



FRENCHMAN'S
CREEK
LIFE

OCTOBER 2015

A Publication about the Members and Life at Frenchman's Creek

**WELCOME TO A NEW SEASON AT FRENCHMAN'S CREEK
AND
A NEW COVER FOR FC LIFE**

We are also trying something new in this issue– the book review this month is worthy of having a dialog with the Bookworm's e-mail and perhaps we can publish some of these comments in our November issue. Obama has read this month's book and the "Wall Street Journal" has written about this book.

Birthday Celebration for Ava Johnson and Lucy Newmyer

Had a tennis Pumpkin theme with games and cupcakes in the shape of pumpkins that they frosted themselves.

Right to left are :

Rangeley Newmyer

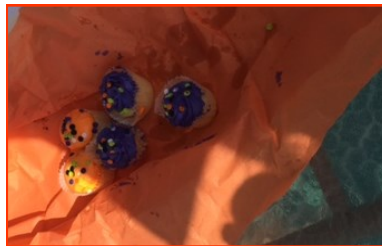
Lucy Newmyer Birthday girl

Taylor Nicklaus

Ava Johnson Birthday girl

Jem Handler

Christopher Andrews New member



Up The Creek



Shopping in Capri, Italy, during their two week cruise in SeptemberSusan Katz, Barbara Wildstein, Bonnie Gregge and Bonnie Feinberg.

ILENE GERBER'S grandson, Joshua Nakazawa, has accepted a full time cellist position with the Hawaii Symphony Orchestra. While in Hawaii, he is also playing with the Hawaii Pops, the Hawaii Opera Theatre and the Maui Chamber Orchestra. He has also been invited to apprentice with the National Arts Center Orchestra in Ottawa, Canada for the Institute for Orchestral Studies (IOS). He will play with them in January and May, 2016. In 2016, he will also be playing with the Charleston Symphony Orchestra.

"It is a joy to hear him play!"



**BE SURE TO WATCH ALL THE HAPPENENINGS AT FRENCHMAN'S
ON OUR IN HOUSE TV..... CHANNELS 998 AND 999**

The Kessler Family.... A photographic history

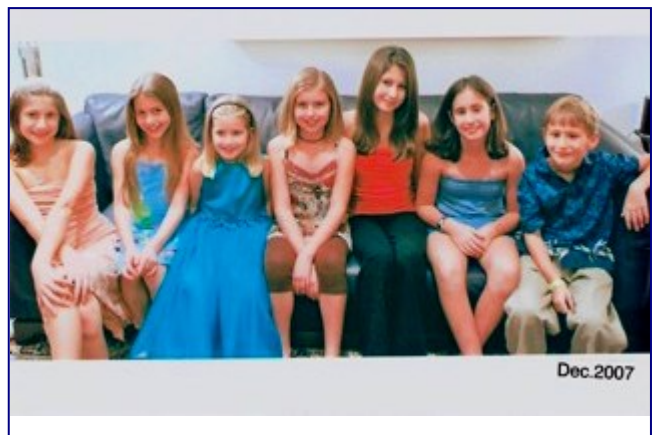
....Our grandchildren "kinda" grew up in Frenchmans Creek , relates **ARNOLD and NAOMI KESSLER.**

In 1994 we bought our first home in Frenchmans Creek. At that time our three children were married, but no grandchildren.....yet.

During the 20 years that we have been members, we have never submitted anything to Frenchman's Creek publications about our family. And now.....On July 24 our entire family...13 children & grandchildren went to Israel with us for two weeks, including the Bat Mitzvah of our youngest granddaughter. From the beginning, our children came to visit at the end of the year and a few additional times during the year and they never stopped up to today. Within a few years, our first grandchild was born.....and then another, and then another.....until there were seven. Six girls and one boy. We have 7 grandchildren. After three, we started a tradition of putting them on the couch on New Year's eve for a photograph and repeated this each year. Here is the result:



Continued on page 5 and 6





In order of age, We have Becca, Julia, Rachel, Alana, Daniella, Adam, and Miriam. And every year they came, with their parents, until the total was thirteen. We wanted all to be together in one home. So how did we sleep all of them? We moved into a bigger house on Degas Drive. We built a second story and in one large room we put six bunk beds. This took care of the girls, but Adam wanted in on the deal and tried to drag a mattress in but they threw him out. He finally gave up. To this day the girls still sleep in the same room and continue to talk for most of the night.

