

The Alumni Cooperator

FALL 2018



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The ICC acknowledges and honors the Native tribes who were the original inhabitants and caretakers of the lands our houses stand on: the Ojibwe, the Odawa, and the Bodewadimi.

Alumni Cooperator

The *Alumni Cooperator* is a yearly publication of the Inter-Cooperative Council (ICC) at the University of Michigan, a non-profit organization which provides housing and other services to students within the Ann Arbor and wider Washtenaw County community. Contact the ICC office at:
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Letter from the GM

By Nick Coquillard



A Wonderful Future

Greetings to all alumni! I hope this letter find you all happy, healthy and grateful. I sure am and having the privilege of serving as the ICC General Manager is one reason why.

Our members and staff have us positioned for one of our very best years in 2018-2019. In this issue you'll see the great work of

maintenance this past summer, and I get to share some more accomplishments as well as our bright future driven by a brand new five-year strategic plan.

The ICC Strategic Plan – Our Path to a Great Future

This summer ICC members, led by our board and staff, created a five-year plan in five areas: Financial, Infrastructure, Membership, Operational, and Partnerships. The plan was a year in the making as we received feedback and ideas from many members and leaders as well as alumni. We certainly invite you all to visit us at icc.coop/my-membership/governance/standing-rules for more details and to view a copy of the plan.

Most related to you, our alumni, is the Partnerships section where we outline our plans to:

- Increase our connections with local college and university leaders,
- Partner with marketing leaders to support recruitment,
- Leverage cooperative partnerships to develop co-ops and member growth,
- Increase alumni participation in ICC events,
- Create an alumni-member Mentorship Program,
- Set up a system of house reunions,
- Start a capital campaign, and
- Prepare for our 75th Anniversary of ICC Incorporation (1944) next Fall 2019.

Our strategic plan inspires action by our members to work toward goals that will keep the ICC the affordable, community-driven, social justice learning community everyone coming before us expects us to be and to carry forward.

You: Our Partners on the Path

As our alumni, you can have full confidence we are

working with a set of clear long-term objectives that I know will advance the ICC in ways we hope for – and in ways we cannot imagine. We welcome you to consider joining us this year in one or a couple ways.

We are excited to announce we will be launching a mentorship program partnering with you as alumni with our members. Mentors will connect with members at the ICC to share stories, provide guidance, answer questions, offer job or education advice, and to simply connect through the ICC experience you both share. There are details in this edition on our website at www.icc.coop/alumni and I hope you'll consider offering a bit of your time to serve as a mentor to our great members.

Additionally, we plan to launch our first capital campaign under my tenure to help raise money to continue the many renovations, repairs, amenities and necessities essential to safely house our members and to encourage the flourishing of our cooperative communities that will forever change our members' lives.

The ICC will leverage the Benevon model (www.Benevon.com) where we will – in line with our cooperative values and purposes – create a culture of philanthropy with and through our members. We'll focus on connecting to everyone we can and sharing our stories in many ways including special events, reunions, coffees, social media, and more opportunities. Our platform will be based on gratitude and expansion of the movement – being thankful for those who can help support the ICC providing affordable, cooperative housing for another 75 years.

Our Members and Staff on the Path

Finally, I'm very excited to share the ways we've participated in the movement in the previous few months. The ICC has provided a loan to the Brick and Mortar Collective in Detroit (@bewickbrickhouse), a group of former ICC members and other who have rebuilt an abandoned house into a collective community. In addition, the ICC approved a five-year loan to in August to support the development of a co-op brewery in Grand Rapids (former ICC General Manager Jim Jones is a partner). The ICC continues to contribute the Kagawa Fund (I'm also on its Board) that provides small loans to new and developing cooperatives, and participates as a funding member of NASCO Development Services.

Thank you for reading this letter, and I hope you will visit www.icc.coop/alumni. I so look forward to connecting with many of you very soon and also at our 75th Anniversary event next year.

David L. Smith Scholarship



In 2012, in honor of the 75th Anniversary of the establishment of the Inter-Cooperative Council, former ICC President (1950-51) Dr. David L. Smith donated \$75,000 to create scholarships for members of Owen House. Although he lived for one year at Osterweil, Smith spent the majority of his years in the ICC living at Owen (1947-1951). After leaving the ICC, Smith went on to become an emeritus art professor the University of Wisconsin - Stevens Point. He founded the Smith Scarabacchio Art Museum there, and created a scholarship at UWSP for Art Excellence. Now in his 90's, he continues to reside at Stevens Point.

Per his request, two scholarships of \$1000 are available each year to returning house members who have already lived in Owen for two semesters. Eligible house members fill out a short application,

Rami Farawi

My sophomore year of college, I lived in a house with a few other boys not through the ICC. Sometimes I would come back from a long day of class to no one, and in the winter time we all fell into the same routine of playing board or video games on the weekend. Don't get me wrong, I absolutely love these guys, but I started to realize that I wasn't growing that much as a person that winter. That spring, I toured Owen co-op and immediately knew that this was my scene: the people were welcoming and just more awake than a lot of the other kids I meet on campus. I started living at Owen starting my junior year and have been living here since.

I've never lived with girls (or those who identify as such) prior to living to Owen, and already within the first few weeks of moving in I had to make sure I was doing what I could to make sure that everyone in the house was comfortable in terms of bathroom etiquette. Last year, one of my housemates told me "If you don't have time to clean, you don't have time to cook" This quote has stuck with me ever since. Not only in the kitchen, but also in terms of daily life logistics. That meant taking care of things right away before they become a problem. This quote resonated to me in communicating with people in the house when they do something that bothers me. Instead of not addressing the problem when it occurs, and ultimately getting passive aggressive with a housemate, I've learned to "clean up my dishes" right away with a person and address how I feel if something has bothered me. The easiest time to clean a dish is right after you eat it, otherwise it can get crusty, making cleaning up much worse.

