

# The OBC Post



Issue 170

The Oak Brook Club

October 2009

## TWO IMPORTANT TOPICS

By Jeff Kennedy

I'd like to report on a couple of major items.

**Pool Deck Replacement:** As you know, over a year ago it was discovered that our wood pool deck is gradually separating from the concrete deck, as the piers on the east side of the wood deck are sinking into the pond. This is damaging the structural integrity and safety of the wood deck. For example, one of the four anchors for the bridge from Clubs Five and Six to the pool has become detached, and the bridge had to be closed.

For the better part of a year, Mark and the C.A.T. Board have been working with our structural engineering firm, Raths, Raths & Johnson, as well as several contractors, to devise a solution. Various short-term and permanent options were thoroughly explored. The initial bids for complete replacement of the deck were shockingly high, ranging from \$389,000 to \$564,000.

We then asked the engineers to review the specifications, in order to bring the costs within reason. Based on revised specs, we asked the two low bidders to sharpen their pencils and rebid the project. As a result, we have accepted a bid from Zera Construction Co. for total replacement of the deck (including 38 new concrete piers ten-feet deep) at a cost of \$296,000.

Zera is in the process of obtaining necessary Village permits for the project. Shortly, the pond will be drained, and construction will begin. Obviously, we want the pool deck rebuilt and the pool ready to open on schedule next Spring.

Getting the pool deck rebuilt this Fall will clear the way for the much-needed street resurfacing project next Spring. As part of that project, the C.A.T. Board will consider replacing and reconfiguring the steel fire escape on the east side of the Clubhouse and extending the current sidewalk from the lower level Clubhouse east door to the new pool deck. That will create another "access-friendly" approach to the pool, from Clubs West, Three and Four.

**2010 Budgets:** The C.A.T. and all five Buildings are in the midst of developing their budgets for 2010. I'm pleased to report that the proposed budgets for all six of them show a **ZERO** percent increase – no increases for 2010! The C.A.T. Board and each Building's board will have to decide on the final budget for 2010, but Club Four and several other building boards have already recommended the 0% increase.

While I can't speak for all board members or Buildings, I know that Mark and many of us board members want to hold the line for 2010. We realize that economic conditions are tough, and that we have many unit owners and estates with their units listed in a very tough real estate market.

The budgets that I've seen are very, very tight, on both operating expenses and reserve contributions. We've benefited from some nice decreases in insurance premiums, falling energy rates, low inflation, and vendor agreements to forego rate increases. Next year's budgeting is very conservative, with little margin for surprises. But I think we can live within it.

This likely respite from assessment increases will probably be short-lived. As seen with the pool deck project, construction costs are rising despite low general inflation. If we are to maintain the high quality of The Oak Brook Club, we must continue to build the Reserve Funds to maintain and improve our capital assets as they require replacement.

**Project:** Pool Deck Renovation

**Scope:**

- \*Demolition of the current wood deck, bridge, and concrete piers.
- \*Repair washout area under concrete deck.
- \*Install riprap protection to prevent future washout.
- \*Installation of 38 new concrete piers, 10' depth.
- \*All structural members to be pressure treated lumber.
- \*New deck, bridge, and railings to be Trex composite wood products.

**Length of Project:**

Approximately 2 months (weather dependent)

OAK BROOK CLUB EVENTS

AARP Driver Safety Program

Thursday, October 1st & Friday, October 2nd
8:00 am - 12:00 pm in the Clubhouse

MOVIE NIGHT

Wednesday, October 7 - Bamboo Room
Call Bev Lenell by October 6
at 630.279.7123 if you plan to attend.

CLUB SIX ANNUAL MEETING

Thursday, October 15 @ 6:30 pm

COFFEE & CONVERSATION

Every 2nd Tuesday @ 10:00 am - October 13
Every 4th Friday @ 2:00 pm - October 23
Bamboo Room



MAH JONGG

Thursdays @ 7:00pm, Fridays at 1:00pm
Interested in learning Mah Jongg?
Call Carol Neimark: 630.941.7271

BRIDGE

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

UWC Upcoming Events

October 23 Dinner & Magic Dave!
See what Flo Scully and Dave have up their
sleeves at this fun Oktoberfest program.

