

Sage Upstate News

March, 2021
Vol 25 No 3

Serving Older Gay,
Lesbian, Bisexual, and
Transgender People
in Central New York

For up-to-date info on
SAGE programs, see
www.sageupstate.org
The March calendar
of activities is on page 2.

Join SAGE in Antiracist Work

Our Antiracist Statement calls on us to actively work to remove all barriers to equitable and full participation in SAGE Upstate. We as individuals and as an organization can strive toward this goal by moving beyond being non-racist to practice *antiracism*.

What does this work look like? For one thing, the work will be ongoing. We will need to continue assessment of the spaces we create to make sure that all feel wel-

See "Antiracism" on p. 3



SAGEVets Spotlight: Beverly Taylor

In 1955, a couple years after her high school graduation, Bev signed up for the Marine Corps. For a girl who had never left NY State or been on a train, the trip by herself to Paris Island for training was quite an adventure. In those years the only jobs open to women were administrative and secretarial, so that is what Bev did. She hoped things would change so she could train to become a drill instructor and stay in the service long term.

She enjoyed traveling to other bases with ball teams and getting to know women from all over the country. Unfortunately, after she was in the service for about a year and half there was a purge of members suspected of being gay. She received a

general discharge "under honorable conditions," which ended her military career.

After living in Albuquerque, New Mexico for 10 years, she moved back to NY and worked for the phone company for a total of 38 years. These days, at 86, she enjoys watching TV, going for car rides, lazy days at our camp near Old Forge watching the boats on the lake and keeping an eye out for wildlife. She likes spending time with her 3 cats that she loves more than almost anything.

Unfortunately, her moderate dementia has erased all of her memories of her time in the Marines, but lucky for me she told me many stories of the good times she had when she was there. -- *Gretchen Barfoot*



SAGE Upstate is partnering with SAGE USA to extend the reach of our SAGEVets program. Co-chairs Dan Bishop-Basley and Rita Gram

will lead efforts to build relationships with agencies serving veterans, to invite LGBTQ veterans across Upstate NY to monthly meetings, and to make agencies serving older adults aware of the program. SAGEVets meets on the 4th Tuesday, 5:30 pm, (now on Zoom) and offers connection and information for LGBTQ vets. Call in or log in-- find links on page 2, and at sageupstate.org.

Hear more about SAGEVets at Second Sunday – see inside

March 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	1 11 am Fitness Class 6 pm Monday Men's	2	3 5:30 Writers 7:00 Knitters	4	5	6
7	8 11 am Fitness Class 6 pm Monday Men's	9 3 pm Alzheimer's Support	10 5:30 Writers 7:00 Knitters	11	12 11 am Fitness Class	13 Utica group
14 Second Sunday With SAGE	15 11 am Fitness Class 6 pm Monday Men's	16	17 5:30 Writers 7:00 Knitters	18	19 11 am Fitness Class 7 pm Men's Night Out	20 7 pm Trans Social
21	22 11 am Fitness Class 6 pm Monday Men's	23 6 pm SAGEVets	24 5:30 Writers 7:00 Knitters	25 5:30 SAGE Board	26 11 am Fitness Class	27
28 2pm Oswego Group	29 11 am Fitness Class 6 pm Monday Men's	30	31 5:30 Writers 7:00 Knitters			

Find the links on the calendar page at www.sageupstate.org.

To call in: 1-929-205-6099 with meeting ID# and passcode (except Alzheimer's group-- see below)

Alzheimer's Association Caregiver Support Group: 2nd Tuesday at 3 pm: Call the 24-Hour Helpline, 800-272-3900, for secure joining details.
Falls Prevention Fitness Class led by Barb Genton -- exercises to build strength and improve balance. Mon/Fri, 11 am Meeting ID # 894 0192 9890 Passcode: 1969
Knitting and Fiber Arts, Wednesdays at 7 pm: Fiber arts and conversation. Meeting ID: 812 6815 6658 Passcode: 1969
Note: New Link & New Time Men's Night Out: Third Friday at 7 pm Meeting ID: 817 6668 1893 Passcode: 1969
Oswego Group: Fourth Sunday, 2 pm: Join other SAGErs in Oswego for discussion and socializing. Meeting ID: 821 3206 5529 Passcode: 1969
SAGE Upstate Board, 4th Thursday, 5:30 pm: Meeting ID: 876 4687 0636 Passcode: 1969