I've always considered myself a progressive person prior to moving into Owen, and at heart I was. What I wasn't

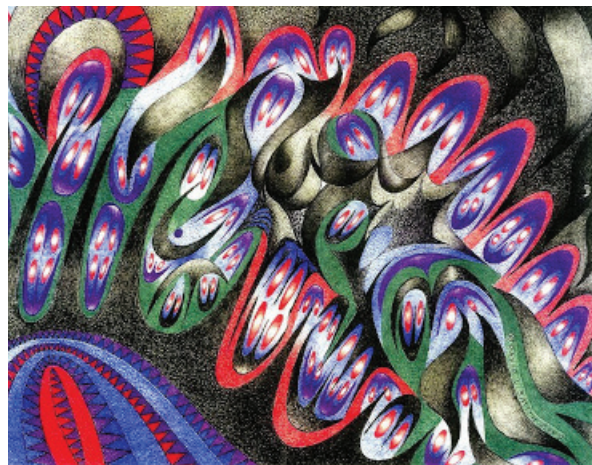
however was informed to all the varying identities that defines, and in some cases, traps some people. I never realized that accidentally calling attention to someone's social identity in a sentence or less without even thinking about it can ruin the rest of their day, or longer. A joke could be funny to one person but incriminating to the next. After a year+ of living at Owen I am much more equipped to safely communicate with people who have differing backgrounds and social identities than mine.

I had a single my sophomore year of college before moving into Owen, and thought I wouldn't like living in a triple. I moved into a triple my first year at Owen not knowing any of the other two roommates and those two kids ended up being my best friends that year. Even after I gained seniority over the year to get a better room, I still chose to live in a triple this year. I figure that I am going to be living by myself/with one other person for the rest of my life, and now is the time to live in the same room with your friends. Pre bedtime discussions with roommates makes me feel like I'm having sleepover in middle school again.



and write an essay of about 500 words reflecting their time and involvement in the ICC. The Alumni Team and the Finance Committee determine the fortunate winners. Dr. Smith never forgot the culture of openness, collaboration, and community at Owen House. His generous gift was meant to give the residents of Owen House the opportunity to offset the costs of room and board while attending school, and to encourage them to stay and remain active and engaged in their co-op community.

The 2017-18 recipients of the Dr. David L. Smith Scholarships were Rami Farawi and Julian Tabron. Below are their application essays, outlining how the community of Owen House has changed and nourished them. Our enduring gratitude to Dr. Smith, and to all of our donors who support our mission and our members. Thank you!



Julian Tabron



Life within the community of Owen house has been an enriching experience which has help me develop into the leader that I have become today. My first year at Owen was a sluggish start to assimilate to the co-op lifestyle as I was somewhat of an introvert and reluctant to make new friends with a more

experienced crowd. I moved into an unfamiliar setting late in the Fall Term of 2014 composed of co-op veterans and some newcomers whom have already been establish comfort in their new home. Unbeknown to me, I stumbled upon a home that would ameliorate my life forever.

One of the most unique aspects of Owen house has been the ever changing diverse group of people who have come and gone throughout the past few years. Especially during my first few years at Owen, I interacted with a variety of housemates with a wide range of perspectives influenced by their cultural values and time spent at U-M and in the ICC. Collectively, we accepted fellow members regardless of their past origins. This created a balance in the house culture which was mixed with conservative and progressive viewpoints which influenced and enabled me to understand and empathize with other people. Even with this transient college community, Owen House became this dynamic space that attracted people who

could set aside their differences to co-operate and run a house successfully.

Not all experiences were positive, but even the negative instances helped me grow into an effective leader in the cooperative movement. Over the years, Owen grew on me which is why I have dedicated my life to maintaining the house by keeping people safe from harm. This positive environment allowed me to showcase my detailed cleaning skills and ICC institutional knowledge which has allowed me to educate members and keep information retained in the house. More than 50 individuals that I have lived with throughout my time at Owen created memorable experiences which has improved my morale. I am grateful for these people and the larger ICC community for accepting me despite my eccentric personality.

As an experienced co-oper I seek to develop friendships with new housemates and other co-ops especially if they are hesitant to interact with others within the house. My goal is to make these individuals feel accepted by spending bonding time with them and forming connections with other ICC members. Typically, I show my dedication to the house in various ways by supplementing new house document resources, cooking guff meals and cleaning common spaces in my spare time, even though I am not required to do these things as the VP for Facilities. Ever since my first year at Owen, I stride to inspire cooperation by leading as an example to my fellow co-ops. If I had not joined the cooperative movement in the ICC, I would not have mustered up the courage to come out of my comfort zone and fulfill the leadership roles that I have obtained up to this point.

Alumni News

Nancy Caruso Duhalde

Nakamura ('82-'83)



I am so thankful for my time at U of M Ann Arbor (Schools of Music and Education), especially those wonderful days at Nakamura Co-op ('82, '83) with such a warm, diverse, talented group of House members. Working and playing together, we all just seemed to get along, appreciating each other's differences, talents, and points of view (...society today could take a lesson from us!)

At Nakamura, I learned many things I would take with me through life from smart cooking, shopping and chores organization to sharing space amicably, being thoughtful and respectful of others and being a team player. The people surrounding me each day made those things easy, as beneath each person was great kindness and consideration. I will never forget the surprise I found in my postal mailbox after graduating and moving to New York City... word had gone out that I was auditioning for a role in Prince's movie *Purple Rain*, and my "Nakamura House Family" put an amazing giant card together with pictures and notes from everyone cheering me on and wishing well! It was like their love had tagged along with me to the City and to this day now 35 years later I remain good friends with a few 80s Nakamurans - proof you can make cherished lifelong friends in the ICC Co-Ops!

While in NYC, I danced w/Phil Black Studio, sang w/St. Patrick's Cathedral Choir, became a Market Research Field Director, and came into relationship with three personal life-changers: My husband Ed, my best friend Dalva, and my Savior Jesus Christ!

Ed & I moved to Michigan in 1991 and I continued singing in Kensington Community Church Choir and in Ed's Detroit band REALM while becoming a Certified Medical Transcriptionist. We have two sons, Devin (21) and Dillon (15), who are both students and gifted instrumentalists themselves, and I've had the privilege of sharing with them warm stories from days at Nakamura and the importance of strong, intelligent, cooperative communities in their own lives, which being part of the ICC community taught me and which I will carry with me always!

"As far as living in the co-ops, I had a sense of absolute equality... We had as many men cooking as women. We had EVERYBODY griping about the bathrooms."

**~Michael Hanua
(Xanadu '72)**

Eleanore Eveleth

Joint/Lester ('91-'93)

Currently, Executive Director at Sinai-Grace Guild Community Development Corporation which is committed to holistic/equitable revitalization toward a thriving, healthy & sustainable NW Detroit.

Jim Blevins

Michigan/Minnie's ('85-'88)



As a mathematical statistician, I analyze and design experiments to improve medical devices (at Systems Biology at Chalmers University of Technology). My wife Olena works at Chalmers, also in Systems Biology. Our collaborations include an article on yeast biofuels and our daughter.

Elena Lamping

Black Elk ('15-'17)

Still in Ypsilanti, MI working for Michigan Medicine, but now applying for graduate school.

