

# The OBC Post



Issue 171

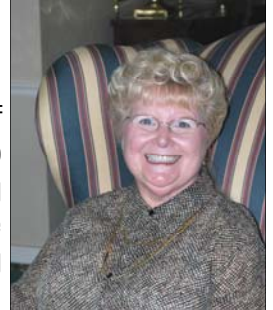
The Oak Brook Club

November 2009

## The Mystique Behind the Sparkle

by Susan Collins

Behind the sparkling blue eyes and laugh of this cherubic woman are all kinds of medical technological information and an unusual microscopic slide that led her into being an entrepreneur. Judy McCormack, another one of our original residents along with her husband Bob, started a small company with 3 co-workers sometime in the late 70s and built it into an international company. She retired about 4 years ago, reaping her rewards when the company was sold to a Japanese company in 2008.



Judy and Bob, who died in 2006, moved into a completely bare Club 5 in 1977. Concrete floors, no kitchen, no paint, bare doors and bare woodwork. There was, however, a functional bathroom covered in plastic. So Judy and Bob for weeks slept in two sleeping bags in the walk-in closet, ate breakfast out, went to work, ate dinner out. Youth has its advantages. Bob worked in a Sears lab testing Sears' products, a private Consumer Reports so-to-speak, while Judy was working at Mt. Sinai, then Lutheran General Hospital where she worked in the Immunoviology Lab and taught virology and immunology at the Med Tech School. She has a B.S. and medical technology degrees and is licensed in the American Society of Clinical Pathology and Immunology registries.

As Judy traveled to other labs giving workshops on the use of fluorescent microscopes using her hospital's microscope slides of antinuclear antibodies (12 to a slide for easy comparisons), it was obvious there was a market for this product. So "Judy & Co." formed their own company and began producing slides and selling them. Sometimes the sweetest things in life are the smallest.

After Sears moved Bob's office to a NW suburb, he and Judy decided he'd retire and she'd continue working. Bob worked as a handyman at the Westchester Bible Church, where Judy has volunteered for the past 3 or 4 years teaching math and science daily to the 30 students grades 1- 12 enrolled in the low-tuition private school. Judy loves it; her students must love having a teacher that laughs all the time.

Asked about what in her home would tell me something about her, Judy answered quickly, "My player piano" because "it plays much better than I can." It's one of the first electric player pianos made. After being renovated a few decades ago, Judy and her school/church kids have enjoyed many an evening singing along with the piano music after choosing one of the 100 rolls of music in the shelving cabinet beside the piano. Two bits she's laughing afterwards.

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## 2009 Grounds Committee Wrap-up

by Ron Rossi, Committee Chair

This past spring the Grounds Committee identified 42 projects requiring attention in 2009. Of these projects, 35 were completed with the remainder carried over into 2010. Planting projects for the year have been completed.



Most notable were the projects involving the planting of wildflowers on the berm behind Club 3 and the redesigning of the area adjacent to the gazebo behind Club 5. Going into 2010, high priority projects will include replacement of the recently removed trees from behind Clubs 3 and 4, and the addition of new aeration systems, aquatic plants and new fish species in ponds one and two.

With the arrival of fall, it is a great time to walk the path and enjoy the beauty of the changing colors within the Oak Brook Club.

OAK BROOK CLUB EVENTS

MOVIE NIGHT

Wednesday, November 4 - Bamboo Room  
Call Bev Lenell by November 3  
at 630.279.7123 if you plan to attend.

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Every 2nd Tuesday @ 10:00 am - November 10  
Every 4th Friday @ 2:00 pm - November 27  
Bamboo Room



MAH JONGG

Thursdays @ 7:00pm, Fridays at 1:00pm  
For information, call Janet Mills: 630.530.7457  
Interested in learning Mah Jongg?  
Call Carol Neimark: 630.941.7271

BRIDGE

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

MEN'S POKER NIGHT

Every Friday @ 7:30 pm  
Clubhouse employee Break Room  
Call Arnie Clark with questions 630.530.5661

UWC Upcoming Events

No events in November and December

January 22 A popular favorite - Pizza Bingo!  
Lots of food - lots of prizes. Details to come.

AARP Driver Safety Program

Eighteen of our residents participated in an 8 hour, two day driver safety course sponsored by the Oak Brook Club on October 1st and 2nd. It was interesting and informative learning about the latest thinking on driver strategies. For more information about attending the course, go to AARPDriverSafety.org. The course is being given again in November in Elmhurst, LaGrange, and Downers Grove at locations given on the website. You may also take this course online at AARPDriverSafety.org. The cost is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for nonmembers.

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Daylight Savings Time Ends

Benjamin Franklin said "Lost time is never found." Daylight savings time ends  
Sunday, November 1.  
Set your clocks back 1 hour.

Jim Cailloreto's Jazz String Quartet  
with Patricia Barber

WDCB Jazz Salon at Mayslake  
Thursday, November 12 @ 7:30 pm  
For reservations, call 630.206.9566

"The Nutcracker" by Midwest Ballet Theatre

November 14-15 & 21-22 @ 1:30 pm  
At the Tivoli Theatre, 5021 Highland Ave in  
Downers Grove. For information, call  
630.971.9751

Painting Lecture

Monday, November 16 @ 7:00 pm  
Art historian Michelle Paluch-Mishur comes to the Oak Brook Library to lecture on The Art Institute of Chicago's exhibit of Caravaggio's Supper at Emmaus, a 1601 masterpiece on loan from the National Gallery of London until January 30, 2010.

