

# For Members Only



Issue 165

The Oak Brook Club

May 2009

## ELECTION THANK YOU AND PERSPECTIVE

By Jeff Kennedy

I'd like to publicly thank all my OBClub friends and neighbors who supported me in the Trustee campaign: those who circulated my petitions, raised funds, gave contributions, talked me up outside the OBClub, and voted for my running mates and me.

Special thanks go to our representatives on the O.B. Caucus who spent many hours assessing the candidates and making endorsements (Ed Main, Norm Silverstein, Phyllis Heckman, Audley Weidman, and Ron Rossi). Also to Rita Holmes and her team who stuffed and stamped mailings. And, last but certainly not least, Carol and Jerry Wolin, their wonderful committee and our volunteer bartenders who planned and executed the great Election Night Party at the Clubhouse!

As I said at the beginning of the Party, I didn't know whether it would turn out to be a celebration or a wake. It turned out to be a wake, as my running mates and I were defeated. I finished fifth among the seven candidates. The "good guys" didn't win.

The early assessment is that my colleagues and I lost because 1) several hundred of our supporters were over-confident and did not bother to vote, and 2) a vicious smear campaign was conducted by some of our opponents and their supporters. It is unfortunate that many uninformed voters bought into these anonymous lies.

I am very concerned for the future of our wonderful Village. Already, there are troubling reports of what this new administration plans to do. We at the OBClub must be very vigilant! PLEASE closely follow the actions of the new administration and be very skeptical of possible personal agendas and self-aggrandizement. And PLEASE support Trustees Jerry Wolin, Jim Carson and Moin Saiyed.

As for me, I always worked hard to do the right thing for the people of Oak Brook. I have no regrets. The old adage stands: Whether they vote or not, "people get the government they deserve."

## A SPECIAL TRIBUTE

By Carol Neimark and Betsy Schumacher

The Ultorian Women's Club has been fortunate the past six years to have very dedicated women serve on the board. Carol Wolin served as Vice President for two years and President for the past four years. Carol has guided the board with humor and a sense of excitement. Kay Antonio has served as guardian of the treasury for the past six years with gentle reminders and advice to be certain that we continue to be fiscally responsible.

During this time of Carol's leadership, funds were used to provide enjoyable and interesting programs. There were times when the Treasury was a bit flush. As a result, excess monies were spent to improve life at the Oak Brook Club for all of us. To enhance our grounds, the UWC purchased a new pond aerator, new planters for the pool deck, and benches along the path for all to enjoy. We have been able to use our kitchen more efficiently with two dishwashers, a serving cart, and two banquet-sized coffee pots. We have enjoyed browsing and selecting books from our elegant bookshelves in our library. In addition, the DVD player makes Movie Night possible. Instruction on the equipment in the exercise room has also been provided by the UWC.

Carol and Kay have both enjoyed making wonderful friendships while serving the UWC. There were many people who have helped make the UWC a successful organization. As Carol and Kay step down, they would like to thank Mark Burke and Carol Neuzil for all their support as well as the UWC Board.

What does the future hold for Carol and Kay? Carol is looking forward to continuing her study of Spanish and developing new hobbies. Without the UWC records, Kay will have an empty cupboard to fill and time to spend becoming proficient in French. Thank You, Carol and Kay, for your friendship, leadership and dedication for making the UWC such a vibrant part of our lives.

**OAK BROOK CLUB EVENTS****MOVIE NIGHT***Wednesday, May 6 @ 6:30 pm*

Clubhouse Lower Level

Please call Bev Lenell by **Tuesday, May 5** at 630.279.7123 if you plan to attend.

**BRIDGE***ALL MONDAYS @ 12:30 pm*

For information, call Alice Harley - 630.279.1839

**MAH JONGG***Thursday, May 7 @ 10:00 AM*

Beginners welcome. Please call Carol Neimark for information at 630.941.7271

**COFFEE & CONVERSATION***Tuesday, May 12 at 10:00 am**Friday, May 29 at 2:00 pm*

Clubhouse Lower Level

**OAK BROOK CLUB POOL OPENS***Monday, May 25 (Memorial Day)*

Have you pulled out your pool pass for the summer? Be sure to stop by the office to get a 2009 sticker to renew your pool pass for the upcoming season. If you have lost your pass or it is badly worn, we can make a new pass for you as well.

