

THE ACORN

SHERWOOD OAKS NEWSLETTER

April 2015 “For the residents, by the residents” Vol. XVI No. 4

“Welcome, Sweet Springtime...”



Joe Asin

APRIL 1 - REMEMBER BEING FOOLED OR FOOLISH?

APRIL SCHOOL'S DAY

When teaching 4th grade in Union, NJ, I began to look forward to April Fool's Day one particular year.

The afternoon of the day arrived and I told my class I was giving them an easy but long test. They needed only a pencil, a ruler, two sheets of blank paper and the test instructions. The children were told at least three times to be sure to read everything on the instruction sheet before beginning. The test was numbered from 1 to 100 and the class would have an hour to finish. Number one said: "Put your name on the paper."

My children were told to start and I watched everyone carefully. A few minutes later, a young man in the back of the room looked up at me with his mouth open and gradually a BIG smile came to his face. I quickly gave him the quiet sign; then the two of us watched, as the rest of the class struggled to do all 99 things which it said on the instruction sheet.

Maybe about 45 minutes into it, the children got to number 100 and the laughter began. You see, number 100 said: "Only do number 1!"

Linda Blum

NOTE:

*"SILLY AND FOOLISH ALL DAY LONG.
BOOM, BOOM!
AIN'T IT GREAT TO BE CRAZY?"*

A NEAT JOKE

My daughter, Edie, underwent an appendectomy when she was ten years old. On her first day home from the hospital I was sitting at the dining room table, opening mail. I looked up when I heard Edie enter the room, moaning. Her panties were down to her knees, she was clutching her right side and a lot of red was coming out between her fingers. Oh, my God, her stitches broke and she's bleeding. I was panicked until I saw the "Gotcha" grin on her face and knew it wasn't blood at all, but ketchup.

Fran Borrebach

A Glimpse into The Past

Part 2 of the series

Sherwood Oaks Newspaper
February 4, 1979

Sherwood Oaks townhouses are arranged in "strings" of mixed sizes of units. The strings face in different directions. If you care about the location and the orientation of your choice of unit, you should place your name on the Priority List now.

Within two miles of the campus are: two churches, 2 motels, 5 restaurants, 2 bus lines, 1 library, 1 shopping center, 2 banks, Cranberry Park and many service stations.

(Note: Those of us who lived in this area at that time recall there being only 4 stop signs at the intersection of Freedom Road and Route 19!)

scd

ANN HITCHAK

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Interviewed by Harriet Burress



When one converses with Anne Hitchak, her love of nursing is immediately apparent. Ann retired from her position as Vice-President, Patient services at Heritage Valley Sewickley, formally Sewickley Valley Hospital, seven years ago. Her current inactive status marks 56 years as an RN. Dedicated to advancing exceptional patient/family care and professional nursing as a career, Anne advocated responsible, recognized and respected performance. In collaboration with nursing staff and to that end, RN's adopted an identity standard of plain white and/or plain hunter green attire to differentiate them and other hospital personnel who wore other colors. RN's could continue to choose the type of uniform (scrubs, slacks, etc.) while at the same time consistently maintaining their identification to patients, physicians, families, other employees and visitors. With this significant change, traditional nursing values continued on an accelerated journey into nursing's future. "It is a privilege to have walked in these shoes".

Ann began her career in a three-year program at Presbyterian Hospital School. Presby students boarded at the Medical Center's

Nurses Residence with University of Pittsburgh nursing students who were in a five-year baccalaureate degree program. They were taught by Pitt clinical nurse educators in Pitt classrooms. Tuition for the entire Presby program was \$1,000. It was a different day.

"After I married, and began having a family, my mother encouraged me to go back to school for my BSN. I am grateful she did." Anne worked as a school nurse at Langley Junior/Senior High School to accommodate her night classes at the University of Pittsburgh. It took five years for her to complete her degree. "A year later I returned to Pitt five more years of graduate study." During that time, 1976 to 1981, Anne worked at Magee Women's Hospital as a clinical coordinator.

"Nursing has been very good to me. Widowed 28 years ago, I had security in meaningful work. I had a growing family, supportive friends, faith and comfort in the future." Anne and her husband, Michael, had five sons; four are living. Ten grandchildren are ages 8 to 25. "I knew my boys would marry and have families of their own. I wanted to be the best mom-in-law I could be. Today my daughters-in-law are my daughters." A beautiful family picture sits atop a lovely trestle table in her living room.

Anne lived in Brighton Heights for 55 years and is a member of Allegheny Center Alliance Church on the North Side. "I didn't want to leave our home, but the aging process and three flights of stairs dictated otherwise. When I made the decision to come to Sherwood Oaks, my concerned sons breathed a collective sigh of relief." Hospice and Palliative Nurses Association is high on Anne's list of volunteer work, but right now, she is concentrating on transitioning into her new home. She looks forward to new friends, experiences, and activities at Sherwood Oaks. Please welcome Anne.

