



Volunteer Newsletter

February 2023

A MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

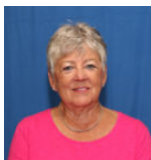
Happy New Year! We are looking forward to a great 2023! Your willingness to contribute your time and compassion has made a real difference in so many lives. Here is a message from a member to you: *“Thank you for your service. Your organization is a lifeline for me and it enables me to be independent while living in Sun City.”*

As you read how Staying Connected helped our members in 2022, feel proud about your service, compassion and willingness to support your neighbors. Tell your friends how volunteering gives you a good feeling and about the wonderful people that you have met through your work. Encourage your neighbors to join you by becoming a volunteer. Promote Staying Connected within the community and ask your Neighborhood Representative to provide some time for us to share our message at a neighborhood meeting. We’re in this together!

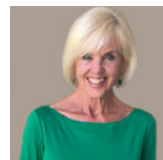
OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



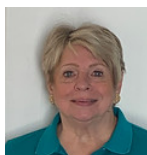
Hugh Armstrong, President



Mary O'Brien, Vice President



Lisbet DuPont, Secretary



Bonnie Taylor, Treasurer



Anne Maria (Tab) Tabernik, Member-At-Large

OUR COORDINATORS & MANAGERS

Intake	Tab Tabernik	Home Maintenance	Tom Hahn
Hub Coordinator	Pat Hart	Home Visits	Lori Anthony
Member Liaison	Sue Lutz	Service Scheduling	Peggy Pope
Member Coordinator	Linda Foster	IT	Tom Pope
Volunteer Coordinator	Dotti Laas	Marketing & Fundraising	Lucia Crosby
Transportation	Jack Kirchgraber		

UPCOMING EVENTS

The Staying Connected “Black & White Gala” is back by popular demand! **Save the date:** April 29, Pinckney Hall Ballroom, 6:00 – 9:00 p.m. The Gala Committee needs your help; please contact Lucia Crosby if you can lend a hand luciacrosby@stayingconnectedschh.org.

CHANGES and NEWS

Werner Rotach, who served as our Treasurer, has retired. We have a new Treasurer, Bonnie Taylor. Bonnie moved to Sun City in 2016 and joined Staying Connected as a volunteer that same year. She is also a member of the Sun City 100+ Women Who Care group. Bonnie brings 30 years of experience in real estate and insurance, where her responsibilities included the management of Accounting and Human Resources departments.


Barbara Swan has retired from her duties as Resource Hub Coordinator and Pat Hart is the new Hub Coordinator. Pat most recently served as Hub Scheduler, and has volunteered with Staying Connected since it's inception.

Some technology changes are being made in the Resource Hub to improve operations. Tom Pope reports that the computers are being replaced with Micro Desktop computers donated by the Computer Club! Larger 24" monitor/screens and a newer version of Microsoft Office will also be installed.

THINGS TO PONDER

- ❖ Covid may have been a wakeup call for many families. Seniors may be seeking alternative living options and utilizing more in-home care options.
- ❖ For those who lack family support, the situation can be dire. 68% of our current members live alone. Too many seniors have no support system, have difficulty navigating through their problems and finding solutions. Social services are woefully understaffed.
- ❖ How Staying Connected helps:
 - Educating through information to help manage life's challenges.
 - Enabling better access to healthcare and to fresher foods. (In 2022, 1,412 trips were provided for medical appointments and grocery shopping.)
 - Fending off the negative effect of loneliness through socialization, and providing relief for caregivers who need a little time for themselves. (473 visits in 2022.)
 - Helping with household maintenance tasks that otherwise might not get done safely. (Home Maintenance completed over 500 different tasks for our members last year.)
 - Providing a Safety First program to ensure emergency contacts are notified if necessary.
 - Providing opportunities to volunteer (12,300 hours in 2022), make a difference, and feel good about it.
- ❖ Overall, Staying Connected provides 'peace of mind' ... someone to call for help!

HIGHLIGHTING OUR DONORS and SPONSORING PARTNERS

Our thanks to Sun City's  100+ Women Who Care group who recently gave Staying Connected a generous donation. Our Donors and Sponsors allow Staying Connected to help our Sun City neighbors who need a little assistance as they face life's challenges.

