

GRAY MATTERS

APRIL 2024

OLDER ADULTS ACTIVE & ENGAGED

40TH ANNIVERSARY VOLUNTEER CELEBRATION A GRAND EVENT



Volunteer service award recipients (l to r), Ralph H. Graner, Susie Wiltshire, and Hal Costley.

By now you know that 2024 is The Shepherd's Center of Richmond's 40th Anniversary. To celebrate, The Center held a 40th Anniversary Celebration at The University of Richmond's Jepson Center on March 14. It was a lively and well attended event! Music was provided by education committee chairman, Gene Anderson's, "Doctors of Jazz," and a beautiful lunch of roast chicken was served, topped off with dessert and a champagne toast to our 40 years.

Special Guests included Delegate Betsy Carr from the Virginia 78th General Assembly District, which represents a good part of Richmond; Jaquelin Ukrop Aronson, Richmond's Christmas mother for 2023; and long-time transportation client, Dorothy Manuel.

TOP NEWS

- HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 40TH CELEBRATION
- FUNDRAISING GOAL REACHED!
- NEW EVENTS BEING PLANNED

Distinguished Service Awards were presented to Hal Costley and Ralph Graner for many years of dedicated service. Susie Wiltshire was presented with the Shepherd's Center of America's 2024 National Volunteer of Excellence Award. And Delegate Carr presented us with a recently passed resolution congratulating The Center on 40 years of service to the Richmond Community.

We then entertained ourselves with a live auction, conducted by the inimitable Camden Whitehead, of items donated by TSCOR members. The event was intended to be a fun and entertaining part of the program. But it had the added benefit of raising over \$2500!

A heartfelt thank you goes to our generous host, John Clark, as well as to the volunteers who donated their time and talents to this beautiful, fun, and successful event.

See pictures on the following pages!

PICTURES FROM THE 40TH CELEBRATION



Event sponsor, John Clark, with Celebration committee chair, Mimi Sadler.



President, Peter Pettit, and wife, Carol Pettit, greeting attendees.



Ralph Graner presenting 40 years of the Center's history.



Delegate Betsy Carr, presenting the Center's resolution of service.



Dorothy Manuel, client (l), and Gwen Logan-Jones, driver, (r).



Susie Wiltshire holding her Shepherd's Centers of America volunteer service award.



Camden Whitehead, auctioneer, (center), with Charlie Caldwell (l), and Scott Finn (r), auction assistants.



Auction fun with Camden, Charlie, Pam Atwood (as Vanna White), and Scott.



Charlie Caldwell holds artwork, donated by Mary Dale Looman, up for auction.

40TH FUN, CONTINUED



**Susie Wiltshire (l) and
Jacquelin Ukrop Aronson (r).**



**Mimi Sadler (l) and Pam
Atwood (r).**



**There was a toast, singing, and cake
served in honor of the Center.**



**Flower arrangements by
Sheelagh Davis.**



Gift bags were given out to guests after the party.

ANNUAL APPEAL GOAL REACHED!

Keeping the 40th Anniversary of the Shepherd's Center in mind, the Annual Campaign created a goal to raise \$40,000. To make it fun, we suggested donations be made in any multiple of 40, be it \$40, \$80, \$120, etc.

WE NOT ONLY REACHED OUR GOAL, WE SURPASSED IT! THE ANNUAL CAMPAIGN RAISED 42,212.15!

Thank you for your support! Everyone was very creative in choosing a multiple of 40. Your generosity is deeply appreciated.



NEW EVENTS PROGRAM OFF TO A GREAT START

The Center's new Events program held its first outing and a good time was had by all! Participants met for lunch at Buna Kurs Ethiopian Cafe, then had a private tour of the Maggie Walker House - conducted by Ben Anderson - and concluded with a short walking tour of Jackson Ward, guided by Megan Shockley.

Planning for upcoming events are underway. Some suggested destinations and activities are: Blue Bee Cider, Maymont, a lecture and exhibit at the Library of Virginia, movie screenings at the new office, touring local battlefields, the Edgar Allen Poe House, Agecroft Hall and Gardens, local food tours, and the Southern Serenity Tea Room.

If you are interested in joining the Events committee, or would like to suggest an event, please contact the office at 804-355-7282.

