

Spring 2018

Dear friends and supporters,

Many of you who do not witness Martin's daily operations may be seriously wondering if we are still up and running. The answer is a resounding yes! We apologize profoundly for the lack of communication and are eternally grateful that so many of you have continued to support us in so many ways despite our epistolary silence!

The truth is we have taken a hit to the core of our community. One of the pillars of our leadership group, Carole, has been laid low with a complicated diagnosis of a Parkinson's-like illness which has manifested both physically and cognitively. The good news is that she is, after three long months, at home with us, again, and is recovering both her motor and cognitive abilities rapidly.

Carole, among many other duties, including being our "rock", as Barbara used to say, was our bookkeeper and financial guardian. These practical duties have been absorbed and are under control at this point. Not to worry.

Our community is strong and resilient. Everyone pulled together to give both Carole and her partner, Mim, all the support they needed. And Martins goes boldly on serving our guests nutritious meals and providing a nurturing and supportive environment.

It is clear to all of us in the core group that we are an aging bunch. At any given moment any one of us may be called to step aside. Naji underwent surgery for prostate cancer last fall. Charlie was recently in an automobile accident that totaled his car but left him unscathed. These things remind us that Martins is a dynamic and rich community that stands on the shoulders of many, many dedicated volunteers.

We are grateful and humble to be a part of this family that seems determined to continue on its path of service for the foreseeable future.

In love, peace and kindness,

The Martin's Community

NB: Electronic donations may be made on our website: martindeporres.org