

The OBC Post



Issue 167

The Oak Brook Club

July 2009

Carol and Bob Nelson, "Originals" of Club Five

By Eleanor Fralick



Carol and Bob Nelson have been a part of life at the Oak Brook Club since its early years. They bought their beautiful, spacious unit in Club Five in 1976, had some changes made and moved in the following year with their son, then an Elmhurst York High School senior. A daughter was already away from home.

The Nelsons met when they were both students at Northwestern University – he in economics and she in music. Following graduation, Bob's first job was in the Northwestern Alumni Office and from there he moved on to other college administrative positions and began a long career in Development for some fifty private colleges and universities. He was sent to France for a year at the time of the Korean War as a part of the Office of the Allied Land Forces of Central Europe under General Eisenhower's command. Carol accompanied him and they lived in a small pension in Fontainebleau. She studied voice and piano at the American School of Fine Arts located in Napoleon and Josephine's Chateau de Fontainebleau where Bob's office was also located. The 2400 room Chateau housed very diverse activities!

Upon their return from France, Bob resumed his work with schools and was the first ever Vice President of Development at 3 different colleges – Iowa Wesleyan in Mt. Pleasant, University of Kansas City, and Illinois Institute of Technology in Chicago. As they moved to the locales of these various positions, Carol continued her music career – often as a faculty member, teaching and performing.

Bob's achievements in his field led to increasing calls for his services as a consultant which finally resulted in his forming his own consulting company that he directed for 30 years until his retirement. During their fourteen year stay in a home in Elmhurst and into their Oak Brook Club residency, Carol carried on a busy life of private teaching, teaching at Elmhurst College for 18 years and at Christ Church Conservatory for 5 years. She also performed concerts at Cantigny and other venues. She was affiliated with numerous national, state and local music groups including the Women's Association of the Chicago Symphony. These many activities and Bob's constant travel led to their interest in a different housing arrangement. Hence their move to The Oak Brook Club.

When the Nelsons became residents of the new Building Five, there were just three other units occupied. Finishing touches such as carpet in the halls were yet to be completed. Among those early residents was a lawyer, Justice Shepro, who with Bob, was an original Club Five Board Member. They got wind of the fact that Oak Brook Terrace was interested in annexing the unincorporated area occupied by the Oak Brook Club. Mr. Shepro quickly took action, and they were instrumental in getting Oak Brook to do the annexing so that we became part of Oak Brook, not Oak Brook Terrace.

Bob has been retired for about 12 years. He has wonderful life stories of interesting people and fascinating places to which his career led him. He and Carol have travelled extensively. One of their "passions" has been the magnificent collection of Steuben Glass that they accumulated over the years and displayed beautifully in their home and then, a few years ago, donated to the Corning Museum of Glass in Corning, New York. Carol continues her activity in music groups, plays tennis twice a week, and paints in water color. These talented folks are fun to know!

Electric meters are located on each wing of each floor.

If you need access for some reason, call the Management office for assistance.

OAK BROOK CLUB EVENTS

MOVIE NIGHT

1st Wednesday of the month @ 6:30 pm - July 1
Bamboo Room
Please call Bev Lenell by Tuesday, June 30 at 630.279.7123 if you plan to attend.

BRIDGE

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

MAH JONGG

Fridays in July @ 1:00pm in the Bamboo Room
Call Carol Neimark 630.941.7271

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Every 2nd Tuesday @ 10:00 am - July 14
Every 4th Friday @ 2:00 pm - July 24
Bamboo Room



WATER AEROBICS

Monday, Wed., Friday @ 10:00 - 11:00 am
\$3.00 per session
Call Barbara Latini at 630.833.5425

UWC Upcoming Events

July 24 Ice Cream Social

Featuring ice cream (including sugar free) and Black cows (home-made root beer) made by The Brown Cow of Forest Park, including toppings, cones, goody bags, a candy identification quiz, and cookies. \$12 per person. *For Members Only.*

August 26 Afternoon Tea

Tea will be at 2:00 pm and costs \$12 per person.

