



# Camphill Ghent Monthly ReView

April 2018



## Priscilla Manney October 18, 1943 - April 7, 2018

*At Deborah's farewell gathering and appreciation circle, Priscilla offered this song. It's her last performance - what a sweet and touching moment!*

*Read about Priscilla's life on page 2.*

I will follow him  
Follow him wherever he may go  
And near him I always will be  
For nothing can keep me away  
He is my destiny

I will follow him  
Ever since he touched my heart I knew  
There isn't an ocean too deep  
A mountain so high it can keep  
Keep me away

I love him, I love him, I love him  
And where he goes  
I'll follow, I'll follow, I'll follow

He'll always be  
My true love, my true love, my true love  
From now until  
Forever, forever, forever...

## In Memoriam - Priscilla Manney

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With a dry sense of humor, Priscilla was a keen observer of life. She very much liked wearing rings, bracelets, armbands, and necklaces. In her younger days movies, bowling, and rock and roll dancing were favorite activities. She often needed to be coaxed out of her room, but, when coaxed out, she was happy to participate in house and community activities. She liked to know what was going on, but was often more of an observer.

Former houseleaders Billie and Caleb Williams said, "What Billie and I remember about her most was how crafty she was. She would take toilet paper rolls and turn them into dolls and scraps of marbled paper from the Bookbindery and turn them into sculptures. We used to get her pipe cleaners (by the case, it seemed sometimes) and she would create fantastical things with them. We could count on having Stockmar Crayons be a welcome Christmas present every year."

Another memory from Billie, "She had a great sense of humor. It was easy to make her laugh, and she loved a joke, especially when Caleb would make fun of himself or get involved with some elaborate exaggeration that would end up with the two of them on the moon looking down at the housemates or something equally silly."

Priscilla came to the Village in 1970 when she was 26 years of age. She lived in many houses and had many workplaces and roommates. She could be meticulous in her work, remembering to complete many details. She could see what needed to be done and do it. She worked in the Village bookbindery and also became a master weaver, able to help instruct others. Sylvia Bausman said her daughter Frances loved to go to Priscilla's room when she, Sylvia, was out of the house. Priscilla was Frances' favorite nanny.

But it seemed that life suited her very well in her later years when she had plenty of time in her room to create works of art and complete projects. She enjoyed choosing her own activities and never ran out of ideas of what to do. Reading and writing letters, writing in her notebooks, listening to music, and creating all kinds of useful and decorative items were beloved activities. She was very creative and was happy to show what she was working on. She came to like quieter, smaller-group activities, rather

than community events. She was happy to learn how to type and receive emails. She was also happy to be a pioneer with Kari and Mali Amstutz and moved to Camphill Ghent when it opened.

She always had a strong connection to her parents and extended family – her mother Lillian (also an artist) lived a very long life. Priscilla also loved her sister Ellen (another artist) and was very proud of her brother-in-law Ken Whitley's career as a composer and singer. She enjoyed Ken's music and performing with him in Fountain Hall.

An independent woman who knew what was important and accepted nothing less has passed on. It was our good fortune to know her and be allowed to witness her creativity.

*Marty Hunt (with help)  
Camphill Village Copake*

Priscilla was one of the first people who moved to Ghent together with Kari and Mali. She considered herself a pioneer – that was very important to her. She formed very good and strong connections with everybody who worked at Ghent, making great relationships with them.

She helped out in the kitchen in the summer – cutting vegetables. She also created beautiful paper crafts and had a love for folk music and oldies music. The coworker's children and their friends would sometimes visit with her and together listen to Beatles and Beach Boys music. Last summer, she went to a Beach Boys concert.

She chose her own activities. She started to watch old TV shows like "I Love Lucy." She loved nostalgia and enjoyed things from the olden days.

Hearty breakfasts kept her going – gluten free noodles in broth every morning. For dessert, she liked her "cookie soup" made up of gluten free chocolate chip cookie soaked with almond milk.

*Gisela Fraceschelli*

Save the Date: Priscilla's Celebration of Life  
Saturday, June 10, 2018, 3PM  
Culture Hall, Camphill Ghent



April 7. A full-house "theater" (Culture Hall). Everyone enjoyed the movie "Watermarks" starring our very own Marianne Selinger.



Marianne Selinger (middle; Tourmaline House resident) with family including son Tom Rosenthal and Tom's partner Nina Grubin (daughter of Linda Grubin, Aurora House resident).

**PHOTO GALLERY**



April 14. Trip to Clark Museum. From left: Mary Logan (North Star); Christiane Marks (Willow Lodge); Carol Shein (Magnolia); and Joan Weitzner (North Star).



April 9. Passover Seder. From left: Barb Cooley (Magnolia House); Anna Rée (Orion); Lois Smith (Magnolia); Brian Rée (Orion); and Ann Finucane (Magnolia).



Janet Andrade (director of fundraising) visiting with Willow Lodge residents. Seated L-R: Jonitha, Christiane, Kathleen. Standing, L-R: Janet, Steve, Rich and Paul.



