

# JANICE GIACALONE-STOFFERS & CHARLES STOFFERS



Charles Stoffers is a third generation Staten Islander who grew up in New Brighton, half a mile from the original Museum. He is a graduate of NYU and had a long career as a Wall Street executive. A past president of the Todt Hill Civic Association, Charles is an avid photographer, skilled photo restorer, Tae Kwon Do black belt, and ballroom dancer. He is also a master composer, gardener, and squirrel wrangler. Charlie remembers visiting the Staten Island Museum in the 1960s, when the big exhibit (especially for a 10-year-old), was dioramas of prehistoric men hunting a mammoth. He was also fond of the black light solar system, which had the added benefit of making shirts glow in the dark with neon colors that couldn't be seen elsewhere.

Janice Giacalone-Stoffers is a "Before the Bridge" Brooklyn transplant who graduated from Brooklyn College and has a background in sales and retail. She is a member of Soroptomist International of Staten Island and ballroom dancer. Janice helped found the ArtLab, opened The Blue Unicorn Art Gallery, and began a framing business, The Hall of Frames. Having always had a keen interest in art and decorating, Janice became ensconced in the Staten Island arts community. The simple

question of "How can I help?" resulted in Janice becoming the chair of the Museum's annual Fence Show. She later served as Vice President of the Section of Art for the Museum, helped run the annual Juried Art Show, and served as a board member for several years.

When Charlie met Janice, she was actively volunteering for organizations throughout Staten Island, and he gamely joined in. So, before they said "I do," they did – giving their time, creativity, and support wherever it was needed. For many years, Janice helped coordinate and provide the food and libations for "Pretty Tables," while Charlie served as bartender extraordinaire, remembering everyone's preferred drinks year to year.

In 2014, Janice and Charlie served on the event committee for the Museum's first Gala in several years – a preview of the new building on the grounds of Snug Harbor. Charlie had hand cut and arranged cherry blossom branches, creating breathtaking décor that kept guests' minds off their wet, cold feet! In 2015, Janice and Charlie were among the committee members tasked with cutting millions of tiny pieces of colorful paper, which, lo and behold, became beautiful birds (thank you, Gustavo!). Janice served as a Gala co-chair in 2016, helping plan an amazing evening in the newly opened Staten Island Museum at Snug Harbor. Always the enthusiastic cook and entertainer, in 2018 Janice and Charles hosted a fundraiser in their home, introducing new people to the Staten Island Museum. And so it continues – many wonderful years of being involved, so many great friends. The Museum is like a home away from home!

Charlie and Janice live on Todt Hill, have three wonderful children, six grandchildren (plus one honorary), and their faithful cat, Lucky George.