September 26 Pendleton Fashion Show & Luncheon

Look for more information to come!

COMMUNITY EVENTS

TASTE OF OAK BROOK & FIREWORKS

Friday July 3 @ 4:00 pm
The Polo Field, Oak Brook. Parking is \$5.

MUSIC IN THE PARK

Thursdays through August 30 @ 7:00 pm
Central Park Gazebo in Oak Brook
If inclement weather, @ the Family Recreation Center Gym. Call 630-990-4223 after 6 pm.

FIRST FOLIO THEATRE - MACBETH

July 8 - August 9 (Wednesdays - Sundays only)
8:15 pm at Mayslake Peabody Estate.
To order box suppers - call 630-418-7722 or visit www.firstfolio.org

DUPAGE OPERA THEATRE AT THE MAC at COD

July 18 & 24 @ 8:00 pm;
July 19 @ 7:00 pm; July 26 @ 3:00 pm
Showing L'Elisir d'Amore. Call 630-942-4000.

LIFELINE SCREENING Q & A

at the Oak Brook Library
Tuesday, July 28 from 9am - 4pm
Go to lifelinescreening.com for more information.

SMOKEY ROBINSON

in Concert at the Morton Arboretum
Saturday, July 25 @ 7:00 pm
For tickets and information, visit www.mortonarb.org or call 630-968-0074.

COMING IN THE FALL

AARP Safe Driving classes in the Fall at the Clubhouse. Details to come later.

Clubhouse/Technology Committee Updates

By Susan Collins

Leila Gass, Chair of the Clubhouse Committee, reports that given the CAT's go-ahead, the committee is proceeding with its work to put together a plan for the renovation of the Bamboo Room in the clubhouse. The Clubhouse Committee met on May 28th, deciding to contact outside suppliers for proposals and estimates that may work for this project. These proposals will be evaluated at the July meeting. This plan will be presented to the CAT at some later time; they will make the final decision on its worthiness.

The Technology Committee Chair, Greg Pizza, reports the committee recommended we continue with our Comcast contract under the following conditions, all of which have been met: Residents should not call the 800# when seeking service, but should call the Technical Operations technicians listed on our TV station (19 and 93); Comcast has developed a team of technicians knowledgeable about the OBC cable system and equipment and only they will work on our property; a complete inspection of the cable plant was conducted; the clubhouse Comcast equipment was properly installed in a cabinet, accessible to Comcast technicians only; and finally, a representative from Comcast was available for questions and answers and to explain our service options and associated costs at the June 16th CAT meeting. Since that meeting demonstrated the confusion among types of cable deliveries, there will be a future meeting after written questions have been answered. Also, the Technology Committee is awaiting additional information about technologies for improving message notification and providing automatic gate entry at the gatehouse.

Welcome New Oak Brook Club Residents

By Eleanor Fralick

Sal and Connie Liotta came to Club 6 in November, 2008. They needed to downsize their living arrangement and came here from Timber Trails. Both are busy in their business, a retail liquor store, and with their nearby family members including a brand new (as of June 16) grandson. The Liottas are happy to be in J101 where Sal can easily indulge his love of cooking.

Doris Zeier left her home in Brook Forest to come to D107 in Club 3 in January of this year. She expresses delight in the many Oak Brook Club amenities including having the newspaper at her door every morning instead of having to search for it in the bushes as she frequently did before. Doris has joined the bridge players and enjoys the overall friendliness here as well as the nearness of two sons.

Tom and Virginia Paulick, who moved from Hinsdale the end of March, had diligently searched the surrounding areas – Hinsdale, Elmhurst, and more – before finding just what they wanted at the Oak Brook Club in Building 5, P-7-N. They are enthusiastic about the friendliness at all of the club events. Tom likes the exercise room, and he has found another eager Notre Dame football fan here!

Ron and Mary Virginia Nelson created a well worn path from their Elmhurst home to E305 in Club 3 in a year of extensive remodeling and renovating before moving here in May. Ron, a retired Building Construction Project Manager for Western Electric and Bell Telephone, did a great deal of the work himself – a labor of love! He enjoys such projects!