WHAT'S NEW WITH SORA?

Reports and actions at the March SORA Board include:

A Moment of Silence was observed in remembrance of Bob Anguish, a member of the Board, who died recently.

Welcome was extended to new Board member, Bob Fletcher.

Treasurers' Reports

The Memorial/Special Projects Fund posted a balance of \$63,175 after the expenditure of \$17,819 for two projects in Skilled Nursing. Operating Treasurer Ray Friedel distributed and explained a page of Operating Procedures and a Reimbursement Statement form, which must be completed and signed by the chairperson of the committee/activity, with receipts attached.

Liaison Reports

Health Affairs: The committee recommended an evaluation of the need and cost effectiveness of an Adult Day Care program for memory-impaired residents to provide respite for their caretakers. Mark Bondi said that Administration is in the process of such an evaluation, including the method of funding.

Movies: June Withers has retired as selector and procurer of movies; Peter Broeren will seek someone to fill that position. The Board expressed its appreciation to June for her years of dedication and service.

Focus on the World made valentines for our 42 dining room servers, with a piece of chocolate in each. A program on domestic violence is planned for April 16. The quarterly Food Bank collection will be held the week of April 12 - 18.

Sherwood Gifts will stay open until 2:00 PM on Sundays on a trial basis. Granny's Attic

furniture will be relocated from Unit #180 to #156. Carol Caum will accept appointments to show furniture, which, if purchased, will be held for seven days. The purchaser is responsible to arrange for pick-up. Sherwood Oaks Maintenance can be hired to move furniture from #156 to a resident's unit. NOTE: Related procedures will be posted inside Sherwood Gifts and on the SORA bulletin board with the March minutes.

The Farm Garden Activity met to assign raised beds and ground space to gardeners for the coming season. All raised beds are now assigned, as well as most of the ground space. A compost station is being installed by the grounds crew and instructions for its use are being developed.

Trips and Tours has plans for these overnight trips: April 15-17 – Philadelphia to tour Longwood Gardens; June 4-6 – Niagara on the Lake for three plays; August 18-19 – Lancaster, Allenbury Resort, to see "Joseph" and "South Pacific."

Management Report: Mark Bondi reported that Sherwood Oaks has had a strong winter with marketing and occupancy. 94% of our homes and apartments either occupied or sold. We are currently developing the fiscal year 2016 capital and operating budgets. Resident's input is welcome.

New Business

Peter Broeren distributed an up-dated list of SORA Committee and Activity members, chairpersons and liaisons. The list is posted on the SORA bulletin board. Jane Lavender was appointed chair of the Nominating Committee and Loretta Lippert and three at-large members will serve on the committee to nominate SORA Officers and Directors for the 2015-16 year.

Betty Eichler

SHERWOOD GIFTS

The merchandise at Sherwood Gifts is constantly changing and being updated. Recently, when Sherwood Gifts had artificial flowers on display as decorative items, many residents asked if they were for sale. They were not, but as a result, we are happy to report that very attractive flowers are now available in the Shop at a nominal price. You may save a trip by buying your flowers there. Granny's Attic items are always changing, since the items for sale are donated by residents or estates of former residents. Small items are on display in Sherwood Gifts and larger items may be viewed in photo albums. Appointments may be made to see the items, displayed in Unit 156. The prices are very attractive since there is little cost to the Shop to acquire them.

Effective immediately, Sherwood Gifts will once again establish charge accounts (formally known as "Due Bills") for residents and employees. As before, with the old "Due Bill" system, the cashiers will fill out a sales slip for customer purchases. Customers will be billed at the end of each month. After receipt of the monthly statement, customers may pay by cash or check at Sherwood Gifts or by placing your check in the Sherwood Gifts box in the mail room. Please bring or include your statement when you are ready to pay, so that the cashier can ring the sale up properly on the cash register. It is the only record we have of the sales tax collected. The cash register records are used to submit the sales tax receipts to the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue.

As most of you know, postage stamps with the Sherwood Oaks logo have been available in Sherwood Gifts for some time. Stamps with a Christmas theme replacing the Sherwood Oaks logo have also been available during the holidays. In addition, by special order, we will be able to supply stamps with other themes, such as seasonal or other holiday illustrations. We will require two weeks' notice to process these special orders. As before, postage for large envelopes and packages up to 25 pounds may be handled at Sherwood Gifts. Sherwood Gifts hours are:

Monday-Friday	11:30 AM-1:30 PM 6:00 PM-7:30 PM
Saturday	11:30 AM-1:30 PM
Sunday	1:00 PM-2:00 PM

Come in, browse and get to know some of your neighbors. Volunteers are needed to act as cashiers and to help in other ways.

