



# CCW News

A Cornell Club of Washington Publication  
Editor-in-Chief: Claudia T. Benack '74

## November 2020

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By *Jim Schoonmaker*



Faced with the continuing effect of COVID-19 on in-person meetings and social distancing requirements, CCW moved to all virtual programming last March hosted by CCW Board Director, Tony Chen, Eng '12. In addition to longtime programs like the CCW Book Club, new virtual programs emerged, including Solve a Crossword Together, Knit a Big Red Scarf and the Cornell Club Around the World Mixer. As Tony says, "Any person, any party!" On Saturday, March 21st, Tony began his first 2020 virtual event called Solve a Crossword Together. By utilizing the New York Times Saturday crossword puzzle and a shared Zoom screen,

this event continued every Saturday at 3pm since March, which has grown to more than 30 puzzles completed. It's an inspired mix of regulars and newbies, trying to solve the puzzle as fast as they can, and laughing all the while.

On Sunday May 17th, Tony launched the first Cornell Club Mixer (Virtual Happy Hour), which initially covered the Cornell Clubs in Washington DC, Kansas/Missouri, and New Jersey. With the cooperation of Cornell Alumni Affairs, it has expanded around the globe, with participants from all continents except Antarctica. CCW members shared Big Red Pride at StayHomecoming events including a live streamed interview with Dr. Anthony Fauci and tribute to Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg. In addition, this year's International Spirit of Zinck's Night truly was a 24 hour global event with CCW kicking off the celebration at midnight with a 4 hour Tony Chen CCW Presents Worldwide Mixer, followed later by Puzzles and a Happy Hour with Corey Earle. Tony says "that during this time of isolation and quarantine, we now have the opportunity to make friends with Cornellians from all around the globe." In the virtual mixers via Zoom, Tony creates breakout rooms centered around Cornell themes such as seasonal activities, Cornell traditions, food and how Cornell has changed over the years. Thus, everyone can meet each other in small settings, all the while reminiscing about Cornell. The Mixers are scheduled for an hour, but always run way over, because no one wants to stop the conversations. In fact, here is just a sampling of comments Tony has received:

**Netherlands** - THANK YOU for the organization. It was a wonderful moment of connection.

**Vienna, Austria** - It was a lot of fun!

**Germany** - Was a great opportunity for us here in Germany to connect with others.

**Japan** - I have met so many interesting people! There is something magical about Cornell Alumni; an instant sense of belonging and acceptance of others. It seems that wherever we are or whenever we were at Cornell, Cornellians are like family. It's in our DNA. We bond!

**Seattle, WA** - Thanks for adding me to the group! Always happy to connect with other Cornellians.

**Maryland** - It is fun and great to meet so many Cornellians around the world. Keep them going.

**Cape Cod** - I was impressed by how smoothly the whole thing worked, and the diversity of people.

**Florida** - Thanks for the great conversation and looking forward to future connections!

**Ohio** - I really enjoyed the mixer I attended.

**Charleston, SC** - Love the chat room breakout topics of discussion. I really enjoyed meeting SO many wonderful Cornellians from around the world.

**DC** - Thank you. That was fun! Enjoyed the event!

**Indiana** - Tony, thanks so much for organizing this! Lots of fun :-)

**So, come join us!**

# Events at a Glance

The Cornell Club of Washington is Cornell's largest all-volunteer regional club and one of its most active. Your membership helps you connect with local alumni through social events and service programs advancing the university's mission through community-engaged discovery and learning that contribute to solving many of the local and world's challenges. CCW offers engaging programs and activities for alumni, students, and friends of Cornell University in the greater Washington, D.C. metropolitan area.