Lourdes Christopher lives in Club 6, moving here the end of May from Palos Heights. Not even here a month, she loves her views and the security. Widowed just over a year and with 3 adult children in Detroit, Cincinnati, and outside Washington, D.C., she's enjoying the residents she meets here as well as her long-time friends in Hinsdale.

Raymond and Josephine Barone will be coming from a home in Darien and are hoping to be able to move into Club 4, F106, by August. Their move is dependent upon the completion of extensive renovation. Raymond is retired and enjoys walking and "playing AT golf" (his description) and Josephine has been active in real estate.

Linda Nichols is most eager to move into Club 3, E204 but has not yet been able to sell her home in Oak Lawn. She has retired from thirty five years of elementary school teaching in Palos Heights. She comes here frequently and attends OBC functions. Linda loves her condo, the friendliness of the residents and looks forward to joining water aerobics.

The Oak Brook Club Crew

By Betsy Schumacher


What would we at the Oak Brook Club do without our Maintenance and Janitorial Staff? Incredibly, only two men make up the maintenance staff, René Martínez and Felipe Nunez who have been here for 20 years and 5 years, respectively. Also, unbelievably, there are only 3 janitors: Lupe Martínez (Clubs 5 & 6), who's been here 29 years, Salvador De León (Clubs 3 & 4) who started in 1996, and Gerónimo Correa (Club West) starting in 2007. The only female member of the staff, Jadwiga Herod, has been here over 20 years. A major reason for the longevity of the crew is the longevity of our management, which brings job security both in knowing the job and keeping the job if performance is good. There are other men who would like to work here for that reason.

Each day starts early for René and Felipe checking all garages for hot water leaks, mechanical problems, and correcting emergency repairs of the physical plant. As the day progresses, they attend to anything and everything that is needed.



Our janitors, Lupe, Salvador, and Gerónimo work Monday through Friday and alternate Saturdays. Their responsibilities are maintenance of the lobbies, hallways, mailrooms, elevators, service and garage stairwells, washrooms, storage locker rooms, boiler rooms, garages, sidewalks leading up to the buildings and any other assigned projects. Enough? In addition, checking lights and garage chutes daily are also their responsibility.

Jadwiga Herod, who lives in the Clubhouse apartment above the exercise room, cleans the kitchen, exercise room, break room, Bamboo Room, management office nightly, showers and 5 bathrooms, and anything else that requires neatening up in the Clubhouse.

 Last but not least our seasonal employee, José Merced, is responsible for painting the wrought iron and deck fencing around the grounds. He also helps maintenance with any other project that needs assistance.

Thank you gentlemen and lady for keeping our buildings and home so immaculate. That, with your smiles are so much appreciated! Also of interest, we have contracts with: landscapers, HVAC for hallways and lobbies, security, office copier, pool start-up and maintenance, lifeguard, carpet cleaning twice/year before holidays, window washers, occasional paint contractors and pest control (May –Oct. every Thursday; Nov.-Apr. every 2 mos.), irrigation (watering system), phones, computer techs, and definitely not at the bottom of the list, garbage pickup. Vendors take care of the uniforms and the garage doors.

Mad Hatters All

Club 6 was in the "hotter than Hades" zany zone the evening of June 24th fluating hats of every shape, size and description at a black and white themed event. Grilled hamburgers, hotdogs, chicken burgers were served with side dishes and desserts that were baked by Elaine Herman that were as delicious as they were beautiful. Winners for best hats for 1st, 2nd and 3rd prizes were Susan Collins (the hole Alice fell down), John Easter (a hobo) and Imelda Harrison (fireworks celebration). Tireless hosts were Burt Herman (the Mad Hatter), Chub Thompson (the Dormouse) and Jean Madigan (the Red Queen). For a few very special hours, Club 6 was in Wonderland.



Susan Collins



John Easter



Imelda Harrison



The hosts - the Mad Hatter, the Dormouse, the Red Queen.

The OBC Post

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

Resident



HAPPY FOURTH OF JULY!