Isabel Suarez

Linder ('12-'16)



Currently a Manager at the Argus Farm Stop in Ann Arbor. For more info on the Argus, visit www.argusfarmstop.com

Emily Hamilton-Honey (Ren 2002-04)
Nick Hamilton-Honey (Ren 2002-04)



Our story starts on a kitchen shift in Renaissance House, at the beginning of September 2002. We were both beginning master's degrees, one in English Language and Literature in LS&A and one in Resource, Policy, and Behavior in SNRE. Nick had moved into Karma at the beginning of the summer, and I had moved into Russell the week before classes started. We had both been assigned the same kitchen shift by Daniel O'Neil, our house president. Nick had worked in food service for over a decade, at that point, while the most I had ever done was two summers worth of busing and being a hostess. I had no idea how to do proper kitchen prep, but Nick, and our beloved Chef Lynn, soon set me straight and put me to work.

That first semester we got to know each other slowly, chatting through our kitchen shifts and stopping by each other's lounges now and then. We were a study in contrasts; I was an academically driven introvert, shy and slow to make friends, while Nick was a warm and exuberant extrovert who wound up DJing our house parties and made friends wherever they went. Our friendship really took off upon our return from

winter break; we began to find each other for lunch and dinner, watched episodes of *Charmed* and *The West Wing* in our scarce downtime, and made late-night trips to the Arboretum when we both felt the need for some natural beauty. As spring term came to an end, we realized how close we had become and that we were not looking forward to the summer separation.

Nick went home to Pennsylvania, and I spent the summer at the co-op, but after just a month I made the eight-hour trek in my car to go visit them. The few days I spent with Nick were both some of the most difficult and the happiest of my life. We officially became a couple, which was incredible and emotionally freeing, but for me, that also meant contending with coming out to my family and adjusting my sense of self; I had never been in a queer relationship before. Nick was elated that we were together, but also cognizant of the fact that this was a lot of change for me – they had known they were queer for over half their life.

Our second year at Renaissance House saw Nick elected Kitchen Manager, and I stayed on kitchen shifts as well. We kept our rooms in our respective houses, but spent most of the time in Russell. Nick was working on a master's thesis and I had begun working as a graduate assistant, so we had increasingly busy schedules. We celebrated the landmark *Goodrich vs. Department of Public Health* ruling in Massachusetts, handed down on Nov. 18, 2003, by proposing to each other. I wanted to continue on in a PhD program, and in the spring of 2004, with several strong options, we chose the University of Massachusetts Amherst.

We were married in Northampton, Massachusetts in May of 2005. This May will be our thirteenth wedding anniversary and our fifteenth year together as a couple. We look back very fondly on our time at Renaissance House and all of the friends from the co-op who have stayed with us on our journey.



Alumni News

Maya Menlo

Luther ('12-'15)



Maya Menlo (Linder 2012-15) was ICC President (2014-15), VP of Membership (2013-14), and Board Representative (2012-13). Living in Linder House and serving the ICC was a formative experience for Maya. The ICC and its members shaped her worldview and her leadership style, and helped her become a stronger advocate for social change. Maya is a 2015 graduate of the University of Michigan Ford School of Public Policy and a 2018 graduate of Yale Law School. She is thrilled to be back in Michigan and working as a Liman Fellow at the Washtenaw County Office of the Public Defender. She is part of a new initiative to provide counsel to indigent criminal defendants at arraignment. While in law school, Maya participated in various legal clinics and social justice organizations, working on issues such as sex workers' rights, re-entry services, and gender-neutral bathrooms. She spent her summers working at New Haven Legal Assistance Association, the Bronx Defenders, and the Michigan State Appellate Defender Office. Maya derives inspiration from Ben Linder, the namesake of her co-op house, who was a tireless advocate for equity and a steadfast servant of the people.

Erica Bollinger

Stevens/Lester ('87-'88)



My husband, two cats and I still live in Portland, in the co-housing community I helped start almost two decades ago; I recently earned a Master of Divinity (M.Div) in ministry from the University of Spiritual Healing & Sufism; and I continue as an integrative healer (counseling, trauma recovery, bodywork, nutrition, spiritual guidance), in private practice. I've lost touch with most of the people I knew from Ann Arbor, but I'd sure love to hear from others who were in Lester when I was!

Jonathan Hartmann

Mich/Minnie's/Joint ('87-'88)



Visited Ann Arbor early in October for a U of M reunion. Doing well. Remembers doing ICC office desk duty during 1988---typing and writing headlines!

“My three and a half years at Minnie’s were some of the best of my life!! Amazing, creative, crazy intelligent people living cooperatively... what paradise!!”

~Kristin Van Vliet
(Minnie’s ‘01-’05)

Pat McComb

Stevens/Joint/King/Vail/Nak/Kagawa ('89-'93)



Pat is a musician and plays his guitar locally.

Travis Jones

Minnie's/King/Zeno/Baker ('03-'08)



Seeking a happier life and a new adventure, Travis and his family moved to Burlington, Vermont at

the beginning of September. Travis is working hard starting his own technology training and support business, Trav Does Tech (www.travdoestech.com). The whole family is enjoying the new local fare, from cider and donuts to harvest festivals, Halloween happenings and full moon circle dances.

Bob Walcott

Bruce ('70-'71)

Larry Germann

Bruce/Xanadu ('70-'72)

Dave Fullerton

Xanadu ('71-'72)

Grover Sams

Pickerill/Debs/Xanadu ('69-'72)



An unexpected alumni mini-reunion took place when some folks that flew in for the U of M Homecoming weekend visited the members of Truth House. Bob Walcott, Larry Germann, Dave Fullerton, and Grover Sams are former co-ops from the late 60s/early 70s who collectively lived in Bruce (the first year it opened), Xanadu (also the first year it opened), Debs, and Pickerell. They have all managed to keep in touch after college, and now meet up as a group every other year or so to revisit Ann Arbor and see how things are going (they are all scattered across the US).

They visited at Bruce/Truth House Friday and Sunday, and then Suneel Joglekar, Chair of the Alumni Team also met them when Yosief(Yo) Gheresus invited them to attend the Board Meeting later on Sunday evening.

Annick Odom

Michigan/Minnie's ('11-'15)



In 2018 she finished her Master's degree in "New Audience and Innovative Practice" at the Koninklijk Conservatorium Den Haag. She is a Double Bassist and Clarinetist. She is also active in producing her own work, with special focus going to a new project titled West Virginia, My Home. In this project, she uses traditional mountain music from Appalachia, exploring her own roots within the current political climate. (Editor note: Annick was able to spend some time in Ann Arbor this summer, sharing her love of music and her many musical talents with her community cohorts.

