

The OBC Post



Issue 174

The Oak Brook Club

February 2010

How Sweet It Is

By Susan Collins

Home was Linton, IN to Jeff Kennedy before he moved to Chicago in 1967, later becoming one of the original owners of Club Four in 1973. There he grew up with his siblings, a brother and sister, while mom stayed home and his father co-owned an auto parts store. Linton was a coal-mining town. Jeff's first 7 years of schooling were in a 2-room Catholic school where he was one of 47 students. In the early 50s, GE moved a manufacturing plant to Linton and the school's student population had boomed to 80 students by the time Jeff entered public high school. From high school, it was off to Indiana University-Bloomington, earning a degree in Government followed by a fully paid IU scholarship through 3 years of law school where he graduated top in his class and was editor of the law review.



Traveling north for his first visit to Chicago and a position as federal law clerk with Judge Hastings, Chief Judge of the 7th Circuit US Court of Appeals, Jeff admits to being overwhelmed as the small-town boy meeting the big city on his own. After driving around for 3 days, he finally found an apartment in Arlington Heights; it was a few years later that he moved to the Oak Brook Club. When his clerkship ended, Jeff began the practice of Federal antitrust law with Kirkland & Ellis, becoming a partner in 1972.

After 21 years of 70- and 80-hour work weeks, he retired from the full-time partnership in 1989. Loving the work dealing with mergers and acquisitions, price fixing, price discrimination, defending large corporate clients in anti-trust charges was fascinating but left little time for a social life. So after representing Monsanto in the Supreme Court of the US and winning his case, the ultimate having been reached for a lawyer, Jeff decided to cut back on work. For 9 more years he worked for Kirkland as "Of Counsel," meaning part-time, fully retiring in 1997.

The time to smell the roses had started. After serving on the Club Four board since 1991 (mostly as Treasurer), Jeff was appointed to the CAT Board in 1994, becoming president in 1995 when Gaines Hall, the then president, moved to Michigan. Because the Clubhouse redecorating had depleted the reserves, the focus of Jeff and the CAT Board from 1996-2001 was to build up the CAT reserve fund for future projects. Careful budgeting in those years allowed for our new street and site lighting system, lawn sprinkler system, new pool deck and the resurfacing of our roads this spring while still leaving us with some reserves.

Jeff's biggest time commitment though was serving as a Trustee on the Oak Brook village board where he loved the intellectual work and the problem solving but not the politics. While he's no longer serving the Village and regrets that, he fully enjoys contributing to the CAT and Club Four boards. On many a day you might spot him on his balcony or meet him on his daily walk, soaking in the beauty around us. He's got time now to enjoy his impressionistic artwork, classical music, the History channel and NFL football, follow the news and public affairs on the TV and more computer time for personal affairs. Though a quiet and private man, he also enjoys the camaraderie of social occasions, while paying particular attention to how sweet life can be and how wonderful it is to live here.

Grateful Appreciation

Lou Malevitis of Club Six (J-207) received a record 167 gifts from our Oak Brook Club neighbors for his 23rd annual Toys for Tots drive. In addition, Robert Antonio from Club Five was instrumental in having his friends at Prime Industries contribute to Lou's campaign. Astoundingly, they came forward with 232 more gifts. What a wonderful Christmas it was to make so many children happy. Let's look forward to a glorious New Year.

OAK BROOK CLUB EVENTS

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Every 2nd Tuesday @ 10:00 am - February 9
Every 4th Friday @ 2:00 pm - February 26
Bamboo Room



MAH JONGG

Fridays at 1:00pm
For information, call
Carol Neimark: 630.941.7271
Club Room

BRIDGE

ALL MONDAYS @ 12:30 pm
Call Alice Harley - 630.279.1839
Bamboo Room

UWC Upcoming Events

February 24 UWC Luncheon - Members Only!
"Get Ready for Spring" Ladies luncheon at 12:00
- 2:30 pm. \$18.00 per person. Please bring
one small wrapped White Elephant gift.

March 26 "The Best of Broadway" with Jenny
Riddle. Join us for a New York Deli dinner. \$25
per person. All guys and girls invited!

April 23 Wine Tasting
Everyone invited! Details to come.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Sharks in the Suburbs Exhibit
Starting February 2

Explore the science and myths of sharks
at the Lake View Nature Center
17W063 Hodges Rd, Oakbrook Terrace

Valentine's Dinner at Cantigny
Friday, February 12 @ 6:00pm

Enjoy a 7 course meal with champagne at the
Red Oak Room at Catigny Golf
27W270 Mack Rd, Wheaton
For ticket information, call (630)260-8194

DuPage Symphony: "Our Home, Our Earth"

Saturday, February 13 @ 8:00 pm
Wentz Concert Hall
171 East Chicago Ave., Naperville
www.dupagesymphony.org
(630)637-7469

McCormick Museum Concert at Cantigny

Sunday, February 21 @ 3:00 pm
Enjoy a FREE concert featuring music by
Elmhurst Symphony Orchestra's Music Director
and Concertmaster on the piano and violin.
Tickets will be distributed by lottery. To enter,
call (630)260-8162 by February 8.

Ryan Cohen Septet

to give a special performance
at the Mayslake WDCB Jazz Salon
Tuesday, February 23 @ 7:30 pm
For information: (630)206-9566

Pizza Bingo: A Night to Remember

By: Betsy Schumacher

Friday, January 22nd was a night to remember! 95 Oak Brook Club residents came together to enjoy Aurelio's pizza, salad, cookies and of course, BINGO! The night was a great success and many people deserve to be thanked.

