

# CHARTER 100 DC

APRIL 2023 NEWSLETTER

Happy Spring, Ladies!

Without a doubt everyone is eager to bask in the sunshine again, hear the songs of beautiful birds returning to our feeders and see spring's favorite pastel bulbs gracing their stage.

Park Ranger Kevin Patti helped us celebrate National Women's History month by highlighting one of America's female national treasures, Clara Barton, via Zoom directly from her historic house. His exhaustive research, period photographs and anecdotes about her work which spanned the globe brought this historic woman to life. If you missed his Zoom presentation, visit our website for the link. Also, plan to visit the Clara Barton house before it undergoes renovation next September.

April and May will be filled with exciting special events and programs. A key highlight will be on May 31, 2023, when former Ukraine Ambassador Marie Yovanovitch will speak in-person at the Hillwood Museum about her career and her recently released memoir: *Lessons From the Edge*. Books can be pre-ordered with your early luncheon reservation and a personalized book signing will follow her presentation.

Happy Easter and Passover!

My best,

Paula Hantman Tolle

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MEMBERSHIP COMMITTEE

MEMBER PROFILE  
BARBARA HEKIMIAN

2022-2023 CHARTER 100 DC  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

2023

# ANNOUNCEMENTS



Please note  
the change of day



## APRIL SPEAKER PROGRAM

Alison Pascale

Wednesday, April 26, 2023

In-Person at Hillwood Museum - 12:00 -2:000 PM

Alison will provide a slideshow on the advancement of automated vehicle technology in the automotive and technology sectors. She'll speak on the various uses for this technology: for private ownership vehicles and as a service which is to move people and merchandise.

## SPECIAL SPRING EVENT

Professionally Style Your Own Garden Flower Pot

Saturday, April 15, 2023 - 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM

In-Person at Sabina Fogle's House

**WANT TO UPGRADE YOUR FRONT STEPS/CONDO BALCONY FOR SPRING?**

Learn how from expert Julie Friedman of Exteriors Outdoors Styling

~ and take home your own professional outdoor potted plant!

Please note  
the change of day



## MAY SPEAKER PROGRAM

Ambassador Masha Yovanovitch

Wednesday, May 31, 2023

In-Person at Hillwood Museum- 12:00 - 2:00PM

Ambassador Yovanovitch is the author of the New York Times best-selling memoir, *Lessons from the Edge*. In her book she recounts her career in public service and the experience of testifying as the former Ambassador to Ukraine during President Trump's first impeachment. There will be an opportunity to pre-purchase her book and for a personal book signing after the presentation.

## SAVE THE DATES

APRIL 14, 2023 - NEW MEMBER APPLICATION DEADLINE

MAY 18, 2023 – CHARTER 100 DC ANNUAL MEETING - **ATTENDANCE IS MANDATORY!**  
(ZOOM MEETING - 7:00 - 8:00PM)

## USEFUL MEMBER INFORMATION

Charter 100 DC Website: [www.charter100dc.org](http://www.charter100dc.org)

Website Password for Members Only/Info: 2021charTer100

Questions, Administrative Assistance: [charter100dc@gmail.com](mailto:charter100dc@gmail.com)

# Update from the Membership Committee

WOW!

Your Membership Committee is very pleased to announce that our members have done a bang-up job of recruiting new members this year. The final numbers aren't in yet, but all signs point to great success. Special thanks to Beverly Dean, whose organization of the application and recruitment processes has been outstanding!

The Membership Committee convened a Zoom "get to know you" session on Tuesday, March 28, at 6:00 pm with Beverly Dean presiding. Membership Committee Co-Chair Gail Nordheimer and members Judith Hunter, Stephanie Karsten and Betsy Unikel chatted with these member candidates:

·Cynthia Anthony, a returning former member, who is being sponsored by Debbie Saunders and Betsy Unikel

·Bonnie Corcoran, who is being sponsored by Clara Montanez

·Camilla David, who is being sponsored by Sandie Preiss and Beverly Dean

·Sonia Hampton, who is being sponsored by Sandie Preiss and Beverly Dean

·Janis Oehmann, who is being sponsored by Paula Hantman and Beverly Dean

·Carolyn Rand, who is being sponsored by Paula Hantman and Kay Myers

·Donna Seeker, who is being sponsored by Stephanie Karsten and Barbara Ciconte-

## Membership Committee

Myrna Fawcett – Gail Nordheimer - Co-Chairs

Beverly Dean - Judith Hunter - Stephanie Karsten - Betsy Unikel

# Barbara Hekimian

## The Boss

Barbara is one of our trailblazing women who broke through the glass ceiling in the male-dominated world of Healthcare and eventually became the boss of not one, but two hospitals!

Barbara started her career working nights as a pediatric nurse so she could be home with her children during the day. Later she transitioned to a privately-owned psychiatric hospital in Hampstead, New Hampshire, where its CEO fostered her interest in climbing the corporate ladder. When an administration position opened up within that company, Hospital Corporation of America (HCA), Barbara applied but was denied because she did not have an MBA. She resolved that by getting her Master's in Business Administration at Suffolk University in Boston. This provided the foundation she needed to run a business.

Later when another administration position within HCA became available, Barbara re-applied, was accepted and trained as the CEO at a psychiatric hospital in Falls Church, Virginia. An excellent "trainee," after only six months Barbara was offered the opportunity to head her own psychiatric hospital in Macon, Georgia.



"In the beginning, the medical staff was very 'unimpressed' to have a woman take charge, as this position was traditionally a man's," said Barbara. She won over her medical staff because they quickly understood "I knew the business end of a hospital and the medical component, so you couldn't fool me on any of it." Her commitment to "always put your patients first," affected her bottom line in a very positive way.

Out of the 50 hospitals in HCA's psychiatric division, only two had female administrators and Barbara was one. When HCA's two top producing hospitals were those run by women administrators, she knew she had reached her stride.

Barbara finished her successful career back in the Falls Church, Virginia, psychiatric hospital where

she started as CEO. She credits much of her success to her husband of 33 years, Frank, and refers to him as “the wind beneath my wings and my constant supporter.”

Although she loved her job and is proud of her accomplishments, she now enjoys retirement and cherishes the new time she can spend with her family -- her children, grandchildren and two great-grandchildren. Every summer she can be found at her lake house in New Hampshire and attending a family reunion back in her home state of Indiana.

Barbara has been a Charter 100 DC member for 29 years now. She was introduced to the organization by Nancy Stewart, her realtor-turned friend and her eventual sponsor for membership.

Barbara enjoys being in the company of such accomplished Charter 100 DC women, “Ladies who are spunky enough to rise to the top of their field.” Although she hasn’t been as active as she was at one time, she is looking forward to attending more events in the future.



**HCA**   
Healthcare

## 2022-2023 CHARTER 100 DC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

**President: Paula Hantman Tolle**

**Vice President: Sabina Fogle**

**Secretary: Emily Sommers**

**Treasurer: Jackie Hunt**

**Ombudsman: Marian Almeida-Kumar**

**Programs: Babette "Babs" Jackson**

**Special Events: Alissa Fox and Margaret VanAmringe**

**Arrangements: Sharon Cooper**

**Membership: Myrna Fawcett and Gail Nordheimer**



**The Charter 100 DC brings together  
women of outstanding accomplishments  
in diverse fields.**