When here, the children and grandchildren participate in every activity available, year after year. That's why we say they "kinda" grew up in Frenchmans. We do know that the Frenchmans experience with all being together fostered a "togetherness" that is very strong among all of our children and grandchildren. Daughter Susan, an electrical engineer, lives with her family in Scarsdale, N.Y. Son, David, a cardiologist, lives with his family in Austin, Texas. Daughter Carole, a physical therapist, lives with her family in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania.

And then, this past summer we had the best of "togetherness" when the entire family went to Israel for two weeks where we celebrated the Bat Mitzvah of our youngest grandchild at the "Wall." Here is the group in the Golan Heights, one of hundreds of photos that were taken

We can truly say that Frenchmans contributed to the happiness in our lives.

Naomi & Arnold Kessler

EXPLAINING OUR MONTHLY PUBLICATIONS:

Frenchman's Creek Beach and Country Club publication has a changing cover and is the official publication from our administrative staff. It has all the events that are happening that month or in the future plus updates from the Department Directors. Frenchman's Creek Life has the same cover for the entire season and is written by our members for our members and highlights our Life at the Creek! It covers events that have occurred and news about our members plus columns of interest to our residents.

our 2015-2016 caddies



Pictured left to right and top to bottom

Top Row: **GEORGE JONES, CHRISTOFF ELS, ADAM WELLS, TOM FEARON, CHRIS COAKER**

Middle Row: **DANNY HALL, CHRIS HARDY, DOMINIC CAVELL, JEREMY D'ARGENT,
RYAN STAMP & WILL JONES**

Bottom Row: **TOM KUBINSKI, BEN WARREN, JOEL TIPTON, SAM WILDING, WISNER CHARLES**

The Homefront column is designed to inform our members where in the community our new residents are living and other residences they may have. It also keeps up with our present members who have stayed in the community but moved to new dwellings.

Of course we always wish our members who are moving out of the community good luck wherever their travels take them and our new members and established members good luck in their new address.

GLENN AND SHANNON ANDREWS purchased the Sirott home on Monaco Way. They also have a residence in Clayton, Georgia.

DAVID and ROBIN KIMBALL bought the Kroner home on Le Havre Drive. We welcome them as full time residents.

FRANK ROSINY and SIBYL JACOBSON bought Elaine Shindler's house on Parc Drive. They also reside in New York, New York.

ERIC WOLF and MARY LOU COCCI bought the Kriwinsky home on Toulouse Drive.

Welcome to all our new members and may you have many wonderful years at the Creek.

Artist Maryellen Shafer

Exhibits at Connecticut JCC

Frenchman's Creek resident **Maryellen Shafer** is showcasing three pieces of her art at the Mandell Jewish Community Center in West Hartford, Connecticut. The show kicked off with an Opening Reception on October 4 where Shafer was one of 11 artists in the exhibit.

These artists formed an art group 28 years ago and have met once a month to support and critique each other's work. This was the fourth time this art group exhibited their work together. The Opening Reception had a large crowd of family, friends, and members of the Hartford community. The show will run for two months.

Maryellen and her husband Mike have been residents at Frenchman's Creek since 1987. "I have exhibited at the Hartford JCC many times but it is a great thrill to exhibit with my art group, all 11 of them," said Shafer. "We profited from having a common bond which was improving our work. It was also a great way to have good friends.



cut.

Thanksgiving in September! - A Special Eisen Family Reunion

Frenchman's Creek was the perfect place for a fun-filled, action packed Eisen Family reunion. Three generations of the Eisen family converged for the weekend from as far away as San Francisco, Chicago and New York to celebrate family, happiness, life, birthdays and an anniversary.

Frenchman's Creek provided an ideal location to host such a happy gathering of the 17 family members. Beginning on Friday night at the Beach Club, we kicked off the festivities with a specially arranged dinner with many fabulous wines. The staff and service all weekend were impeccable, and the food was not to be believed!