No events in November and December

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

In the Swim of Things

by Mary Lou Farrow

Weather allowing this crazy summer, the water
aerobics gang exercised and enjoyed each other
three times a week while an Elmhurst "Y"
instructor urged us on. Our indomitable
organizer, Barb Latini, helped channel our inner
Esther Williams. Arms up, out, over; legs up,
out, over. Sometimes 6 ladies attended;
occasionally 16 or more. No men in sight
though they were welcome. A pot luck lunch at
the end of the season reminded us why the
summer work out was good for us in so many
ways. See you next summer!

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

COMMUNITY EVENTS

"Moonlight and Magnolias"

Now Showing through October 11
A comedy set in 1939 chronicles a fictionalized 5
day work session as the actors rewrite the screen-
play for "Gone with the Wind." At the McAninch
Arts Center at the College of DuPage
www.atthemac.org

Mayslake WDCB Jazz Salon

Featuring the Alison Ruble Quintet
Thursday, October 8
www.mayslakepeabody.com

Elmhurst Art Museum

Contemporary works from the Cleve Carney
Collection on October 4 - January 3, 2010
www.elmhurstartmuseum.org

"Sense and Sensibility"

at the Theatre of Western Springs
October 22 - November 1
www.theatreofwesternsprings.com

Fall Evergreen Concert

By Juanita Swatos

The Fall Evergreen Concert will be held on
Sunday, October 25th, at 3:00 pm at the
Friends of the Oak Brook Public Library Meeting
Room. The concert will feature Reginald R.
Robinson, the noted pianist/composer of semi-
classical, ragtime, Latin American, jazz and
blues music. He received a fellowship grant
from the John D. & Catherine J. MacArthur
Foundation for his innovation in ragtime music.
He recorded three CD's for the Delmark Record
label and released his fourth album, Man Out of
Time, in 2006. In 2007, he performed with
Orbert Davis in Chicago Jazz Philharmonic
Orchestra's historical performance of Concerto
for a Genius. 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 needed. Please plan to
attend this exciting concert.

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\* THANK YOU! \*
\* The Mah Jongg group would like to give a big \*
\* thank you to the UWC for providing them \*
\* with a new Mah Jongg set! \*
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## Celebrating Our Veterans

by Susan Collins

Beginning with rousing renditions of God Bless America and America the Beautiful and ending with a group picture on the steps of the Clubhouse, the coffee honoring our veterans was enjoyed and appreciated by the 50 of 65 veterans who responded to the survey of 3 months ago. Of those, 22 served during the years 1942-1947, thirty-three from 1949-1960 and eleven from 1960-1975, with two not listing the years served. Then there was Frank Tiano who pretended to be the only Civil War vet. Some men served abroad, some didn't, but all gave up part of their youth in military service.

The OBC has one woman veteran, Jeanette Flaningam, who served as a Navy WAVE during WWII. Unable to attend the coffee because of other plans, she told me WAVE stood for Women Accepted for Volunteer Emergency Service. On posters asking for women to join the WAVES was a line that read "free up the men to go to war."

Pat D'Alessandro emceed and played the accordion while Arnie Clark led the singing. Ruth Clark, Edith Gaumont, Jo D'Alessandro, Sandy Campbell, and Ethel Keane greeted our men with thanks as they entered the Clubhouse. Coffee cakes brought by Elaine Herman, Genevieve Cruciotti, Carol Spencer, Vivian Olson, Grace Ouellette, Marie Beckman, Susan Collins and Carol Neuzil and her mother, Florence Dickerson, were offered as their thanks.