Passover Seder.

## Resident Spotlight - Jonitha and Paul Hasse

**Whether it's teaching a class, working the land or caring for a loved one, the couple remains committed to one goal. "We love working in community."**

Jonitha and Paul Hasse felt like they were "coming home" when they moved to Camphill Ghent in April 2016. While Jonitha was born into Anthroposophy, Paul married into it when he and Jonitha met and wed in Munich, Germany in 1969. Independently and as a couple, the two have spent their lives helping other people in some way or another, through both the Camphill and Christian Community movements.

Paul was born in Chicago in 1943 as World War II was still raging, his father in medical school in the Army. The family moved around before choosing to put down roots in Madison, Ohio, a rural village with a population of 1,300. "I had the rare instance of a happy childhood," he recalls about life with his parents and three other siblings. When it came time for college, Paul attended Oberlin College in Ohio, as did his parents and grandparents. While high school came easy to him, college was a "shock," recalls Paul. After several fits and starts and a "barefoot semester," he ended up joining the Army and was shipped off to Germany. Although he was in the language program, Paul found himself spending a lot of time helping the gardener on the base where he could spend time outside which he loved. "There were 100,000 troops stationed in this town," where Paul also joined a band to play the clarinet, took up tennis, cards and enjoyed a great deal of time in the pub, he added with a laugh.

It was Germany where he met Jonitha, who was born in 1948 into an anthroposophical family in Glendale, California, a suburb of Los Angeles. Jonitha's education was non-traditional and included three years in Switzerland and boarding school in Germany. Jonitha, her father and sister all taught at the Highland Hall Waldorf School in LA at different times over the years. It was during these formative years she came home to California to care for her older sister who was dying, which changed her life. It was not long after this that Jonitha chose to go to Germany for her junior year abroad, met Paul and they married when Jonitha was 21.



Paul and Jonitha Hasse in their apartment.

After that, the couple went to Emerson College in England for Waldorf training, going back to teach in Sacramento from 1972-80. Around this time, Jonitha began working with children with special needs, traveling to Beaver Run in Pennsylvania and later to Copake to check out Camphill communities. When she got to Copake, Jonitha made an important phone call to Paul. "Pack your suitcase because we could live here," she said. The whole idea of community living and the commitment to the land was the perfect match for Jonitha and Paul. This revelation came in 1978, although the couple did not actually move to Copake until 1980 where they remained for five years as house parents. As they took on the role of house parents, the couple also started their own family – daughter Christine was born in 1973, Toby in 1979 and Martin in 1981. They later went to Aberdeen, Scotland for three years from 1985-88 to do a seminar working with teenage boys with special needs, a training program for curative education. This was a learning experience for the couple, overseeing houses with as many as 39 people. In 1988, they came back to Copake where they were parents to a household of 15. *(Continued on the next page.)*

## Spotlight, Jonitha and Paul Hasse - continued...

It was around this time that the couple felt called to help with the Christian Community in Hillsdale to build a chapel. They moved to the property in 2000 and began work overseeing the chapel project and building a straw bale house. The commitment to the Christian Community project would keep the couple at the Hillsdale property for the next 16 years. "We moved in without running water and we used a wood stove and a composting toilet for 16 years," said Jonitha with a laugh.

In April 2016, after years of involvement and watching Camphill Ghent grow from an idea to a reality, the couple moved to their apartment in Willow Lodge. They are active in the community, especially in the land group and seminar faculty. Jonitha continues her Sacred Undertakings work in supporting families in home death care. "I help families build confidence in enabling them to embrace this last deed of the physical caring for their loved ones," she said. Whether it's teaching a class, working the land or caring for a loved one, the couple remains committed to one goal. "We love working in community," said Jonitha. (Written by Jackie LaChance McKeon.)

## Independent residents are encouraged to:

- Run the dishwasher only when it's a full load
- Do laundry using cold water and only when it's a full load
- Swap plastic bags for reusable ones at the grocery store
- Use reusable water bottles instead of plastic ones
- Purchase whole foods which use less packaging
- Take shorter showers
- Don't let the water run while shaving, brushing teeth
- Only water outside plants when it doesn't look like its going to rain
- Set the thermostat and "forget it" instead of changing temperatures frequently
- Keep an empty pitcher or container on hand to use for excess water which may be used to water indoor plants

## Camphill Ghent's Commitment to Recycling Efforts Increases

### Camphill Ghent... good earthly citizens from the start.

Built as a "green" community, Camphill Ghent's leadership has been committed to being good earthly citizens from the start. Recycling and conservation efforts take place in the Adult Home, in the Independent Living residences and in the administrative offices in the Red Barn and throughout the 110-acre campus.

The latest effort is changing the florescent lightbulbs to LED to save energy throughout Camphill Ghent, according to Director of Facilities and Grounds Adam Smith.