## CCW Pints & Purls - Knit a Big Red Scarf Virtual Event

Come join us for an evening session of knitting and good conversation. Bring your own project, or learn how to knit a big red scarf for the cold weather outside. It'll be a Zoom meeting with smaller breakout rooms for learning and conversing. Questions: Grace Tucker [gkt25@cornell.edu](mailto:gkt25@cornell.edu)

- November 4, 2020 - 8:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3997208>
- November 18, 2020 - 8:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3997210>

## CCW Virtual Museum Tours, Online Libraries, and Events

CCW Virtual Tours at <https://cornellclubdc.org/page-1862736>.

CCW Events at <https://cornellclubdc.org/events>.

## CCW Monthly Board & Programming Meetings Virtual Event

November 10, 2020 7:00PM - 8:30PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3970966> and <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3970972>. Monthly CCW board and planning meetings open to all members and others. Contact: Matt Nieman [president@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:president@cornellclubdc.org). Jim Schoonmaker [programming@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:programming@cornellclubdc.org)

## Cornell's Historic Connections to American Indian and Indigenous Communities

November 16, 2020 7:30 PM Virtual Event. Want to learn more about Cornell's history? Looking for a great reason to get together online with Cornell friends or spend some time learning something new? Join us each month to hear from the legendary Corey Ryan Earle '07 at one of his 'history happy hours' this fall. Go to: <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3944252> and click **Choose Your Adventure** to register for one or all!

## CCW Solve a Crossword Puzzle Together Virtual Event

Join Tony Chen [lc465@cornell.edu](mailto:lc465@cornell.edu) and CCW members solve a NY Times Crossword Puzzle using video chat.

- November 7, 2020 - 3:00PM- 4:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3974748>
- November 14, 2020 - 3:00PM- 4:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3974749>
- November 21, 2020 - 3:00PM- 4:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3974751>
- November 28, 2020 - 3:00PM- 4:00PM <https://www.cornellclubdc.org/event-3974752>

## Cornell University Virtual Events, Webinars and Live Streams

Cornell University hosts hundreds of virtual events, lectures, seminars, webinars and live streams every day.

Explore and learn more at:

- Cornell University Events Website: <https://events.cornell.edu/>
- Cornell University Alumni Events Website: <https://alumni.cornell.edu/events/>
- Weill Cornell Medicine Events Website: <https://events.weill.cornell.edu/>
- Recent Live Streams from Cornell: <https://live.alumni.cornell.edu/>
- Cornell University Official Athletics Website: <https://cornellbigred.com/>

# Volunteer Corner

The organizations below are all accepting **donations of masks, non-perishable food, and other healthcare/household supplies.**

- **SOME (So Others Might Eat):** SOME is an interfaith, community-based organization that exists to help the poor and homeless of our nation's capital by addressing immediate needs and offering services to break the cycle of homeless. Learn more here: <https://www.some.org/>
- **N Street Village:** N St Village empowers homeless and low-income women in Washington, D.C. to claim their highest quality of life by offering a broad spectrum of services, housing, and advocacy. Learn more here: <https://www.nstreetvillage.org/get-involved/>
- **Salvation Army - National Capital Area:** The Salvation Army is a charitable Christian organization serving those in crisis in the District; from providing hot meals to bill assistance. Learn more here: <https://salvationarmynca.org/volunteer/>

## Communications

Are you a fan of Instagram and Facebook? Help CCW with our communications efforts including our social media and email updates. Contact Steve Piekarec at [communications@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:communications@cornellclubdc.org)

## Community Service

Are you currently involved in any remote or socially distanced volunteering? We'd love to hear from you! Reach out to Julia Buffinton and Drew Zukosky at [communityservice@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:communityservice@cornellclubdc.org)

## Editorial

Interested in assisting CCW with its newsletter and informing the local Cornell community about local goings-on? What to be published? Contact Claudia Benack at [newsletter@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:newsletter@cornellclubdc.org)

## Finance Committee

Do you have a background in accounting or tax law? Or want to become more familiar with these areas and how they work in the non-profit context? Contact Mel Zurn at [treasurer@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:treasurer@cornellclubdc.org)