Mugabi Byenkya

Truth ('14-'15)



In February 2017, I published my debut novel, 'Dear Philomena,' and I recently concluded a 30 city North America/East Africa tour in support of this. I am currently on a second tour aptly titled, "Is That A World Tour or Your Girls Tour?" which will take me across an additional 25 cities.

"In July 1991, Leocardia Byenkya underwent an ultrasound that

informed her to expect a baby girl. She chose the name Philomena. On January 16 1992, her baby was born as a boy. Filled with shock and surprise, Leocardia named her baby boy Mugabi. On December 2014, Mugabi suffered from two strokes within a week of each other. Mugabi was 22 years old. 'Dear Philomena,' is a series of thoughts and conversations between Mugabi and Philomena (the girl he was supposed to be) about the year he was supposed to die but somehow lived through." <https://www.goodreads.com/book/show/34662201-dear-philomena>

Garnet Bruell

Vail/Ruths' ('09-'13)



Has lived in West VA for the past 5 years and got married last year. He and his wife, Sarah Anne, just moved to their first home and adopted a dog!

Megan Levad

Renaissance/Baker ('06-'08)



Megan is a poet who has published two books of her work: *Why We Live In The Dark Ages* and *What Have I To Say To You*. She is also a lyricist and librettist. She has written several song cycles and choral pieces. Currently, she lives in California. For more info about Megan and her poetry/music, see www.meganlevad.com

More Alumni News

Rebecca Emily Nole

Mich/Minnie's/Ruths' ('99-'03)

Elisha Carl Wolfe

Nakamura/Mich/Minnie's ('99-'01)



We are well! Elisha is working at a bilingual public school and I am in the writing stage of my dissertation. Our second child Harriet Amelia Wolfe(sister to Naomi) was born in February 2017 and we are keeping busy with all there is in life.

Jeremiah Devlin-Ruelle

Ruths' ('08-'11)



After several years in Ann Arbor, Jeremiah left this past August for Washington, DC. He received a Fellowship for his Master's Degree 2 year program in Political Management

at George Washington University. As he succinctly put it, "Always wanted to work in government." Jeremiah says that he is getting back into the groove of being a student again and that he likes Silver Spring and "riding the Metro is great!"

Aldis Lapins

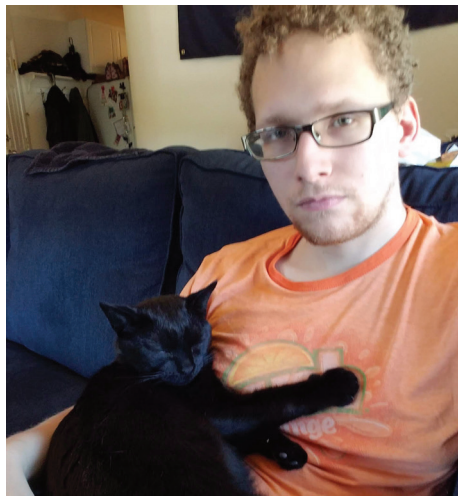
Nakamura ('65-'71)



He and his wife, Susan, have moved to Tennessee. Both are enjoying their retirement and now live in the same area as their son and granddaughter.

Chris(Nick) Keen

Truth ('10-'15)



Chris (Nick) held a lot of roles during his time in the ICC: from Pop Steward at Truth House to board representative to VP of Education and Membership. He left Truth to attend law school at the University of Chicago but will soon be returning to his hometown of Ann Arbor to start work in the Office of the City Attorney.

Paul Banner

Rochdale ('38-'41)



Totally retired! Cleaning files.....The pictures were taken at Rochdale House. *Editor's note: Rochdale House was originally called the Student Cooperative House and opened in 1937. It was only for men. In 1942, due to problems of recruiting men, Rochdale House became a co-op for women. Rochdale house closed in 1945. Members of this house were responsible for opening the Robert Owen House (1938) and Congress House(1939).*

Adam Konner

Mich/Minnie's/Black Elk ('03-'10)



Founder, Director at Common Good Washtenaw (formerly rCredits). Adam says that he is "working to create a democratically controlled

local currency in the Ann Arbor area.” In addition to this endeavor, he is a Worker Co-op Developer and Consultant at Collective Seeds Consulting Co-op and also works as a Freelance Web & Software Developer at Fuzzy Lines Design.

Russell “Russ” Lyons

Bag End ('79-'83)

After 20 years of work, his book was finally published! It's called, "Probability on Trees and Networks". This 700 page book is free online. (Editor's note: Russell Lyons is a James H. Rudy Professor of Mathematics at Indiana University, Bloomington. He obtained his PhD at the University of Michigan in 1983. He has written seminal papers concerning probability on trees and random spanning trees in networks.)

Lenore (Frane) Sternlight

Stevens ('46-'48)

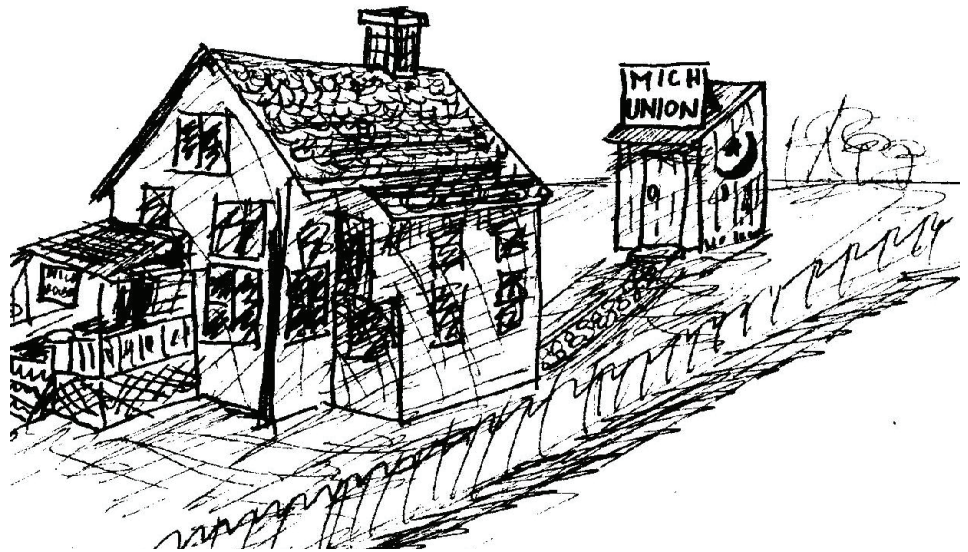
Turned 94 at the first of the year! She says that she is in good health, "but doesn't do too much."