Christmas at the Mill

Preview night: November 20 @ 6:30 - 9:00 pm  
November 21-22 @ 10 am - 4 pm  
At Graue Mill and Museum, 3800 S. York Rd, Oak Brook. For information, www.grauemill.org

Fall Festival

November 21 @ 12 pm - 4 pm  
At the Lake View Nature Center, 17 W 063  
Hodges Road, Oakbrook Terrace. For  
information, call 630.941.8747

HOLIDAY LIGHTS

Holiday lights will go up at the Oak Brook Club the Wednesday before Thanksgiving!



**Annual Meetings and Elections:**

- Club West – Monday, Nov. 9
- Club Three – Thursday, Nov. 12
- Club Four – Wednesday, Nov. 11
- Club Five – Monday, Nov. 2
- CAT – Monday, Nov. 16
- Club Six’s annual meeting was in October.

**Governing by Representation**

*Excerpted from the Community Association Institute*

Community associations are a representative form of government founded on the principle of elected individuals representing the people. Much of our country is based on the principles of representative democracy. It starts with organizations like community associations and progresses through our schools boards, city governments, county governments, state governments – all the way to the federal government. We vote for a person, or persons, who will act on our behalf.

Some might advocate that a board should not take action without a vote of the members to find out what the people want. That would be counter-productive. If association members were to vote on every issue before a decision was made, there would be no need for a board, but simply someone to send out ballots and tally results. However, boards find out what their constituents want in other ways. Many make time to hear from residents at each board meeting. But, it’s up to you to attend meetings, voice your opinions and participate in the exchange of ideas with the board. We also encourage your involvement and participation. Perhaps you would consider joining a committee. We want your input, ideas, thoughts and opinions.

When the season for community association annual meetings and annual board elections approaches, consider carefully which candidates you select – including yourself. Consider running for the board to help shape the future of your community.

**Are You Ready for Winter?**

If October is any indication, this winter is going to be less than pleasant. To be blunt, down right frigid! While we have no control over Mother Nature, we do have control over how we protect ourselves from a harsh winter. This is the time to inspect our homes to be sure we are prepared.



Need further incentive? Remember last year’s heating bills! So with that in mind, a few helpful tips:

- Be sure that the fireplace damper is in the fully closed position. An open damper, even a crack, is a source of heat loss and cold draft. (No different than leaving a window open.)
- DO NOT RUN THE FIREPLACE TO HEAT YOUR UNIT. Fireplaces are energy losers. We cannot emphasize this enough. The fireplace uses your heated air from the unit for combustion, and most of the heat from the combustion rushes up the chimney. In return, cold air from the outside comes down the chimney to compensate for the warm air which has been lost. Not a good tradeoff.
- Check sliding glass doors to be sure that they are closed and locked. If you can feel a draft around the door, you may need to seal the edges with a strippable caulk. This will allow you to close any small opening from air infiltration this winter and remove the caulk (remember you want strippable caulk) to reopen the door in the spring.
- Make sure windows are tightly closed and draft free as well. Again strippable caulk can be used if the window is tightly sealed and you still feel a draft around the edge.
- Check heat vents to be sure they are fully open to ensure unrestricted air flow.
- Be sure the furnace filter is clean and the humidifier is working properly to ensure maximum air flow. Humidified air will make the room feel warmer and more comfortable.
- Install a set back thermostat to reduce energy consumption during periods when the home is unoccupied or you are asleep.

These are just a few ideas to keep your energy bills down and home warm for the winter. Are you ready?



**61st Annual Toys for Tots**

Lou Malevitis of Club Six (J-207) is donating his time and energy helping the United States Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Foundation collect and distribute toys to needy children. This will be the Foundation's 61st year to hold this event and Lou's 23<sup>rd</sup> year of helping them. The campaign starts in November and lasts until December 16th, giving you plenty of time to donate. Let's try to break last year's donations of 129 gifts and match the 154 gifts given in 2006. You can help make miracles happen for these needy children at Christmastime. Call Lou at 630-833-7910 for pick-up of your *new, unwrapped* toy. You will receive a letter of receipt from him.

Thanks for sharing. Together we can make a difference!

**Parking Space for Rent**

Parking space for rent in Club Five.  
If interested, please call 630.782.6643.

**Far Away Places with Strange Sounding Names...**

*By Richard Beckmann*

Is the wanderlust still there? Thinking about going overseas next summer? As you watch all the travel shows on PBS and the Travel Channel, you sure get some interesting ideas on places to go outside the U.S.

One drawback to all these shows? Nobody mentions the need for a U.S. passport. As a retired veteran of 37 years with Passport Services, I can't tell you all the horror stories from people who forgot this vital need. My purpose in writing this piece is a reminder NOT to forget. The common theme during all those years at Passport was "apply early." By early, I mean **now**. Granted, you aren't leaving for months, but passport processing time averages six weeks. After the holidays, however, volume builds and that six week average quickly expands.

What to do? Your best source of **current** passport information is to go to the Consular Affairs website, [travel.state.gov](http://travel.state.gov). Here, you will find a wealth of useful information that will answer any questions you might have. You can download applications and find out where to apply (the Oak Brook Post Office and Oak Brook Village Hall). Once you've applied for your passport, you can go online at the same website to check the status of your application, and more. Give it a try and remember, **apply early!**

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

Current Resident