



Choose the Life You Want to Live

2024 Annual Report



Report from the Executive Director

This is my final report as EMVi's Executive Director, and as I think and write, my dominant thought and enduring emotion is one of gratitude: For you, for the friendships developed and developing, for the community being built and strengthening.

This year we witnessed a growth in numbers and activities. Our membership is inching up to the 100 mark.

But numbers don't tell the story of community. No, it's someone offering a ride to another who avoids driving in darkness or needs a ride to a doctor near or far; a telephone call or visit to a member who doesn't get out; generous donations to pay the rent of our office —and to enable us to search for a paid part-time director. It's an offer to take a walk, leisurely or briskly, with another; meals that are brought to a home when a member is sick, help with decluttering one's home. It's opening your home monthly for 3 hours of Euchre, conversation, and snacks. It's a monthly calendar of events and activities, as well as friendly updates and reminders from our administrative assistant. It's the work of our various committees, coordinators of services, and Board of Directors who keep us true to our mission. And it's the mutual support we offer one another in this difficult political time. It's community.

For all of this — and for all of you, thank you!

Athena



Activities

One of the ways that EMVi seeks to develop a community that prevents isolation is by organizing social events. Our Program Committee meets frequently to plan fun ways to get together and meet new friends. The events they plan are varied and try to appeal to the interests of our members. Two of the favorite events are the Women's Discussion Group which met 38 times this year under the direction of the incredibly skilled Kristin Chambers who thoughtfully prepared interesting and challenging topics for discussion, and the MBT (Male Bonding Time/More Brew Time) which met 42 times to share beer and stories. Other very popular events are the breakfasts which take place at different restaurants each month. Occasional lunches and dinners area also planned, and this year, six "Happy Hours" were held at different locations.

For members who like to challenge their minds, there are a variety of activities. Toni Fragle hosts Euchre games monthly and will teach you how to play and improve your skills. The Great Decisions Discussion group, which met eight times, read about U.S. and global policy decisions and learned about significant topics of current interest. Winter Reads, led by Darlene Goetzman, kept minds busy through the cold winter months

There were many seasonal events and trips organized by our Program Committee. The Mardi Gras dinner, St. Pat's dinner, Eclipse Watch, Spring Fling, Ice Cream Social, Chicken Barbeque, tour of the Field of Dreams, Fall Fest, EMVi Annual Meeting, Election Night Kibitz, visit to an Amish Store, Pitch a Book, and Films and Food provided fun, laughter, and camaraderie.

Members were also educated by attending a presentation on wills and another on Demystifying the Cloud. Additional presentations informed us about Chat GPT, We Do Peace, and Medicare. St. Bonaventure marketing students suggested ways to Market EMVi. The Department of the Aging gave us a talk on the services and help available through their office. Jean-Francois Godet-Calogeras introduced us to Assisi following his trip there.



For those who like outdoor activities, walks in the woods, hikes, snowshoeing, and bike rides were planned. It was a well-rounded year of activities and community.

Services

A member recently said that, to her, the point of having a village is to get to know new friends and then to be comfortable enough to be able to ask for help when it is needed. In 2024, members of EMVi rose to that challenge. Over 476 hours of assistance were given by members to other members by means of calls, transportation, developing activities and programs, providing a women's group, shopping and cooking meals for sick members, visits, tech help, house sitting, and pet sitting. And that's just what was recorded! Many more hours of assistance were extended just through friendship.

Underlying personal assistance is a network of members who provided an amazing 1,281 hours of volunteer service to support the organization and keep it running. This included our incredible volunteer Executive Director, Athena Godet-Calogeras, our Treasurer and financial guru, Jean Francois Godet-Calogeras, our Board of Directors, the Chairpersons and members of our Four Committees: Finance, Marketing, Membership, and Program, and our wonderful tech helpers who maintain our Web and Facebook pages, and videographers who made a video to guide our volunteers. These are the people who keep the Village running and help us communicate with our members and the community.

A wonderful addition to EMVi in April of 2024 was our first employee, Lizz Enzanna. Lizz serves as an assistant to the Executive Director and has been incredibly helpful in organizing our data and office, helping us with many tasks, and is well liked by our members.



Financial Report on the Revenue and Expenses 2024

Revenue	Actual	
Fundraising		
Member donations	1553.00	
General donations	2454.35	
Board donations	1290.00	
Business sponsors		
Restricted donations	4500.00	
Grants	10000.00	
Membership Fees	5056.00	
Total	24853.35	
Expenses		
Payroll		
Wages	8413.65	
Board liability	629.00	
Workers Comp	164.00	
Medicare		
Social Security		
Rent	2700.00	
Phone/Zoom	831.99	
Event rental	200.00	
Event Costs	210,88	
Fundraising Costs		
Chamber fee	85.50	
Mileage/meals	127.72	0
Stamps/paper/cartridges	315.47	
Brochures	685.69	
Web/Social Media	298.19	
Contract Services		
Misc.	365.00	
Total	15187.90	

EMVi has no debts or liabilities. EMVi had saved funds over the last three years to build capacity and was able to hire a part-time employee in 2024 and plan for a future paid executive director.