David Freiman

Lester/Walden/Debs/Vail ('81-'85)



I lived at 1403 Gilbert Court in 1981-3 before it was named Renaissance or Escher. Each entrance was an individual house and ours was called Walden III. I also lived variously at Vail and Lester at various times over the next several years. I enjoyed being a house president, a menu planner, food orderer and a cook (when I left they hired a professional chef manager) while at Walden III.



Anjanette Bunce

Luther/Ruths'/Linder/Black Elk ('95-'99)

Inducted into NASCO's Cooperative Hall of Fame this November, 2018. From NASCO: "Anjanette Bunce's contribution to NASCO and the co-op movement has extended over a decade and her influence is widely felt. Anjanette has been involved in a number of cooperatives, including being president of the Inter-Cooperative Council at Ann Arbor in 1998-99, being Director of Education at NASCO (2000-2004), being active in the Fellowship for Intentional Communities, and being a director of People's Food Co-op in Ann Arbor. As NASCO's Director of Education, Anjanette played a major role in expanding NASCO's educational offerings. She designed a co-sponsored Institute with the Fellowship for Intentional Communities in 2000 and also implemented the first major expansion of Institute



programming—going from four to five course sessions, which lead to a 20% increase in conference attendees. Anjanette also helped implement the systems that facilitated combining the staffs of NASCO, NASCO Properties and NASCO Development Services (then Campus Cooperative Development Corporation) into a combined "NASCO family" staff, which lives on to this day.

**HAVE YOU UPDATED
YOUR CONTACT INFO?**
icc.coop/alumni/update-your-profile

Alumni Events!

ICC Winter Annual Meeting, March 2018



Goodbye Party, April 2018



Alumni Coffee Hours



Connect with us online!

Visit us at our newly renovated website: **www.icc.coop**

You can update your contact information, check out what the ICC is up to, donate, and find Alumni events near you.

Or find us at the social media spot of your choice:



Join our alumni Facebook group:
Alums of the Ann Arbor Inter-Cooperative Council



Follow us on Instagram for updates and #throwbackthursday.
[instagram.com/iccannarbor](https://www.instagram.com/iccannarbor)

ICC Mentorship Program Launching Soon!

A few years in the making, the Inter-Cooperative Council Alumni Team plans to launch a Mentorship Program! The program will keep ICC alumni connected and active in the ICC community while making a meaningful impact on current members. The Alumni Mentorship Program will provide current student members a way connect their academic and cooperative experiences with life after college. A successful mentoring relationship allows both parties to learn from one another, to network, to grow as a person, and to develop personal and professional skills.

For Alumni/Community Friends/Mentors we will:

- Reconnect with the ICC while developing meaningful connections.
- Learn about the ICC's current generation of members and their future interests.
- Learn about the college experience of today: what is new and what has stayed the same.
- Learn and refine coaching and mentoring skills.
- Expand your personal and professional networks.
- Simply connect and talk and see where it goes!

For Members/Mentees we will:

- Gain exposure to career options, advice, and job search tips.
- Build a personal and professional network.
- Explore new ideas and areas of interest.
- Develop and enhance professional and communication skills.
- Learn how academics and the cooperative experience connect to life after school and the ICC.
- Offer ideas and inspiration to others.

Please let the ICC Alumni Team at at@icc.coop know if you would be interested in being a mentor - you do not have to be in the Ann Arbor area. The Alumni Mentorship Program plans to finalize recruitment and any training in order start the program after the 2019 new year.

Condolences

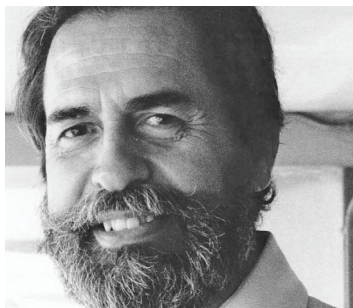
We, the past and present members of the Inter-Cooperative Council, love and remember the friends that we have lost. Rest in Peace.

Javier (Jay) Bray

(Michigan House 1950-52)

Born March 29, 1928 - Died August 7, 2017

The following memories were shared by Gordon and Marilyn (Seeger) Bigelow (Mich, Owen, Stevens, Lester 1948-53).



Jay was born in Battle Creek, MI but his father died 2 years later so his mother raised him in Matanzas, Cuba. When Jay came to Michigan House in 1950, he had just mustered out of the U.S Army, where he had learned most of his conversational English. He served as a cook and then later as food steward at Mich House. Jay was an avid co-oper and his sunny disposition and buoyant sense of humor sparkled in the vibrant social atmosphere there. Jay took part in the 1951 summer Sherwin Williams project led by Mich house manager, Dick Joseph, to paint the exteriors of all ICC houses. He invited Gordon to visit his relatives in Matanzas with him

during the following Christmas vacation. Their friendship endured for 67 years.

Jay earned a political science Master's Degree in Latin American affairs from U of M and went on to a distinguished career with the US State Department's outreach programs in Latin America and Asia. He later retired to "Little Havana" in Miami, FL and continued as a community organizer, educator and founder of the Spanish American League Against Discrimination (SALAD). He was an inspiration to all those who knew him. He died in Miami after an extended illness.

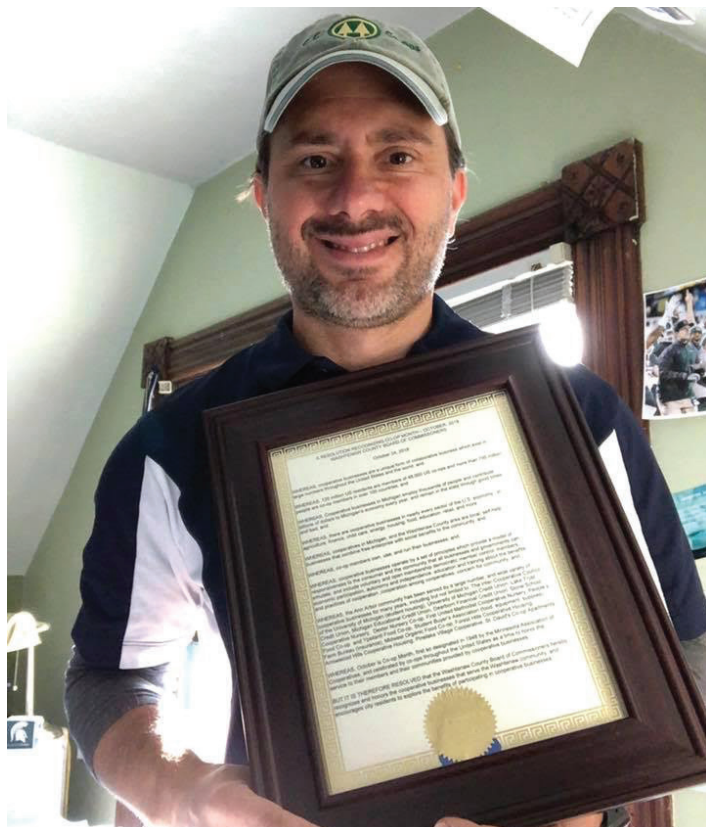
Karen S. Ushman

(Lester 1965/Stevens 1967-68)