Contact Juanita Manley at # 8243 if you can help.

Ken Mundell

ARE YOU REGISTERED TO VOTE?

If you are a new resident of Butler County, you will need to register in order to vote in the primary elections in May. Registration forms are at the reception desk. Pick one up the next time you are in the Center and return it to the address on the form. Be a concerned citizen!

Agnes Peebles
for Civic Affairs Committee

15 MINUTES (OR MORE LIKELY 15 SECONDS) OF FAME

I was intrigued by the sign in the mail room requesting Sherwood Oaks residents to sign up to become extras in a movie filming in Pittsburgh in the following weeks. I decided to learn more about the project. I had my picture taken and filled out a short biographical form. Two days later I received an email asking me to be at a certain address in Bridgeville the following Monday morning at 6:00 AM and bring along 3 sets of clothing with a Christmas holiday theme if possible.

So on an extremely cold Monday morning in February I drove to Bridgeville expecting to find a movie set, but it was a lonely movie theater parking lot where I along with 15 other “extras” were met by a luxury bus. We were taken to the Bridgeville Fire Hall which was acting as a “base camp”.

There we learned more about the movie which is tentatively entitled “Let It Snow”. The film is about an exasperated extended family as they gather for their annual holiday celebration. The stars of the movie are Diane Keaton, John Goodman, Amanda Seyfried, Alan Arkin, Marisa Tomei and June Squibb, among others. We were told that we would be acting as residents at a senior citizen residence (not unlike Sherwood Oaks).

A movie wardrobe person then came to each of us to check out our “costume”. The sweater I wore was appropriate enough that I did not have to change. We were provided with a hot breakfast (only after the cast had gone through the buffet

line). We filled out appropriate paperwork so we would be paid at the minimum wage of \$7.25 per hour (or \$58 plus time and one half over 8 hours).

While there I met another Sherwood Oaks resident, Don MacLeod who had also signed up as an extra. We chatted and waited, and waited some more until we were taken by bus to Broadmore Senior Living at Lakemont, the set for the day. There we were introduced to the director Jessie Nelson, an assistant director, an assistant to the assistant director and about sixty other crew members including wardrobe, makeup, prop, camera, sound, lighting and grip persons. It was a beehive of activity all day (and into the evening). Three Hollywood stars, Jon Goodman, Diane Keaton and June Squibb were on the set that day. Three scenes were filmed there including John and Diane singing Christmas carols over and over and over again. There must have been twenty takes filmed from at least three different angles. On that scene I was in the far distant background playing a game of Scrabble with the back of my head facing the camera.

About 1:30 we were taken back to the firehall for lunch. Then more waiting until we were taken back to the set. More waiting, and talking with other extras, while the crew set up additional shots. An outdoor scene was filmed with John Goodman pushing his elderly aunt (June Squibb) in a wheelchair along a sidewalk with fake snow being blown onto the set. Then my chance at fame. A scene was filmed of John Goodman pushing June Squibb down a hallway

and around a corner with me in the near background again playing Scrabble, but this time my face can be seen (at least I think so).

We finished filming for the day at 9:30 PM fifteen hours after we had started. The crew worked later into the night moving everything from Broadmore to Boyce Park for the following day's sledding shoot.

All in all it was a wonderful experience and I would do it again in a heartbeat. In fact I signed up to receive emails about other opportunities about becoming a movie extra for films being made around the region.

I can only hope my fifteen seconds of fame does not end up on the cutting room floor. We will all find out in November when the film is released.

Peter Broeren

Editors' note: Hey, Pete, please let us know when you get the next casting call.

DRAMA CLUB PROGRAM

The Sherwood Oaks Drama Club will present "The Ransom of Emily Jane", a play based on O. Henry's short story, "The Ransom of Red Chief", at 7:15 PM on Tuesday, April 14, 2015 in the Auditorium. Be prepared to bring your laughing togs for this brilliant performance by the Sherwood Oaks Drama Club Players. We look forward to seeing you.

Dick Baker

DOMESTIC VIOLENCE, A TROUBLING PROBLEM

Not a day goes by without at least one newspaper and/or TV news report about domestic violence. The stories vary from verbal and physical abuse to murder. Most prominent in recent months have been athletes, especially football players. Others who suffer may not be as newsworthy, but their experiences are equally disturbing. Frequently, two questions are asked: Why is this happening? and, What can we do to prevent it?