SAGEVets, 4th Tuesday at 6 pm: SAGE Veterans meet for discussion/support. Meeting ID: 871 5736 4984 Passcode: 1969
Second Sundays @ SAGE : Danny Sharon on dulcimer and SAGEVets. Meeting ID # 893 1950 6041 Passcode: 1969
Trans Social, 3rd Saturday, 7 pm: Trans-identified people meet for socializing and support. Meeting ID: 823 2516 1498 Passcode: 7243
Note: New Link Utica Group: Join other SAGE folks from Utica and beyond for a social gathering on Second Saturday, 5 pm. Meeting ID: 854 4360 4277 Passcode: 1969
Writers Group, Wednesdays at 5:30 pm: All genres and experience levels welcome. Meeting ID: 596 630 088 Passcode: 1969

"Antiracism" cont'd from p.1

comed and encouraged to participate. We also understand that it will help for all of us to take part-- board, staff, participants and volunteers. Would you like to be a part of this work? Contact Kim at kdrill@sageupstate.org or leave a message at 315-478-1923.

We have plans to start a workgroup, and we'd like to establish a white allies group in which participants will explore how privilege affects us and what it means to be antiracist. These are the first steps and the work will no doubt evolve as participants weigh in.

If you are unable to participate, but would like to send feedback, email Kim at the above address with ideas about maintaining a bias-free environment, educating each other and holding each other accountable, or any other ideas you have. You can find our Antiracism statement at sageupstate.org, under "About" in the drop-down menu.

Volunteers, Program Input Needed

SAGE Upstate is looking for volunteers for specialized tasks, like working with databases, clerical work, fundraising, or running zoom meetings. We can always use a few more folks on our planning committees too. And, as always, we need help with general tasks like mailings and making calls to people in need. Most projects can be done in your own home with a phone or computer. Some tasks, like mailings, would be held in the center with a few others-- social distancing measures will be adhered to.

We also need input on programs this year. What has worked well with Zoom? What should be changed? What programs would you like to see? Watch for a short survey on sageupstate.org.

For more info about volunteering, or to give your input on programs, please contact Kim at kdrill@sageupstate.org or leave a message at 315-478-1923.

Second Sunday with SAGE



Danny Sharon on dulcimer

Danny will be joining us from San Antonio, Texas, where he and his wife, Connie, have lived for over 34 years. He'll talk about his journey as the parent of a transgender child in the 80s and 90s. His son, Dr. Nathaniel Sharon is now a child psychiatrist who has educated physicians and others about the needs of transgender people. Danny began playing the the mountain dulcimer about 20 years ago. He will be playing two songs. *Staten Island Hornpipe* (also known as "The Arranmore Ferry" or "Burns Hornpipe") was first printed in Glasgow in 1782 in James Aird's "Selection of Scotch, English, Irish, and Foreign Airs." *Lord Inchiquin* was written by the famous blind Irish harpist Turlough O'Carolani in 1726, and was dedicated to his contemporary William O'Brien, 4th Earl of Inchiquin.

All of this &
"Table Hopping" too!
Join Host Gary Fitzgerald
March 14, 4 pm
on Zoom
Log-in and call-in info
on page 2



Spotlight on SAGEVets



Ashton Stewart, SAGEVets coordinator at SAGE USA; Rita Gram and Dan Bishop-Basler, SAGE Upstate SV co-chairs.





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Help keep SAGE Upstate strong enough to improve health and reduce isolation for older LGBT people during these challenging socially distant times and beyond.

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strong!**

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