Callers Jeff Kennedy, Norm Silverstein, and Jerry Wolin handled the games and prizes brilliantly. Kitchen police, Bonnie Sittner and Jeannine Nelson, officially directed the hungry crowd in and out of the Board Room, and many greeters helped with name tags and seating. Thank you to each and everyone!

My committee members deserve a big thank you as well. Lois Brooks, who beautifully and efficiently handled the reservations and payments, and Bonnie Sittner, our photographer and enthusiastic helper wherever needed!

Jeff and Judy Pizza - once again, the name tags were fantastic, creative, and fun! Carol Wolin and Jane Gagnon were my super back-ups and were always there when I needed them! And last but not least, to Bob Dimoff and his crew of 8 bartenders - a great job well done!

Thanks to all of you who came and enjoyed our event. I know that I did!

Fun and Games, the Social News for 2009

By Susan Collins

"If you never did you should. These things are fun and fun is good." So said Dr. Seuss. This past year new social groups were formed, there were celebratory get togethers, and our women's group, the UWC, did their usual outstanding job of being the social arm of our community. So what went on in 2009?

It seems like longer than 10 months ago when we celebrated the 20th and 10th anniversaries of our property manager and office manager, Mark and Carol. Over 160 residents participated in the cake and ice cream celebration in the Club Room, lining up to sign the cards, view the caricatures and say thank you.

In September, there was also a special coffee in grateful appreciation of our veterans, over 60 of them, for their time in the service. Many wives brought coffee cakes, Pat D'Alessandro emceed, and the offices of the service branches contributed gifts. The vets were truly appreciative.

Two new social groups were formed thanks to the efforts of Carol Neimark, one of the newer residents here. Carol taught mah jongg to a dozen or more interested ladies and organized the players into groups, with Janet Mills chairing this club now. Six or 7 non-snowbirds now meet weekly while their 13 or 14 compatriots are away for the winter. Being aware of the DVD player in the Bamboo Room that had been gifted to the Club in prior years, Carol started Movie Night in 2008. Movies are shown monthly on a Thursday with the title announced earlier in the week on Channels 19 or 93 and notices put in each building. Carol tries to get newly released movies but welcomes your suggestions. Bring your own refreshments.

The recently formed men's Friday Night Poker is on hiatus until after Easter due to the snowbirds, according to organizer Arnie Clark, himself a snowbird. Arnie reports this congenial group of 6 or 7 men meet in the Clubhouse Break Room, enjoying the game and each other, win or lose. No blood shed yet.

There has also been a couple of last minute Game Nights in the Bamboo Room with team against team, cake and coffee for dessert. Others will be offered throughout the current year.

Last but hardly least is the UWC, our women's club. Unless you've been involved, it's hard to believe how much work goes into their events, but it's why the staging and production are so professional and the events so enjoyable. In 2009 they hosted 4 events for both men and women (3 dinners with entertainment and an ice cream social) and 4 events for women only (book review, box lunch, membership tea and fashion show). Their work is not only our gain socially, but yearly they contribute to our overall benefit, using profits to purchase items the OBC needs. Last year, they were a new and improved bingo set, more racks for the refrigerator and ovens, and a mah jongg set for the new social club. Membership in the UWC, which started in 1975, has climbed to about 125 women in recent years – a compliment to their efforts.

A weekly bridge group has functioned for many years under the aegis of the UWC. Chaired by Alice Harley, there are usually 2 or 3 tables of bridge players in the Bamboo Room on Mondays. Alice says any men that would enjoy a round of bridge with the ladies are more than welcome. Call her at 279-1839.

Join us in the fun; there are lots of opportunities. "If you never did you should."

Bamboo Room Heaters

Baseboard heaters are now installed in the Bamboo Room.



Pool Deck Project – Completed

The Oak Brook Club’s new pool deck is complete with the exception of approximately 75 feet of rope, which needs to be installed between the interior balusters. The project got off to a rocky start, literally, when the contractor, Zera Construction, started hitting large boulders while drilling for the new concrete piers. But once the piers were poured, the project could not have gone more smoothly. Despite frigid weather and snow, the contractor continued to work to finish the project.

The entire deck was constructed under the watchful eye of Raths, Raths and Johnson, the structural engineering firm that prepared the specifications for the new pool deck. Each phase of the construction process for the new deck was carefully monitored until the entire check list was completed:

- ✓ (38) 10 foot reinforced concrete piers
- ✓ (4) 2 x 10” treated lumber girders bolted together for structural support
- ✓ 2 x 8” treated lumber joists
- ✓ Trex Decking and Railings per specifications
- ✗ 80° and sunshine to enjoy the deck – Uh...Not Yet!

Some residents were concerned that the deck would not be completed in time for the 2010 swimming season. Rest assured, it will not be the pool deck that will slow you down from enjoying the opening on Memorial Day weekend. Now Mother Nature...we’re counting on you!

Looking to purchase one parking space in Club West. Please contact 630-782-9073.

Completely Remodeled Penthouse! **Unit P4S** has a new kitchen, stainless steel appliances, & designer stone flooring. All new fixtures & carpeting and freshly painted! Any interest, please call Dr. Kavinsky at (773)771-0926.

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

Current Resident

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