On Saturday, after many family pictures, we enjoyed a beautiful day at the Beach Club. The warm, sunny day allowed us to sit by the ocean, under our umbrellas for hours, visiting with each other and catching up on our respective lives. There were games in the pool and lunch on the terrace.

On Saturday night, we had a very special Thanksgiving Feast to celebrate being together, our family history, our health and to hear of the many adventures of both Helen Ann and Albert. It was a night to reflect on our years all together and the journey we have all shared over the many decades. It truly was Thanksgiving in September!

On Sunday following brunch, our family participated in our own bocce ball tournament and lounging pool side.

The entire weekend was a wonderful experience for the entire family and we will never forget our time together and the special effort made by all the people at beautiful Frenchman's Creek on our behalf. Of course, we're hoping to make this a new family tradition and do it again next year!



Pictured are **HELEN ANN and ALBERT EISEN**

with their family:

Jeff, Bruce, Jessie, Andy, John, Tim and Jessica Nelson.

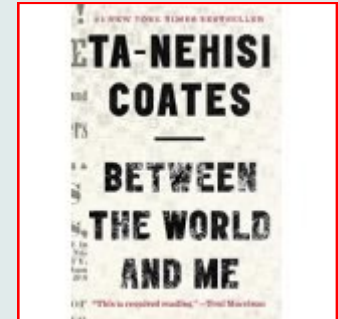
Mitchel and Jackie Eisen, Nathan, Denni and Scott

Eisen, Sherri Nelson, Andy, Barbara and Rachel Eisen.

The following is more of a discussion on the book, rather than a review. It is a good one for dialog, and if you would like, email booknookreader@hotmail.com and post your comments for our next publication. We welcome all comments and will not publish names!

President Obama read this book over the summer and *The Wall Street Journal* wrote about it..

Between the World and Me, Ta-Nehisi Coates



This memoir gets its title from a poem about lynching, by Richard Wright. It foreshadows the direction in which the memoir will lean. Of course racism is reprehensible, and joined with the complete and utter one-sided targeting of a particular group of people. It is also outrageous, but how to assign blame and how to counteract such evil is an entirely different subject. Mr. Coates has written a very compelling case about discrimination in the form of a letter to his fifteen year old son. In this letter, he undresses his own personal views on racism in America, and communicates his approach to dealing with it.

In a brief narrative, Coates summarizes our racist history. I got the impression that he believes our country's past is shrouded in a fantasy made up by the white establishment to make them feel more comfortable with the idea of their past racism and its continued existence. This fantasy allows these "dreamer", upwardly mobile whites, as he calls them, to rationalize their effort to eliminate black people and destroy their communities, while they continue to think of the blacks as less than, and as unworthy, without assigning any guilt to themselves. He believes that this fantasy is handed down from generation to generation.

There is no doubt that blacks have suffered in this country. They were torn from their homes, brought here forcibly, abused and tortured, treated like animals, but that was then, and there have been many cultures that were enslaved in the past. Jews were also enslaved. Black people do not own this issue of discrimination. Although the idea of warning children to be extra careful when a policeman stops them or of having to work twice as hard to succeed is being floated out there and claimed by the blacks as their own, they are not the sole owners of that advice. My parents gave me the exact advice, the exact warning, because Jews never had special privileges, rather they had special quotas. The thing is, though, regardless of how frustrated I was, or of how oppressed I might have felt, for one reason or another, in the workplace not being able to pursue the job I wanted, in school not being able to apply to the institution of higher education I wanted, having to deal with workmen who warned me not to "Jew" them down and other comments from non-Jews, I would never have considered disobeying the law or a policeman. What would happen if we all decided to disobey the rules we didn't like?

I knew I had to work harder to prove myself, and so I did. To become a teacher, working for the city, an applicant had to pass a speech pedagogy to prove he/she did not have a sing-song Jewish inflection. That attribute could actually prevent the granting of a license. Jews didn't take out their frustration on those enforcing the rules; instead they practiced speaking properly for hours, to remove what was considered a speech impediment, until it was gone. I was, therefore, very much aware of the fact that the author of this book while narrating the audio version, continually butchered the pronunciation of asked, making it "aksed". Why ghettoize the word? It might be a wise idea to rise above one's own habits and behavior, just to set a good example.