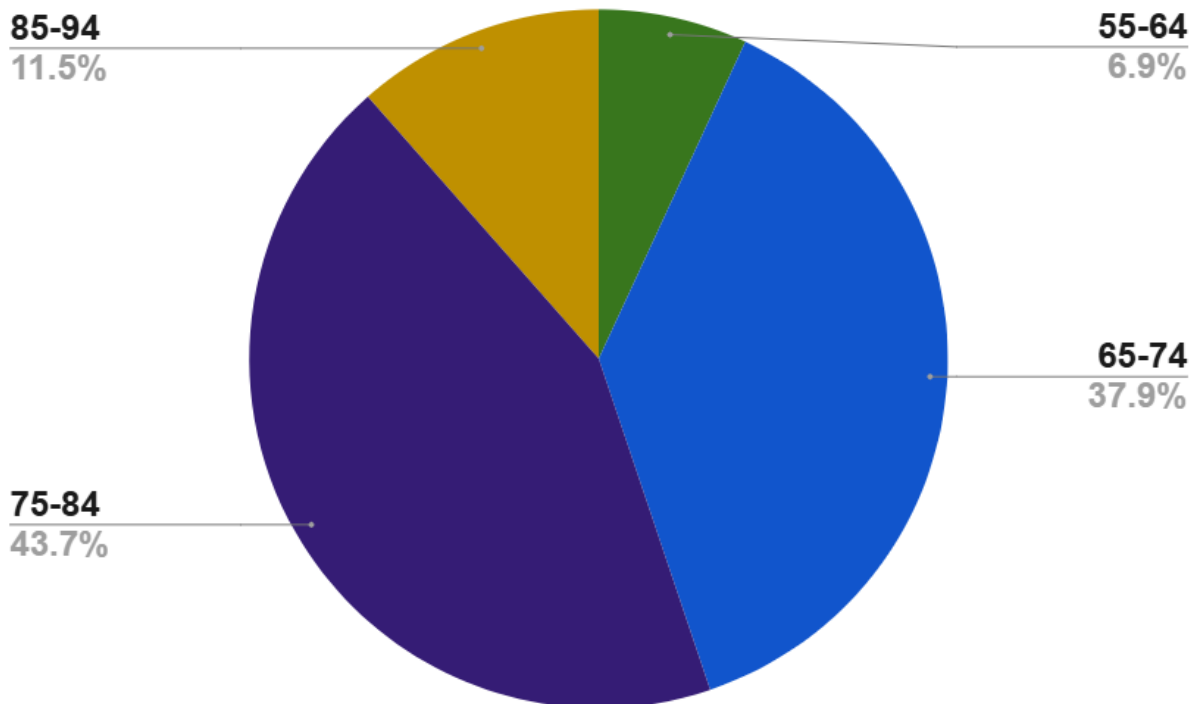
INKIND CONTRIBUTIONS: The numerous hours donated by the Volunteer Executive Director and members to of the organization would be worth \$25,620 if calculated at a rate of \$20.00.

Report from the Chairperson of the Board of Directors

EMV continued steady membership growth in 2024 while continuing as a valued resource for members. Social events including dinners, breakfasts, informative lectures and discussion groups, hikes and cross country skiing and of course, parties were combined with visits and helping hands to members in need. Regular groups such as Love in Action and the Monday discussion group proved very popular. In this sense the EMV mission became solidly established in a rhythm that met members' needs and became increasingly attractive to new members. Our founding executive director, Athena Godet-Calogeras, retired but remained on the Board of Directors. The Board intensified fundraising efforts to continue to support our activities. In November, a grant application was submitted to The Wilson Foundation in Buffalo with high hopes of success. We will receive notification in April if it is approved. Late in December, we were notified of an anonymous grant with an award of \$25,000. The combined impact of these two grants will be to contribute to the goal of EMVi to have operating funds to sustain activities and administration for several years.

Ed Miner

Members by Age Group



Board of Directors 2024

Chairperson	Ed Miner
Vice chairperson	Lance Chaffee
Secretary	Linda Matthews
Treasurer	Jean-François Godet-Calogeras

Additional Directors: Athena Godet-Calogeras, Mary Rich, Sue Ashby, Kristin Chambers

Our Members Say...

Through EMVi I have met many new friends. Friends with whom to go cross country skiing and snowshoeing, hiking, biking and kayaking. Friends that discuss topics on foreign policy and new technology, share their experiences living abroad or having family near and far, and tell of their diverse careers. Members have helped me move, rides to appointments, put together furniture, and share a dinner with good conversation!

Etta Walker

Since joining post-COVID, EMVi has been wonderful presence in my life; a “place” to give and receive, enjoy and share, make new friends and drink a few beers.

Mike Blumenthal

I love this organization!

Dorothy DeSha

I have met some wonderful people and love the women’s discussion group.

Toni Fragile

I found my tribe!

Kristin Chambers

Enchanted Mountains Village
301 North Union St. Suite 404a
Olean, NY, 14760

www.enchantedmountainsvillage.org
Phone: (585) 379-0062
Email: enchantedmountainsvillage@gmail.com
Find us on Facebook.

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