OPEN UNIVERSITY FEATURES TOP NOTCH VOLUNTEER INSTRUCTORS



Camden Whitehead (l) and Mimi Sadler (r), volunteer as instructors at Open University.

Have you ever met a couple that lights up a room and manages to draw you into their world? Well Camden Whitehead and Mimi Sadler are one of those couples.

To my delight, last session they taught an architecture class titled, "The Golden Mean: Utopia, and Other Ideals in American Architecture." Each week they taught us about architectural ideals that are inherent in our structures.

Not only are they knowledgeable on their subject but it is obvious that they are passionate about it. And as students, we enjoy their down-to-earth commentary and "couple-ness" while they enthusiastically expose us to American architecture.

This is the caliber of courses and speakers that the Open University offers students. Session after session and year after year, we are enlightened, surprised, and encouraged to explore new interests.

I am happy to say, that for me, each session seems to surpass the last. What will surprise me? What new subject will entice me to explore more on my own? What new experience or opportunity will be presented to me by one of our speakers?

Join Mimi and Camden and many other interesting instructors and speakers who bring us their expertise throughout the year.

See you at the OU!
Pam Atwood

Join us at The Open University on Monday, May 6, 12:30 - 1:30, when Camden and Mimi present their lunch talk, "Wilfred Emory Cutshaw, the One-Legged Visionary Who Changed the Face of Richmond."

NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK APRIL 21-27

**“PLEASE, LIKE ME,
WHOA, YEAH,
LIKE I LIKE YOU”**



Please, please help us increase our visibility in the Richmond community by following us on social media!

It's super easy to support the Center this way - just pick your favorite platform (we are on FaceBook and Instagram), then follow us, like our posts, and repost them to friends, family and neighbors.

Feel free to leave comments, too. Let everyone know what the Center's programs, services and volunteer opportunities mean to you.

See links below to follow us!

or find us at:

facebook.com/ShepCenterRVA

instagram.com/t.s.c.o.r

National Volunteer Week is only a week away. We've already held our 40th Anniversary Volunteer Celebration honoring our outstanding volunteers, but we're not done appreciating you yet!

There will be more to come, but first we'd like to take space and acknowledge the volunteers who sponsored*, planned, and ran the 40th Celebration. It would not have happened without them:

Gene Anderson

Pam Atwood

Bill Blake

Paula Butz

Charlie Caldwell

John Clark*

Hal Costley

Sheelagh Davis

Scott Finn

Ralph Graner

Sue Houdyshell

Molly Johnson

Linda Martin

Carol Pettit

Peter Pettit

Jeanie Rule

Mimi Sadler

Megan Shockley

Camden Whitehead

AT HOME IN NEW OFFICE

We moved into our new office at 5101 Monument Avenue at the beginning of January. Aside from hanging a few final pictures, we are pretty much settled in!

Stop on by for a visit if you're in the neighborhood! We are in the office on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays from 9:00-4:30.



Clockwise from top left: the reception area; Brenna Dennis at the front desk; the main hallway; the new multi-purpose room; and Lori Delay in her office.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY - DRIVER

Volunteers are the beating heart of the Center. Give volunteering some thought. You're sure to make a difference and you'll definitely meet some interesting people along the way!



What does a volunteer driver do?

They provide our clients with free, accompanied, roundtrip, rides to medical appointments and grocery stores.

Who are TSCOR's clients?

They are seniors 60 and older; they are mobile and may have canes or walkers, but don't use wheelchairs; they are wonderful people who live independently, but for various reasons no longer drive.

How does volunteer driving work?

Use our online scheduling system and choose who, when, where and how often to drive. Pick up the client from their home, drive them to their appointment, stay nearby until they're finished, and then drive them home again.

Will I enjoy driving?

Yes! Driving is enjoyable for drivers and clients – you're guaranteed to learn something new about your passenger and friendships are often forged. Volunteers say they get more out of driving than the clients do, and clients tell us what a wonderful difference drivers make in their lives.

To volunteer or learn more, contact the office. 804-355-7282
tscor@tscor.org



The Shepherd's Center of Richmond
Encouraging older adults to remain active and independent through lifelong learning and volunteer service to their peers.

Made by, for and about older adults.