**The Ultorian Women's Club****Wednesday, May 20 Box Lunch Picnic**

Enjoy a picnic lunch catered by The Chafing Dish. Join us from 12:00 - 2:00 pm in the Clubhouse Upper Level. Cost is \$12 a person.

**June - No Meeting****Friday, July 24 Ice Cream Social**

Featuring Black Cows!

**OBC Artist Exhibits His Work**

One of our own residents will be exhibiting some of his work at the Elmhurst Artists Guild Gallery at the Elmhurst Art Museum **May 10 - June 19**. Tony Tesauro in Club 4 has an eye for aesthetics, using acrylics to create wonderful and exciting surrealistic, contemporary and whimsical paintings. His work has been shown at several other local galleries. The art museum is on Cottage Hill Avenue near the Elmhurst Library or call the Elmhurst Art Museum for directions at 630.834.0202. Admission is free on Tuesdays.

**COMMUNITY EVENTS****ART IN THE PARK***Saturday, May 2 & Sunday, May 3**10:00 am - 5:00 pm*

Wilder Park in Elmhurst

**BALLET HISPANICO***Saturday, May 2 @ 8:00 PM*

McAninch Arts Center at College of Dupage

Adults: \$44 Seniors: \$42

For more information, call 630.942.3905

**THE MET: LIVE!****"ROSSINI'S LA CENERENTOLA"***Saturday, May 9 @ 11:30 AM (LIVE)**Wednesday, May 20 @ 7:30 PM (ENCORE)*

Show is 3 hours with 1 intermission

at the AMC Theatre in Lombard.

For more information, visit [fathomevents.com](http://fathomevents.com).

**ELMHURST SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA,  
CHORAL UNION & COLLEGE CHOIR***Saturday, May 16 @ 7:00 PM*

Hammerschmidt Memorial Chapel

For more information, call

Elmhurst College at 630.941.0202

**"THE FOREIGNER"***May 28 - June 7*

Western Springs Theatre, 4384 Hampton Ave.

Come see a live theatre comedy! For more

information, [www.theatrewesternsprings.com](http://www.theatrewesternsprings.com)**FOREIGN FILM***Wednesday, May 27 @ 2:00 PM*

Oak Brook Library

Movie Title TBA: watch [www.oak-brook.lib.il.us](http://www.oak-brook.lib.il.us)

for more information.

**SPRING EVERGREEN CONCERT****"The Other 3 Tenors"**

The Spring Evergreen Concert will be held on **Sunday, May 3 at 3:00 pm** at the Friends of the Oak Brook Public Library Meeting Room. The concert will feature the very popular group, "The Other 3 Tenors." Performers Warren Moulton, Franco Martorana, and Simon Kyung Lee are well known for their great voices and also their sense of humor. They promise our guests a repertoire ranging from operatic arias and musical theater to folksongs, ballads and Neopolitan love songs. There will be a free CD drawing, and refreshments will be served at the close of the program.

Admission is FREE to the public and no reservations are required. Plan to attend this exciting concert!

### What Happened on the Insides in 2008?

By Susan Collins

Knowing what's happening on our grounds is mostly a matter of keeping your eyes and ears open, asking questions, coming to meetings. However, what goes on inside our Clubs isn't usually open to universal awareness. Let's do a little catch up for everyone.

We know about the fireplaces in all Clubs being checked for asbestos and having them cleaned and logs replaced if necessary. That turned out to not be as disruptive a job as originally advertised.

The new roofs however for Club West and Club 6 were a different story. Traffic patterns for everyone were disrupted, the odor of tar was frequently prevalent, and roads were a mess. Besides eventually getting rid of all roof leaks, the positive part was watching huge buckets full of gravel and large new HVAC units hoisted high by elongated cranes, swinging up and over to rooftops and being dropped gently down to a targeted area. Club West's job took 4 months and Club 6 took 3 months.

Clubs 3, 4, 5 and 6 painted their garage walls, columns and doors, lobby foyer curtain walls and ceilings, and the interior and exterior service doors and windows. All Clubs held a holiday party as well.