Died September 30, 2017

Karen is survived by her husband, Peter Schanck and 5 children. She received both her undergrad and her Masters of Social Work from the University of Michigan. She worked as a psychotherapist, first in Detroit and then in Lawrence, Kansas. She and her husband retired to Santa Fe and for many years, she arranged and delivered flowers for hospice patients. She was also an ardent student of Tai Chi for 15 years.

The ICC and all cooperatives were honored on October 24 by the Washtenaw County Board of Commissioners in a resolution supporting October as Co-Op Month. Nick Coquillard, ICC's General Manager, stated, "Its an honor to have reminded everyone of the impacts of all our co-ops."



A Singular Moment in Time

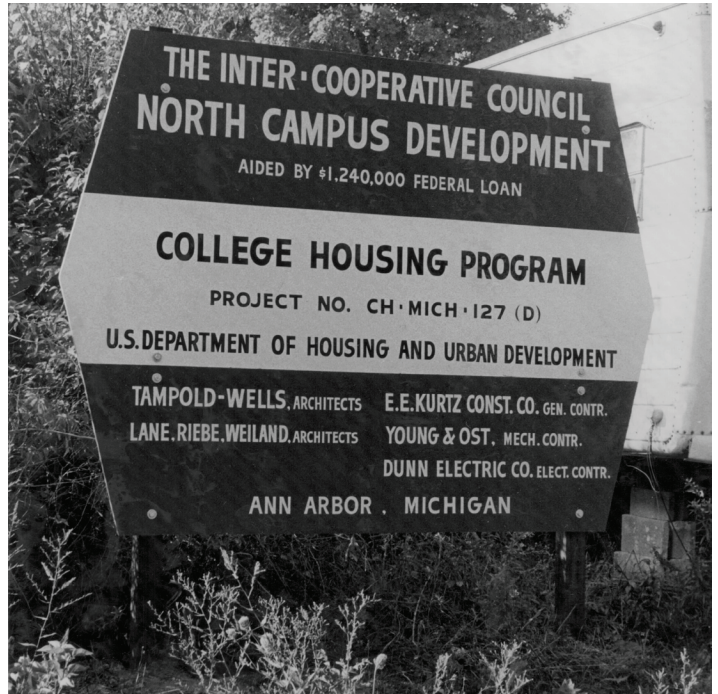
By Jim Jones

1968 was a troubled year. Many have called it a turning point in American history, with the assassinations of Martin Luther King and Robert Kennedy, the multiple uprisings and riots around the country and across the world, the calamitous Democratic National Convention, the election of Richard Nixon and so much more.

It was also a pivotal year for student cooperatives, but in a much more positive way, thanks to the incredible efforts of ICC members and staff. Because of their hard work, the Department of Housing and Urban Development finally approved loan money to student co-ops, beginning with the ICC's building on North Campus. And because of their efforts, a strong and lasting association began: NASCO.

The story actually begins in the previous year, when a member of Vail House, Nancy Meyerson, talked the ICC into sending her to a cooperative education conference in Puerto Rico. That inspiring experience was followed by field trips by Nancy and other ICC members to the Michigan Association of Housing Co-ops, the National Association of Housing Co-ops, and the senior citizen co-ops in Detroit. Seeing first-hand the synergy developed by co-ops working together, the participating members wanted the ICC to do more.

As Chair of the Education Committee, Meyerson felt that



an important next step would be to organize a conference, inviting student co-ops from around the United States and Canada. She received enthusiastic backing for the idea from the board, from "Executive Secretary" Luther Buchele, and from John Achatz, the newly hired "Clerk of the Works" for the North Campus project.

Two hundred and twenty five participants from around the United States and Canada came to Ann Arbor that spring, in the first major student cooperative gathering in many years. An excerpt from *Hasten Slowly*, a soon-to-be published book on the history of student cooperatives, tells the story:

The conference served many agendas, but it was clearly intended to influence the government. The ICC invited HUD officials, who they then introduced to Howard Adelman and other Canadians who were already using Canadian federal financing. It was an opportunity for the Canadians to showcase their impressive accomplishments north of the border. Adelman, John Jordan and others presented a convincing picture of what could be done with cooperative effort and federal funding.

It worked. Inspired by the example in Canada, HUD officials publicly pledged to improve access by cooperatives to the HUD funds. Very soon thereafter, the ICC received financing approval for their North Campus project.



Vail House 1963-67. From left, Jane Luton and Nancy Meyerson

Still, there was no clear sailing. The ICC had to enlist CLUSA's assistance once again in order to actually close on the loan. When HUD learned that ICC's Board of Directors was made up entirely of students, most of whom were under 21 and therefore minors, they refused to finalize the loan. The ICC, with the Cooperative League and many other groups, worked to reduce the "age of majority" to 18. Their success resulted in a legally "adult" board for the ICC and other student cooperatives. The loan was then granted, and the ICC's North Campus building became the first major project developed with HUD funding.



Through NASCO Development Services, they assist new cooperatives to begin, to lease, and to purchase property. All this resulted from a singular moment in time, in March of 1968.

Nancy Meyerson now goes by the name of Sheella Mierson. "I owe my existence to a cooperative!" is what she once said in reference to her parents' meeting at the Co-op Youth League in Chicago in the 40s.

In 1964, she became a member of the ICC and lived at Vail House until 1968. She was VP of Membership in 1966-67 and then VP of Education in 1967-68. In 1968, Sheella talked the ICC into sending her to a cooperative education conference in Puerto Rico followed by field trips to the Michigan Association of Housing Co-ops, the National Association of Housing Co-ops, and the senior citizen co-ops in Detroit. Seeing first-hand the synergy developed by co-ops working together, Sheella wanted to do more. As Chair of the Education Committee, Sheella felt that an important next step would be to organize a conference, inviting student co-ops from around the United States and Canada later that spring. Fifty years later, NASCO (North American Students of Cooperation) as we know it, owes its existence to Sheella Mierson.

