

The OBC Post



Issue 176

The Oak Brook Club

April 2010

Quick C.A.T. Update

By Jeff Kennedy

REZONING: The Oak Brook Plan Commission unanimously recommended the rezoning of the Oak Brook Club to R-5 (condominium) at its March 15th, 2010 meeting. Thanks to the 10 unit owners who came and backed me up!

Next stop is the Zoning Board of Appeals on April 6th. That should go smoothly, as all seven members are strongly in favor of us. After that, it will probably go the Village Board on April 27th, 2010 for final approval. That's where we'll need a good turnout from the Oak Brook Club in support.

Mark your calendars!

ROAD PROJECT: At the last meeting, the Board awarded the contract for the replacement/repaving of our streets and parking bays. The bids came in somewhat below our expectations. That project will also include replacing the brick pavers around the Gatehouse, and any needed repairs to curbs, gutters and sidewalks (including replacing broken or sunken concrete slabs at several walks leading to Clubs Four and Six).

This project will begin the first full week of April, and will probably take up to two months. It will be noisy, messy and inconvenient at times. But, when completed, our streets and parking areas will again reflect the top quality of the entire Oak Brook Club, and should serve us well for another 12 to 15 years. The cost of this project is fully covered by our current Reserve Fund balance.

The Board decided to defer replacement of the gravel walking path at this time. The bids received from two paving contractors were much higher than anticipated, and we believe we can do the project later and less expensively, using landscape companies.

POND PROJECT: The large ponds near the Gatehouse and Clubhouse will soon be restored, following the dredging project in 2008. New "bubbler" aeration systems will be installed at the bottoms of those ponds, aquatic plantings will be installed in the ponds, and both ponds will be restocked with several fish varieties. All these steps are as recommended by our aquatic consultants. The Grounds Committee is still considering the consultants' recommendation to install native grasses and plantings around the shorelines of the ponds, replacing the current rock.

Star Studded Evening

By Betsy Schumacher



On Friday, March 26th, 2010 at 6:00 p.m. we agreed to meet at the corner of 42nd and Broadway, dine and enjoy "The Best of Broadway," the Ultorian Women's Club wonderful March program.

After enjoying favorite specialty sandwiches and desserts from Schmalts' Deli of Naperville, we sat back to be entertained by songstress Jenny Riddle, who was accompanied by Jeff Pankou. Not only did Jenny portray Ethel Merman singing "I've Got Rhythm", she was Julie Andrews in My Fair Lady, and 12 or so other Broadway personalities. The program closed with "Make Someone Happy" and we all were!

Thanks to Kay and Bob Antonio for the signs and Flo Scully, Carol Wolin and all others who helped before and after the program.



OAK BROOK CLUB EVENTS

Comcast at the OBC

As many of you know, Comcast technicians are at the Oak Brook Club on Wednesdays. Please let the office know by Tuesday of that week if you would like to see a Comcast technician on Wednesday.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Every 2nd Tuesday @ 10:00 am -

April 13

Every 4th Friday @ 2:00 pm -

April 23

Bamboo Room



MAH JONGG

Fridays at 1:00pm

For information, call

Carol Neimark: 630.941.7271

Club Room

MOVIE NIGHT

2nd Thursday of every month

@ 6:30 pm

Thursday, April 8 @ 6:30 pm

in the Bamboo Room



Call Carol Neimark by April 7

at 630.941.7271 if you plan to attend.



BRIDGE

ALL MONDAYS @ 12:30 pm

Call Alice Harley - 630.279.1839

Bamboo Room

Recycle Medications?

The Oak Brook Village Hall accepts out-dated or no longer needed medications for recycling. When you go the Village Hall look for the "white mailbox" to deposit your old medicines!



Road Construction at the OBC

Preliminary work for the road construction project will begin on April 5. Please check the mail for a letter from the management office with more information on this project.

OBC Post Staff: Susan Collins, Al Ciciora, Eleanor Fralick, Betsy Schumacher and Juanita Swatos.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

WDCB Jazz Salon at Mayslake

Thursday, April 8 @ 7:30 pm

Lewis Brothers Quartet - have been call "one of the best kept secrets of Chicago."

DuPage Symphony Orchestra

Presents "Baroque Special" on

Sunday, April 18 @ 4:00 pm

at the Koten Chapel, 329 East School Street, in Naperville at North Central College campus.

For tickets, call 630.778.1003 or visit

www.dupagesymphony.org



Friends of the Oak Brook Library

Used Book Sale

Thursday, April 22 (Noon - 8pm)

Friday, April 23 (9:30 am - 4:30 pm)

Saturday, April 24 (9:30 am - 3 pm)

On Thursday, April 22, admission is free for Friends of the Oak Brook Library, \$5 for everyone else from Noon - 4pm. After 4:00 pm, admission is free to everyone. Come look at a great selection of used books!

Active Adults Geocaching

Thursday, April 29 - 10am-12pm

Come try this widely popular, high-tech game of treasure hunting at Mayslake Peabody Estates.

There will be a PowerPoint presentation on geocaching in the forest preserves followed by the opportunity to use a GPS device to discover hidden caches.