Vets, until another get-together, why not come to one of the monthly coffees on Tuesday or Friday and continue the conversation. It was special to see and hear from so many of you.

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## Together Everyone Accomplishes More (TEAM)

by Lucille Raimonde

This was the motto of the Army at one time and many other organized groups. That is my main motto for our library because in order to keep chaos out of it, many hands are needed. That is how the library became somewhat organized. If you have noticed lately the hard covers (on the West side) are placed in alphabetical order by AUTHOR. The paperbacks (on the East side) are also in alphabetical order by AUTHOR. If you wish to follow that suggestion when you return a book, please feel free to do so. But you can also put them in the box behind the bar on the top shelf over the Reference books. Yes, we have reference books, cook books, health books, self-help books, history books, etc. behind the bar on the shelves. These are not arranged in any order as yet. Our "Team" will give away any duplicates that we find to a good cause.

There are also some CDs, DVDs, Videos, books on tape at the end of the paperbacks, as well as decks of cards and children's books. If you have any donations please just put them in the box or beside the box and we will take care of them for you. Magazines are welcome also. We try to keep them current but if they are dated, we will keep them for a month or so.

Thanks for your help and generosity. Books are our friends and we try to treat them as such.

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## Pendleton Fashion Show

By Betsy Schumacher

1909 – What a wonderful year it was with the new Lincoln head pennies, chocolate candy kisses, and the founding of the Pendleton Shop! And now, 100 years later in 2009, 84 of us celebrated Pendleton's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday at our UWC fall luncheon and fashion show.

The tables were stunningly decorated with clay pots bursting with rustic fall flowers, colorful leaves, candy boxes, favors, and Pendleton bags full of surprises. How delightful! As harpist Ida Gannon provided background music, we enjoyed a delicious luncheon from "my chef" caterers in Naperville.

Door prizes and gift certificates from the Gratto, Pendleton, and Kona Grill completed the business portion of the event, after which Laurie Pawlicki took over to present the fashion show. Our models - Sandy Boggess, Nancy Brown, Cathy Dahlstrand, Barbara Latini, Pat Schmidt, and Flo Scully, strolled through the group and beautifully displayed their outfits.

Sandy Boggess was a one-woman show in coming up with the ideas and all the "running" for this program, except for the food. Marlene Albiani did her usual outstanding job in handling that. Thank you both for all you do for us. The afternoon was a great success.

**Seasonal Reminders**

If you are leaving for the winter months, consider the following suggestions:

- ✓ Use your security alarm system, but *do not* turn off your phone service. It is necessary to have a working land line phone to allow the security panel to communicate with the gatehouse.
- ✓ Complete the "Stop/Start Perishables" card so that the gatehouse does not accept any perishables while you are away.
- ✓ Open the cabinet doors under any sink on an exterior wall to protect the water lines from freezing during extremely cold temperatures.
- ✓ Leave your thermostat set to at least 60 degrees.
- ✓ Shut off the water to your washing machine.
- ✓ Cancel newspaper delivery to your unit.
- ✓ Be sure to leave an extra key to your unit with the management office, gatehouse, or a neighbor that will be at the Oak Brook Club during the winter months.

And whether you stay or leave for the winter, don't forget about the following:

- ✓ Balcony loose-lying carpeting rules – If you live on 2<sup>nd</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, or 4<sup>th</sup> floor, please be sure you remove balcony carpeting by the end of September. Club West must remove balcony carpet by October 31<sup>st</sup>.
- ✓ If patio furniture is covered, the Association requires the use of a neutral colored (white, beige, or taupe) of uniform dark color (black, navy, dark gray) covering ONLY.

PLANTS LOOKING FOR A NEW HOME. The Clubhouse Committee would like to remove 4 sad looking plants in the Bamboo Room.

Bob Cooney, Club 2, celebrated his marriage to Janet recently with a party in The Club Room for family and a few friends on September 12. Congratulations, best wishes, and loads of fun to you both.

The OBC Post

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

Current Resident