Outside, a solar panel that provides energy for the bubbler for the aerator for the smaller of the two ponds was relocated by the community garden for better efficiency. The Land Use Committee is looking into the possibility of installing rain barrels throughout the community to catch water which can

then be reused. The installation of individual water meters for each building is also being examined to further encourage water conservation. Composting occurs throughout the property and the end result is our nutritious soil for our gardens.

Karine Bouis-Towe feeds her "Big Black" pigs compost from Camphill Ghent mixed with organic field peas, apples and squash at her Retrograss Farm in Austerlitz. She and husband Charles Towe have been getting primarily organic food scraps from us for the past several years. Camphill Ghent also donates baled hay from our property to Grazin' Angus farm in Ghent.

Our garbage and recycling company practices "single stream, co-mingled" recycling so cardboard and paper may be placed in bins together with recyclable objects like glass and plastic which are picked up once a week. (Written by Jackie LaChance McKeon.)

## Staff Spotlight - Jackie LaChance McKeon

**"I have gotten close with residents and staff over the years and really feel like we're a family here. It's a great community that I enjoy promoting."**

It was the fall of 2014, and Jackie LaChance McKeon had just sent her eldest child off to college in Boston, leaving a half-empty nest with her youngest child in their Chatham village home. "Out of the blue, a friend of mine calls me and says Camphill Ghent is looking for a public relations person and you would be perfect," Jackie recalls. She applied for the part-time position and started work in January 2015. "Camphill Ghent has since become my extended family, especially my co-workers in the Red Barn," she said.

A freelance writer by profession, Jackie is responsible for promoting Camphill Ghent through stories, photographs, press releases, newsletters, social media and other creative venues. A longtime contributing writer for the monthly Chatham Press newspaper, Jackie has numerous connections through the local media and uses that to promote Camphill Ghent's activities, residents and staff whenever possible. "I have gotten close with residents and staff over the years and really feel like we're a family here," she said. "It's a great community that I enjoy promoting."

As a freelance writer working from her home while raising her children, Jackie was able to keep her hand in the business while also having the flexibility to be there for her kids who were very active in the Chatham Central School District. A resident of Payn Avenue in the village, Jackie has lived in Chatham since 1987 where she is very active in the community. Her daughter, Maura, is graduating this month from Boston College with a degree in political science/international studies while son Jack is finishing up his sophomore year at Bard College where he is a history major.

Freelance writing clients over the years have included the Spencertown Academy, Columbia Economic Development Corporation, Flying Deer Nature Center, Columbia County Agricultural Society, FilmColumbia, Columbia Festival Orchestra and District Attorney Paul Czajka. Freelance writing for businesses, individuals and organizations on a project basis includes the creation of press releases, photographs, newsletters, advertisements, feature stories, brochures, speeches and other outreach and public relations material.

Prior to freelancing, Jackie was the public relations coordinator for Taconic Telephone Corp. (now Consolidated), for 10 years, back when the company was privately owned by the Ackley family. Before her years at Taconic, Jackie was a reporter locally for The Independent, a weekly newspaper owned by Tony Jones and Vicki Simons. She was a reporter for The Register Star for several years starting in April 1985, a job which brought her to the area. Jackie graduated in 1984 from Utica College of Syracuse University with a bachelor's degree in journalism.

Born and raised in Middleburgh, Schoharie County, she is an only child and the daughter of the late Owen "Jack" and Nancy LaChance. "I had a typical childhood growing up in a small town in upstate New York," said Jackie. "Maybe it wasn't so typical after all. I was really lucky because it was happy."

When she is not working, Jackie is an avid reader, seasonal knitter, hit-or-miss gardener, lover of travel adventures and all things related to her kids, whom she adores.



Jackie with her daughter Maura and son Jack.

Time flies when you're having fun!  
Happy anniversary to everyone!

Six Years



Five Years



One Year



**Talk About Hospice**

Chop's inspiring leadership and example live on!

Chop was keen to show us that we could have folks from Hospice come to our home here in Camphill Ghent to help us at the end of our life. Her enthusiasm and gratitude grew when, in the last weeks of her life with us in Willow, the Hospice team came to help her.

On April 10, Dr. Carl Atkins (Medical Director for Community Hospice, Columbia & Greene Counties, and a friend of Chop's daughter, Madeline) and three women from Hospice came to our Culture Hall. Dr. Atkins brings a gentle smile, a relaxed manner and quiet confidence and says, "I think we help your situation..." It is not possible for me to describe the degree of uplifting positivity that flowed through their presentation. My response is YES! When my life on earth is drawing to a close, I could ask for nothing better than to have such people at my side as helpers. (Written by Paul Hasse.)

PS. Ivy has some extra Hospice information packets in the Red Barn.



**Windsong Renovation**

The Windsong project is progressing nicely. We have all of our rough plumbing completed, HVAC units have been installed and mounted. Kitchen cabinets have arrived and are ready for delivery and install. The new apartment electrical services are in the process of being completed. We do have many new LED lights throughout the building to illuminate the new spaces. What's next?—In the month of May, we will be completing the electrical services, sheetrock and hopefully, starting to paint. (Written by Adam Smith.)