Apple Computer, iPhone, or iPod Users

The Dupage Apple User Group (www.daug.org) moved the meeting location to the Oak Brook Public Library for the next meeting on Saturday, April 10 at 10:00 am.

Regular monthly meetings are on the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 pm. Saturday morning meetings are held quarterly.

Do you need help or information with your Apple iPhone, iPod or Apple computer? Each meeting opens with an open forum, and knowledgeable members will help you with your problems. The DAUG club has been in existence for over 25 years. Visitors are welcome.

Traveling Adventures

To all those would-be coffee drinkers who think that the coffee gatherings are mostly the latest medical reports or “organ recitals,” t’aint so! Lively discussions on Village politics along with Oak Brook Club doings get top priority, so come join us and put your “two cents in.” Just this past week, Bob Antonio shared his and Kay’s adventure on what *would* have been a great South American trip. The next time you are trying to decide whether or not to get trip insurance, read this first...

Bob and Kay arrived in Santiago, Chile on the evening of February 26th, to spend a couple of days on their own in this lovely South American city before joining up with a Tauck Tour beginning on Sunday the 28th. Tired but happy, they went to bed looking forward to exploring Santiago. It was 3:30 in the morning when it happened – THE BIG QUAKE (8.8 on the scale). The loud noise, plaster falling, walls cracking, the bed shaking, lights out, and furniture falling lasted several minutes. They quickly dressed, made their way down six flights of stairs in the dark, and joined the other hotel guests outside and in the lobby to wait for daylight.

The hotel staff was very responsive with blankets, slippers, and robes for some guests who hadn’t dressed, and they quickly supplied coffee, water, and sandwiches for all. Later on it was apparent there were no elevators working and no phones to call out. Even the cell phones didn’t work. When the power was restored, people who had computers lent them to others to send messages home. Parts of the airport had caved in, so it was closed; the tour had been cancelled; the question became how to get home. The hotel (Ritz-Carlton) provided buffet tables laden with food for all three meals along with beer and wine, all gratis for the next two days, as restaurants and stores were closed. Getting in touch with friends and family still took some doing. On Wednesday after communications resumed, Tauck Tours sent a small private plane to fly the Antonios and two other couples to Buenos Aires, then Washington D.C., and then home. According to the Antonios, they’ll try again to see South America but not for a while!



Merle Burkema: A Woman of Many Talents

By Betsy Schumacher

One of Merle Burkema’s claims to fame is that she was the first resident in Club 5. That was in the fall of 1975, 34 years ago. Merle is a diminutive dynamo with lots of energy and lots of hobbies. Born in the small southern Illinois town of Forrest, she grew up on a farm and went to a one room school house. At the age of 17, she moved to Hyde Park. There she worked for a mortgage company, married, and became the mother of two daughters.

In 1971 Merle married H.J. Burkema, and they later moved to the Oak Brook Club. After H.J. died in 1986 a little black poodle named Lady came to live with Merle. To add to her hobbies of painting and dancing, Merle read an interesting article about clowning and decided to enroll and learn the techniques in order to become a part-time clown. Merle and Lady became a clowning team visiting nursing homes and children’s programs. For 11 years Merle and Lady performed for appreciative audiences all around the Chicagoland area before they retired in 2009.

Another one of Merle’s activities is being a member of the Loralies, a group of dancing grandmas all 65 years or older. To top off this list, not too long ago Merle appeared as an extra in “My Best Friend’s Wedding.” See if you can spot her in the crowd! Hats off to you, Merle – actress, dancer, artist, clown, and loving “mother” of Lady. You are a woman of many talents!

Pet Safety

by Richard Beckmann



For those of us who are dog owners, recent media reports of coyote sightings in the western suburbs surely have been a matter of concern. One of these reports covered a recent attack on a poor little Yorkshire Terrier in Wheaton who had to be put down due to the extensive injuries suffered.

As we all know, there have been coyote sightings here at the Oak Brook Club in the past. The question is, "What can we do as pet owners to protect Phideaux and Fifi from such an attack?" The answer is to use common sense when we are walking our little poochies.

First, we need to consider where Wylie Coyote is most likely to hide. The bulk of the sightings have been in the more heavily wooded areas within our property. As Phideaux and Fifi walk through these areas, we need to keep them on "a short leash." We all use leashes that are recoilable...they can stretch out to a length of about eight feet. As you are walking through the more heavily wooded areas, don't allow your pet to wander; keep your pet close to you and pay attention to their behavior. They will sense danger more quickly than you. If necessary, pick poochie up and move to a safe area closer to the center of the property. Wylie Coyote might be hungry, but he doesn't like people and he would rather flee than have a confrontation with a human. Many of us walk our dogs before bedtime...you know, for that one last pit stop! For safety's sake, confine these walks to well lit areas, such as the area around the pool. There are street lights aplenty and the hiding places for predators is limited.



For those of us who are pet owners, Fifi and Phideaux are members of the family. We should all work together to protect our four-legged loved ones.

The OBC Post

*The Oak Brook Club
Oak Brook Club Drive
Oak Brook, IL 60523*

Current Resident

Remember to visit www.oakbrookclub.com for happenings here!