On November 3, 2018, Sheella Mierson was inducted into the NASCO Co-operative Hall of Fame, which honors the best of the student co-op movement and provides broader recognition to individuals who have made a truly significant impact, such as Sheella.

Today, Sheella resides in Richmond, California and among other things consults on sociocracy, an approach to management and governance introduced from the Netherlands. Sheella is particularly interested in how sociocracy can be used in cooperatives to increase communication, transparency and participation. For more information on sociocracy, see sociocracyconsulting.com, or email sheella.mierson@Sociocracyconsulting.com.



Sheella Mierson

A Sunday discussion at the conference took another great leap forward. The participants talked about the co-ops, the advantages of working together, and the need for students to rely on themselves – STUDENT POWER. They decided to create a new, progressive association, to be called the North American Student Cooperative Organization.

The decision was profound, and there was no time for working out the details. They decided to meet again, soon.

The first meeting of the new group was held just three weeks later, on March 23 at the Hyde Park Consumer Cooperative in Chicago. Representatives from eight campuses attended, as well as Stan Dreyer, President of the Cooperative League of the USA (CLUSA) and two staff members from CLUSA's Educational Division. A steering committee was appointed, including John Turk and Kim Clegg from the ICC (the only group to have two participants on the committee!), and the work began.

Today, NASCO holds annual conferences serving over 400 participants, always in Ann Arbor, and their educational efforts span the continent. Through an affiliate called NASCO Properties, they own buildings in eight locations across the country, leasing 16 houses to local cooperatives.



King and Nakamura Get Some TLC

Maintenance Highlights, 2018



King House

Big fixes occurred at both King and Nakamura houses this year. At King house, we replaced the entire sewer main running from the house to the street, replaced the driveway and parking lot, basement stairs and entry door, and fixed up the fence around the back yard and all the fire escapes. We also fixed up the sheds in the back.





Nakamura House

Nakamura received quite the makeover as well. The whole house received upgrades to its plumbing, heat radiators and electrical outlets, switches and fixtures. The basement received new flooring, heat system piping, plumbing, paint, shelving and a new workshop table. We also restored the basement walls, fixed up the kitchen cabinets and wall-mounted the TV in the lounge. Finally, throughout the rest of the house we fixed up flooring and replaced carpet, made sure all the doors were ADA accessible with modern deadbolts and peepholes, fixed up all the windows, walls and ceilings, bathroom shut-off valves and faucets, and renovated the third floor tub/shower.



House News



Baker: Baker house completed its first party two weeks ago on the 7th. It was a pretty good success and the house has come together nicely. We've also elected officers at the beginning of the month and have bi monthly officer meetings. Things have jelled nicely and are going smoothly



Black Elk: We are thriving as a house. This summer we painted two pillars of our porch rainbow. Black Elk has continued to host the NASCO party and is very involved with the coop community. We have had the highest attendance at WAM for the past few years. We have instituted some new traditions recently, our fall break camping trip to the UP is coming up for the third year in a row. We also have a ball pit now which is very exciting, but it is a lot of upkeep, so we have voluntary ball pit cleaning days, almost like a mini work holiday. This weekend we had our first in-house progressive of the year. Almost all the house showed up, and we are doing a better and better job of making sure it is inclusive and

fun for the non-drinking members of the house. We also finished off the weekend with work holiday and the house is (relatively) sparkling. We have reorganized the books in the study by subject for non-fictions, and alphabetically for fiction. The most exciting thing this work holiday was using a power washer! This was the first time we have used one for work holiday in recent memory and it really made a difference to our porch, and it is super fun to use! Overall, Black elk continues to be a great place to live in!



Debs: Debs is pretty good, we have progressive party coming up (theme is biomes!!) and our October house meeting is on the 9th so we can iron out issues then and hopefully set a date for work holiday. We had a member move out this weekend which was sad and also leaves us down 2 people which is a struggle with work hours and officer positions because they were a food steward. Our house presidents have been fielding emails from prospective new members so we're hoping to fill at least one of our spots for the semester.

Escher (North Campus/Ren and O'Keefe): Escher has been doing well this year. Escher Fest was on Friday and it was pretty awesome, one of the best we've had despite the somewhat short notice. Our Social Chair has really been on top



of things this year, as have the House Officers. Work Holiday went well two weeks ago, and we're going to fix some guff bikes for a make-up Work Holiday task.



Gregory: Gregory continues to proceed quite well. We're scheduling our October meeting now and have already spookified the house for Halloween vibes. Dinners are going well and work holiday went great! We're tackling a few maintenance issues as they arise. We also recently had a member transfer to another house and welcomed a new member in their place



King: We elected officers at the end of August and just had our work holiday. We cleaned the common space, dug out the firepit, worked on our composting system, cleaned everyone's bathroom fans, cleared out the storage room of some old things either unlabeled or labeled by former members and ate stuff.



Lester: Things running smoothly. We will be having our work holiday soon and a progressive is being formulated for the distant future. Our fall crop has been planted and our maintenance manager has been making sure rooms are up to code. Officers are settling into their roles etc.



Linder: Linder is doing well so far this semester! The house has developed a warm, welcoming atmosphere which is easy to appreciate while catching up on each other's days during house dinners. Luckily, Linder continues to uphold its reputation for being a green, clean, hippy scene and are working to increase our collective understanding of how to be more environmentally friendly as a community.

Luther: Luther is thriving. Minus our lack of guff-dairy-fridge-door. We have a constitution meeting planned for later this month that there is a bit of enthusiasm about. We are hitting the ground running this October and have carved pumpkins, made caramel apples, and we are working hard



on planning Lutherween (((it's October 27th, come!!!))). We seem to be having a decent number of tours which is exciting. Life in the house is good overall.



Michigan: Mich house is doing well. Our second house meeting is coming up and our semester party is imminent. This year's theme: Underwater Disco!



Minnie's: Minnie's is doing just as well as Mich house! Minnie's got new windows/fire escapes for the basement. We are planning for our second house meeting which I think will have a healthy amount of content to collectively deliberate over.

Nakamura: Nakamura has been doing great! Our Hobart still isn't working, so we're looking forward to



hopefully getting that running again soon. Dinners and chores are going well so far. We're back to our bi-weekly open mics—we've had two so far (the last one this past week) and they've both gone really well.