Now for more specifics for each Club:

**Club West** replaced 3 patios, one service stairwell stoop, three 37-year old generators, and 6 hallway HVAC units for higher energy efficient units. They also reinstated their recycling program.

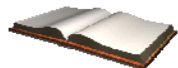
**Club Three** repaired wall covering seams in the common area hallways and lobbies, replaced the carpet in the garage lobby and elevator, and is in the process of repairing and repainting the curb areas around the garage.

**Club Four** replaced hot water heaters and hot water storage tanks; the old system was 36 years old. They also purchased, renovated, and sold a unit in their building, benefiting financially.

**Club Five** improved their elevators' lighting, replaced garage lobby and elevator carpets, purchased new luggage carts, and had the scavenger contract renegotiated for 2008.

**Club 6** amended their Declaration so that the balcony/patio doors and windows are now the responsibility of the owners, to be repaired and/or replaced as they prefer or as required by the specifications drafted. Five owners have taken advantage of the new policy. Balcony railings were inspected and 6 were corrected. The first ever summer picnic was held inside, with outside plans scrapped last minute due to rain.

Condo life is so easy compared to taking care of an individual home. Here the maintenance, face-lifts and upgrades are constant, but we have talented managers with professional and friendly staff to help us get it all done – and done well.



### Breakfast with Barbara


By Betsy Schumacher

A great big thank you to Bridget Dowling, Eleanor Fralick, Betty Rooney, and Pat Schmidt for the delicious breakfast *and* Barbara Rinella, whose presentation of "First Ladies" was fascinating and fun. Eleven tables were set with peach and green clad table cloths and books (appropriate to the program!), topped with a yellow rose. Perfect! The tasty breakfast consisted of quiche from Panera, pastries, fruit salad, bagels, cream cheese and beverages.

Adapted from novels "First Ladies" and "Hidden Power," Barbara portrayed the interesting dynamics of various first ladies from Martha Washington, a perfect lady and social hostess, to current first lady, Michelle Obama, and many in between. Dolly Madison loved clothes and often wore a pink turban with ostrich feathers on top, and to her credit, she saved the famous Gilbert Stuart portrait of George Washington, which we all know and love. "Frankie" Cleveland became the 1<sup>st</sup> White House bride at the age of 21. Eleanor Roosevelt was the first female activist and considered by Franklin to be "his eyes, ears, and feet." Jackie Kennedy was known for her pill box hats and completely decorated the White House. Lady Bird Johnson was the most well rounded first lady, in Barbara's estimate, and Nancy Reagan was known for her adoring gaze. These are just a few of the many first ladies Rinella featured.

We always look forward to Barbara Rinella's book reviews, the list of her favorite books, and especially the novelty of a breakfast program on such a lovely April morning!

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**Price Increase in Stamps** 

On Monday, May 11 first class stamps will go from 42 cents to 44 cents. Forever stamps are available until then for 42 cents. For clarification, the Forever stamp costs whatever the going rate is at the time you buy it.

**Computer Books**

There have been some inquiries about where to find the computer books mentioned in Al Ciciora's article "Computers Are Easy." These books can be found at MicroCenter on Ogden and at Best Buy.

**Reduce Your Impact**

Save gas by taking off slowly from stop lights and stop signs. By doing so, you will reduce the amount of gasoline that you would have used in a fast take off.

Buy CFL & LED bulbs. However, please recycle CFLs after they burn out at the Regional HHW in Naperville, Ace Hardware and Home Depot.

**Our Fallen Soldiers**

Memorial Day falls on May 25<sup>th</sup> this year. The day first established 3 years after the end of the Civil War to honor those who died in our nation's service has become a day with little or no significance for too many. Let us remember. How many here have had sons or fathers or brothers die in a war? Show them you honor them. Put out a flag on Memorial Day.

John McCrae wrote the haunting poem "In Flanders Field" in 1915 to honor the 368 Americans buried there trying to liberate Belgium during World War I. The last few lines below say in a much more profound way – *Do Not Forget*.

"Take up our quarrel with the foe:  
To you from failing hands we throw  
The torch; be yours to hold it high.  
If ye break faith with us who die  
We shall not sleep, though poppies grow  
In Flanders Fields."



**FOR MEMBERS ONLY**

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