



# Celebrating 43 Years

## Claridge House Cooperative News

950 25th Street, NW  
Washington, DC 20037

### Winter 2022 Edition

**Welcome** to the Winter 2022 edition of our Claridge House Cooperative e-newsletter!

This new year brings the 43rd anniversary of the Claridge House Cooperative. Our South Building was completed in 1959. Our North Building was completed in 1964 and, together with the South Building, became the Claridge House Cooperative in early 1979.

### Employee Spotlight: Maintenance Tech Ricardo Laquindanum



Please join us in congratulating our maintenance tech Ricardo Laquindanum who became a US citizen after taking his oath at the end of January. Ricardo came to the Claridge House nearly 15 years ago in July 2007. When he heard about the job vacancy he applied immediately. Ricardo was previously employed at Holiday Inn as a maintenance man. Ricardo is a loyal employee and does his job the best he can.

Ricardo was born in the City of Malolos in the Philippines. Even though life was hard there, his family was happy and every neighbor worked together. His favorite memory of his country was joining a political party and won as one of the community chairmen. He enjoys cooking Filipino foods and sometimes playing with his smart dog.

Ricardo migrated to the US because there are many opportunities and he could fulfill his dreams for his family. He has one daughter who finished studies at Virginia Commonwealth University. His wife is currently employed at the Treasury Department of Ghana Embassy and has been there for 23 years.

Ricardo wanted to be a US citizen for the freedom to choose a good leader in the US and the freedom to travel to different countries. He has many dreams in life he would

like to pursue when he retires, although no plans for him and his family have been finalized. He just prays that he would not be a burden to his family.



### **Board of Directors Meetings**

The 2022 schedule of meetings is posted on our public website, <http://claridgehousecooperative.com/resources>. Meetings are held virtually. A shareholder participation session is held 10 minutes before the start of each meeting. Meeting minutes may be viewed by shareholders in the library section of BuildingLink.



### **Claridge House is a Smoke-Free Building**

Section 5.1 (a) of the Rules and Regulations state:

*"This Building is a smoke-free building. No smoking is permitted in the premises or in any of the common areas, including the hallways, lobby, elevators, laundry rooms, stairwells, basement, exercise rooms, business center, entertainment lounge, library, terrace, pool or garage. This also includes the patio and BBQ areas."*

In addition, one has to be at least 10 feet away from the building if smoking outside the building.

Please call the front desk at 202-337-2240 to report smoking complaints. The concierge will investigate your complaint. Once confirmed, management will follow up with the offending party and the shareholder.

Please be considerate of your neighbors and adhere to our Rules and Regulations.

### **Emergency Contact**

Please provide the Management Office your emergency contact if you have not already done so or your contact has changed. Contacts are listed in your unit profile in BuildingLink. Emergency contacts are needed for shareholders (whether or not you reside in your unit) and tenants. It is important that your contact is provided in the event of an emergency.

### **Employee Holiday Fund**

On behalf of our Board of Directors, thank you all the donations to our Employee Holiday Fund. We are very grateful for your generosity and appreciation of our staff!

### **Foggy Bottom Association**

Did you know that the Foggy Bottom Association (FBA) is one of the oldest community-based civic organizations in DC? Founded in 1959, FBA is a community-based organization that helps Foggy Bottom and the West End residents stay informed, engaged, and maintain a high quality of life. As conditions permit, FBA has community social events and area green space clean-ups. It's a good way to be part of this great neighborhood.

FBA's monthly meetings (currently virtual) feature speakers from various DC agencies and other prominent positions who share important information with members. Meetings are in the Upcoming Events section of this e-newsletter and on the FBA website at <https://www.foggybottomassociation.org/calendar>.

FBA News (an online newsletter that replaced the physical newspaper from a few years ago) offers great articles on the area's history, local community members, local businesses and much more. The FBA News is delivered to member emails every other Friday.

FBA members enjoy this information and discounts at local merchants. To become a member (\$20 per year / \$30 for 2 years / discounted rates for students at \$10 per year) visit [FoggyBottomAssociation.org](http://FoggyBottomAssociation.org) or contact the FBA President, John George, at [JohnG@FoggyBottomAssociation.org](mailto:JohnG@FoggyBottomAssociation.org).

### **Fun Facts Trivia**

What event occurred that is known as Black Tuesday?

### **Mortgage Interest Statements**



2022 Mortgage Interest Statements (1098s) were mailed to shareholders. Please let management know if you have not received your statement and a copy can be emailed to you.



### **New Intercom System**

A new intercom system was installed at the front entrance. With the touch of a button, residents and visitors can now reach and communicate with the front desk concierge. There is also a door bell next to the intercom.

### **Noise Complaints**

Section 4.1 (b) of our Rules and Regulations state,

*"Residents shall not make or permit to be made any disturbing noises or do or permit to be done any act which unreasonably interferes with the rights, comforts and convenience of any other resident."*

Please call the front desk at 202-337-2240 to report noise complaints, especially during quiet time from 10 PM to 7 AM daily. Quiet time is determined and enforced by the DC Police Department. Complaints are investigated by the concierge. Once confirmed, management will follow up with the offending party and the shareholder. Please be kind to your neighbors and keep the noise level down.

### **Staff Anniversaries**

We have loyal staff who have worked here for several years. We want to acknowledge those whose anniversaries are in the first quarter of this year:

Maria Gutierrez, porter, started 22 years ago on 1/18/2000;  
Carolyn Ico, concierge, started 13 years ago on 1/21/2009;  
Yves-Dwidg Jeanty, porter, started 3 years ago on 1/28/2019; and  
Steve Belkov, maintenance supervisor, started 7 years ago on 2/9/2015.

Photos of these and other staff members may be viewed in our Staff Directory in BuildingLink. We appreciate our staff and wish all of you a happy anniversary!



### **Umbrella Bags**

Umbrella bags are now available at the entrance of the building. When entering the building, please place wet umbrellas in bags to prevent wet and slippery floors in the lobbies, inside elevators, stairwells and basement.

### **Unit Fees for 2022 Remain the Same**

Shareholders will be happy to know that unit fees did not increase in 2022. In addition, the move-in fee has been waived through the end of this year. Unit fees are due the first day of each month and no later than the 15th of each month. Late fees are accessed on the 15th day of the month. If you mail payments, we recommend mailing them at least 10 days prior to the first of the month. Another payment option is direct debit; click on Associa Homeowner Account Access at [www.claridgehousecooperative.com/resources](http://www.claridgehousecooperative.com/resources) and register for TownSq.

### **Wellness Check**

If your unit is vacant or you plan on being away for more than two weeks, please submit a maintenance request in BuildingLink so we can do a wellness check in your unit. Our maintenance staff will check faucets and toilets for leaks, smoke/carbon monoxide detectors, gas leaks, wall or ceiling damage and mice droppings.

### **Upcoming Events**

- March 1 – First Day of Women’s History Month
- March 15 – Board of Directors Meeting at 7 PM
- March 15 – Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A Meeting at 7 PM
- March 17 – St. Patrick’s Day
- March 29 – Foggy Bottom Association Meeting at 7 PM
- April 15 – Tax Day
- April 19 – Board of Directors Meeting at 7 PM
- April 20 – Advisory Neighborhood Commission 2A Meeting at 7 PM
- April 26 – Foggy Bottom Association Meeting at 7 PM

#### *Fun Facts Trivia Answer:*

*The US Stock Market crashed on Tuesday, October 28, 1929. That date is known as Black Tuesday and marked the start of the Great Depression.*