Osterweil: We've had incredible dinners here so far, and everyone does their chores dutifully and without complaint. Our board games progressive coincided with our newfound love for chess and great room themes. The interpretive dance session was wild to say the least. House meetings are short, sweet, and to the point which is something everyone is grateful for (props to our HP Ellie). There are no shortages of good times and great memories here at Osterweil.

Owen: Undoubtedly the most festive in the whole ICC, the Owen House porch is adorned with swaths of twinkling string lights and a stately porch swing. Beyond being flashy and festive, these LED string lights are on an automatic timer and work as a night light for housemates returning home late from work or studying. Inside the house, our industrial-sized kitchen has been churning out

Continued on next page...

More House News



all sorts of co-op favorites: veggie stir fries, pizzas, lentil soups, and in-season pumpkin spiced baked goods! Plus, a very cooperative housemate GUFFed a huge bag of Halloween candy. Yum!

Ruths': Our work holiday is being



scheduled. We convinced additional people to take dinner cook slots, bringing us to 3 nights a week (will attempt to increase over time). The house is bonding.



Truth: House Council convened on September 30th, 2018. All but one officer received majority upvotes, but they have begun responding to the feedback and showing improvement in their position. Four former ICC members from the early 1970s (and two of them original Bruce/Truth housemates) visited the house recently, and joined us at our Board Meeting, where they enjoyed seeing

how far the ICC had progressed and felt that we were keeping the cooperative spirit they remember alive.



Vail: Vail is operating smoothly. The fridge is full, our stove-top smoke detector works, and spirits seem high. Our last party was an art themed hit and now we have plenty of fresh art scattered about. We have had some visitors as well. One Vailian who stopped by had been a student in the 60s. She remarked that the house was very much the same and she enjoyed perusing through the Vail Book despite it only dating back to 1987.



Thanks to those who generously donated this past year.

Margery Cleveland, Mark VIII
1960-61

Russ Lyons, Bag End 1979-83

Hattula Moholy-Nagy, Owen/Osterweil 1952-55

Bernard Choden, Nakamura
1947-54

Valentin Cocco, Truth W/SP 2018

Darian Radzar, Ruths' 2016-18

Stanley Finkel, Michigan 1949-52 and **Anita (Zerpoil) Finkel, Stevens** 1948-52

Amy (Fried) Belasco, Lester/Vail 1967-69 and **Warren Belasco, Mich/Vail** 1967-69

John S. Gourlay, Tri-House, 1969-71

Marian Schulman, Lester 1973-74

Lenore (Frane) Sternlight, Stevens 1946-48

Aldis Lapins, Nakamura 1965-71

Jonathan Kahl, Stevens/Lester
1979-83

Elizabeth Post, MichMinnie's
2017

Kristina (Spitale) Rudolph, Vail
1999

Alvin Levine, Owen 1950-51

Allison Sharrar, Vail 2014-15

Shelley Rose, Joint, 1971-74

Judith Fuller, Lester/Osterweil
1958-62

Kathryn Jackson, Jones 2004

Michael McReynolds

Paul Strauss (Mich/Owen) 1954-58) **Trust Bequest**

Mr. Charles Sewell and the Sewell Family Philanthropic Fund of the Greater Cincinnati Foundation

Donating to the ICC

Information Update

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Name used at ICC: _____

House(s) and Years: _____

Current Address:

Phone: _____

Email: _____

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To make a donation by mail, please send to
**Alumni Relations Coordinator, 337 E William St,
Ann Arbor MI 48104**

___ The A.K. Stevens Development Fund (to make capital improvements on ICC houses)

___ The Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Fund (to assist members with financial needs)

___ The Luther and Joan Buchele Sustainability Fund (to make our houses more energy efficient)

___ The Alumni Program Fund (more and better alumni programming)

Any unspecified donations will be deposited into the Alumni Program Fund.

Amount of donation: \$ _____

May we list you as a donor in the ICC Annual Report and the next Alumni Cooperator?

Yes ___ No ___

Alumni donations keep the ICC going! Investing in the ICC ensures that future members will have affordable, inclusive, and community-oriented living spaces. The ICC is a 501C(3) nonprofit organization, which means that your donations are tax-deductible. Supporting the ICC helps create sustainable and democratic alternatives to for-profit housing.

The ICC channels donations into different funds. The **A.K. Stevens Development Fund** assists with capital improvements on the ICC Houses. The **Martin Luther King Jr. Scholarship Fund** assists members who face economic obstacles in securing housing. The **Luther and Joan Buchele Sustainability Fund** channels donations towards projects to make ICC's houses more energy efficient and reduce our carbon footprint. The **Alumni Program Fund** monies are used to support the production of this publication, alumni events and fundraising efforts. You can specify which of these funds you want your donation to go to. Unspecified donations from alumni will be used to maintain the Alumni Program Fund.

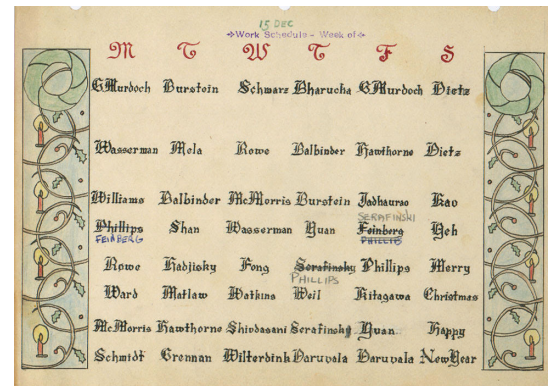
You can donate in a number of ways:

Online: One-time or recurring donations can be made at icc.coop/alumni/make-a-gift.

Legacy: Past members have made generous gifts to the ICC in their wills or living trusts, honoring the cooperative spirit by creating scholarships and endowments. (See our feature about the David L. Smith scholarship on page 4 as an example.) If you're interested in including the ICC in your will, we can happily provide you with our Tax ID number.

By mail: Checks should be made out to the ICC and mailed to:

Alumni Relations Coordinator
337 E. William St
Ann Arbor, MI 48104



Inter-Cooperative Council
337 E. William St.
Ann Arbor, MI 48104

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Save The Date!

**Join Us
October 18-19-20
2019**

**for the 75th Anniversary
Celebration of the
Incorporation of the ICC**

On October 25, 1943, the ICC purchased its first house and called it Stevens House in honor of the U of M Professor and ICC Advisor, A. K. Stevens, who had supplied the final amount needed to make the purchase. But the ICC was still not an incorporated organization, so Emil Grenier held the property in his own name until February 25, 1944, when the ICC was finally and formally incorporated.!

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