## Membership

Invite your Cornell classmates and alums to join CCW. Renew/update your membership, contact, newsletter and email preferences. Contact Annalise Schoonmaker and Justin Kondrat at [membership@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:membership@cornellclubdc.org)

## Programming

The CCW Programming Committee welcomes suggestions for programs and volunteers to help with them! Contact Jim Schoonmaker at [programming@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:programming@cornellclubdc.org)

## Technology

Looking for people with website experience to help in the redesign of the CCW website. Contact Webmaster at [webmaster@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:webmaster@cornellclubdc.org)

## Nominations

Interested in serving on the 2021-2022 CCW Board of Directors? Consider being nominated to serve CCW. Contact Terry Horner at [nominations@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:nominations@cornellclubdc.org)

## CCW History

We need your help whether you are a past or present CCW Board member, Cornell alumnus at large and interested in CCW history from 1966 to the present. Contact CCW Historian, Gladys Stifel, at [gls23@cornell.edu](mailto:gls23@cornell.edu)



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## CCW News

Cornell Club of Washington  
2148 O Street NW  
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[newsletter@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:newsletter@cornellclubdc.org)

November 2020

Moved? New email? Update your member profile at [www.cornellclubdc.org](http://www.cornellclubdc.org)

Do you have ideas for CCW News? Or corrections? Email us at: [newsletter@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:newsletter@cornellclubdc.org)

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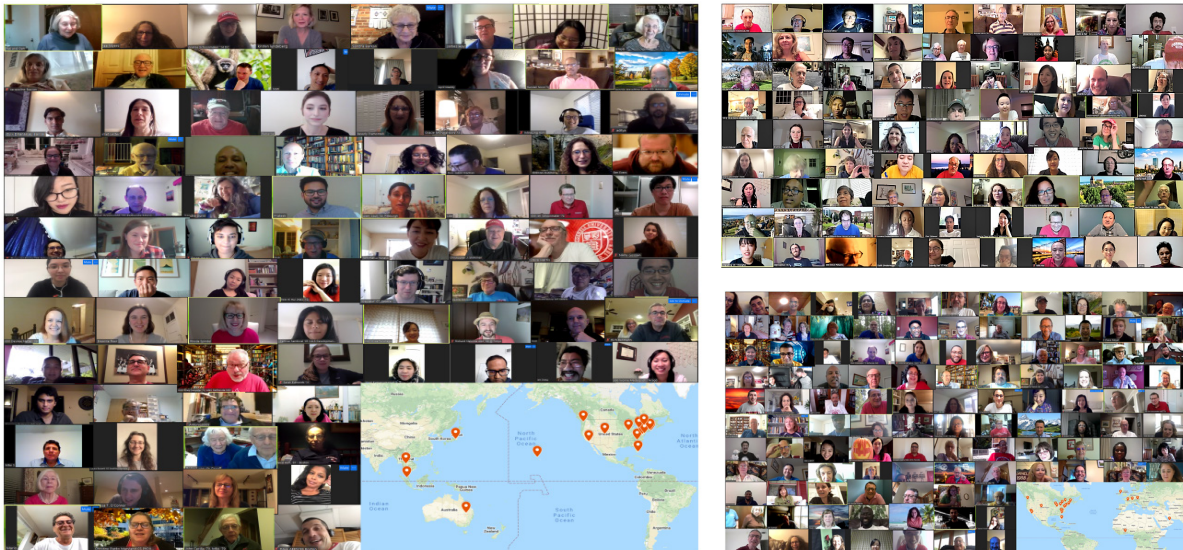
### Event Venues and Speakers Wanted

Do you have a meeting space that CCW could use for lectures or receptions?

Do you know a local Cornellian who would be a great speaker?

Contact Jim Schoonmaker at [programming@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:programming@cornellclubdc.org)

### Cornell Around the World



### CCW News

Do you know a local Cornellian who should be featured in a future newsletter?

Contact Claudia Benack at [newsletter@cornellclubdc.org](mailto:newsletter@cornellclubdc.org)