Between the World and Me, Ta-Nehisi Coates, continued

The author believes that Blacks must learn to live in their own bodies, to embrace them before they can prevent the “white world”, the world of those “dreamers”, from taking away their bodies at will, from taking not only their lives but also from murdering their spirits. He cites many wanton acts of murder and many abuses of black men and women, but he believes that the issue is not about color alone, since he identifies humanity as not white, but as immigrants, as Jews, Muslims, Christians, and people of all stripes and cultures. He believes that it is simply that those in power define themselves as “white”. In that regard, he relates an incident in which his 4 year old son was pushed by a woman distressed because the child was moving too slowly. Impulsively, he pushed the woman back. Then a stranger threatened him with arrest, although this stranger made absolutely no reference to how the woman had mistreated his son. Coates believes that the woman and the man should have known better than to behave that way, but they were “white”. They thought they were in control and able to make threats against him without fear of reprisal; perhaps he was right, but what about his own behavior and his own self-control?

Coates is right about many things. We are not taught correctly about the reasons for the Civil War. It was not fought to free the slaves. The economy was actually the driving force behind the war. He is absolutely right that the South was built on the backs of those captured slaves, but so too was the Middle East built on the backs of Jewish slaves. His reaction to the tragedy of 9/11, however, surprised me. To say that NYC was always ground zero for blacks because of slave markets, is like saying Spain, Germany and the Middle East, among other places, will always be nothing but ground zero for Jews. One cannot continue to blame the descendants of those who committed atrocities or to consider locations our enemies in order to extract some kind of retribution. We all have to move forward and stop looking backward because that attitude does enslave us.

The author makes reference to many of the recent tragic events in which black lives were snuffed out, but he does not make any distinctions between those that appear to have been justified and those that were not. For him, they are all abusive acts, all unjustified, regardless of the reckless behavior or lawless behavior of the victim. Until his presentation became decidedly one-sided, without the condemnation of those who were disobeying the laws, without the recognition of the fact that not all of the incidents he cited were actual incidents of unjust abuse, and without expecting any one to bear responsibility for criminal behavior, other than to basically blame society for the abuses and their failures, he had my full attention. After, though, I began to question some of his conclusions and realized that anyone who disagreed with anything he wrote was going to be branded a racist, because that is what he believed. I wondered if that might not be considered a bit racist as well. I can totally understand people like Toni Morrison supporting and praising this author, I can understand why President Obama is drawn to the book, but the support feels too monolithic, viewing the situation from only one point of view and disregarding that the blacks, in this way, are teaching their children to hate the police, resent the whites and to not believe in the possibility of fulfilling their “dreams”. This is a self defeating philosophy that is being perpetuated. I began to believe that some of the proclamations of innocence were protesting a bit too much. I didn’t care for some of the people the author admired or befriended. For sure, there is no dispute about the need to eliminate racism, but to encourage rebellion is something else, and perhaps it is beyond the pale. I think the idea that black is beautiful is wonderful, but so is white, brown, yellow and red, etc. All cultures are different and all demand and deserve respect. All lives really do matter! You can’t correct injustice with another form of injustice. That is racism too. To Coates, though, and others, for making that statement, I am probably now considered a racist. This philosophy that unfairly brands the person who disagrees with you with a term that provokes all kinds of negative emotions, feels very dangerous.

The Community mourns the loss of our following members

SEYMOUR DIXON who lived at 13932 Le Havre Drive and was a resident since 1987. Our heartfelt sympathies to his beloved wife, Irene, and their entire family .

JULIUS LEHROFF who lived at 13373 Verdun Drive and was a member since 1989. Our heartfelt sympathies to his beloved wife, Sunny, and their family.

JOAN S. LUBY who lived at 2980 Le Bateau Drive and was a member since 2013. Our heartfelt sympathies to her beloved husband, Chester, and their family. We send our condolences to her sister and brother-in-law who were members for many years, Penny and Fred Abrams.

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