & Bay Area adults, this dance group ranges in age from their teens through their 80’s and come together through a shared commitment to innovative movement practices.

In Memoriam
San Francisco Village honors and celebrates our members who passed away in 2019. They filled our lives with joy and offered us deeply cherished friendships.

John Anderson
Dorothy Barnhouse
Kitty Brody
Sally Dean

Rebecca Hayden
Carolyn Ingram
John Kinch
Carolyn Nuite

Sululagi Palega
Walter Williams
Sonnie Willis
Marjorie Wong
San Francisco Village welcomes people of all cultures, faiths, genders, orientations, abilities, and ages. Should you have any questions, requests, or concerns, don’t hesitate to contact us. You can find our staff at the emails below or by calling our main line (415-387-1375) and then selecting the corresponding extension.

**Administration & Community Collaborations:** Kate Hoepke – kate@sfvillage.org, ext. 1  
**Membership & Volunteering:** Jill Ellefsen – jill@sfvillage.org, ext. 2  
**Programs & RSVPs:** Amy Bergstein – amy@sfvillage.org, ext. 3  
**Donations & Newsletter:** Sara Roliz – sroliz@sfvillage.org, ext. 4  
**Staff & Member Support:** Yousra Sebiaa – yousra@sfvillage.org, ext. 5  
**Staff & Member Support:** Stephanie Tranter – stephanie@sfvillage.org, ext. 5  
**Wellness Program:** Jessica Da Silva – jessica@sfvillage.org, ext. 6

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Please note that the programs and events listed in this newsletter are offered to members of San Francisco Village. To learn more about registering for membership, please contact Jill Ellefsen (listed below).