Focus on the World has invited Ms. Shirl Regan, Director of the Women's Center and Shelter of Greater Pittsburgh to speak to us about this troubling issue. She will join us on April 16 at 7:15 PM in the auditorium. Some of you have seen Ms. Regan on WQED, sometimes with the Pittsburgh Steeler who has his own story about domestic violence and the way it affected his life. While she won't be bringing a Steeler with her, she will be able to reflect on their stories and those of others who are being served through the Women's Center. We encourage you to set aside an hour for this special opportunity.

Agnes Peebles
Focus on the World





*Worth the
Time
by Ed Vidt*

The Chamber

by John Grisham F (Gri)

The Chamber is about crime. The title refers to a gas chamber in a Mississippi penitentiary. The plot is about how the crime was committed. Further, it details in much jailhouse prose how one criminal was eventually made to pay for his part in the crime. The reason for this book is crystal clear: John Grisham is dead-set against the death penalty, to coin a phrase. So how can I recommend this book? It captivated me! --- that a young lawyer learns to deal with real legal challenges when he tries to help his grandfather on death row.

Still Life with Breadcrumbs

by Anna Quindlen F (Qui)

A gentle book about a woman who has made good as a professional photographer, but is now semi-retired. She rents a cottage in the country and soon discovers new sources of stuff to photograph, including a dog that has adopted her. How that plays out, along with her need for help with life in a winter-bound cottage, is the story that the book explores. A good read.

NEW CIVIC AFFAIRS COMMITTEE FORMED

After nearly two years of non-existence, the Civic Affairs Committee of SORA was recently reconstituted with 11 new members. When SORA term-limit rules made it necessary for all the then-members to rotate off the Committee on June 30, 2013, there was no membership available to carry on the work of Civic Affairs. When the time came for sponsoring a Candidates Night, it was Focus on the World that picked up the responsibility on an interim basis.

By gathering together several new interested residents, along with some former members, it became possible to constitute a new committee to continue the work that was started during the first years of Sherwood Oaks' existence. Joe Widmer has accepted the chairmanship of the new group and has already taken steps to involve the other members in the committee's work.

Olive Tiller

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THE LIBERATED WOMAN

They call her a liberated woman.
The fact that she is a woman
Is unimportant.
The fact that she is liberated...
WOW!!!

Mike Rose

**COLETTA MCKENRY LIBRARY
ACCESSIONS**

FICTION INCLUDING LARGE TYPE:

Blue Labyrinth

Douglas Preston & Lincoln Child
© 2014.F/PRE

Children of the Revolution

Peter Robinson © 2014.F/ROB

Cold Cold Heart

Tami Hoag © 2015.F/HOA

Doll Face

Renee Rosen © 2015.F/ROS

Euphoria

Lily King © 2014.F/KIN

A Fine Summer's Day

Charles Todd © 2015.F/TOD

The Girl on the Train

Paula Hawkins © 2015.F/HAW

Night Heron

Adam Brooks © 2014.F/BRO

Nightingale

Kristin Hannah © 2015.F/HAN

The Pact

Jodi Picoult © 1998.F/PIC

The Ship of Brides

JoJo Moyes © 2005.F/MOY

Sleep in Peace Tonight

James MacManus © 2014.F/MacM

Snowbound

Elizabeth Adams © 2014.F/ADA

Somewhere in France

Jenifer Robson © 2014.F/ROB

A Spool of Blue Thread

Anne Tyler © 2015.F/TYL

Station Eleven

Emily St. John Mandel © 2014.F/MAN

Trust No One

Jayne Ann Krentz © 2015.F/KRE

Twelve Days

Alex Berenson © 2015.F/BER

Voices

Arnaldur Indridason © 2003.F/IND

Where We Stand

Seymour Garte, Ph.D © 2008.363.7/GAR

Work in Progress

Cara Putman © 2013.F/PUT

NON-FICTION, INCLUDING BIOGRAPHIES:

Conquering Gotham

Jill Jonnes ©2008. 385.3/JON

Don't Sweat the Small Stuff

Richard Carlson, Ph.D. ©1997. 158.1/CAR

Longitudes and Attitudes

Thomas Friedman ©2003, 303.6/FRI

Nothing Is True and Everything Is Possible

Peter Pomerantsev ©2014. 306.947/POM

Red Notice

Bill Bowder ©2015. 332.60/BRO

The Sunroom

Beverly Lewis ©1998. 121/LEW

Top Dog: The Story of Marine Hero Lucca

Maria Goodavage ©2014. 956.7044/GOO

Where We Stand

Seymour Garte, Ph.D. ©2008. 363.7/GAR

The Whites

Harry Brandt ©2015. 813.534 /BRA

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The next deadline is NOON

Friday, April 17.

GOOD FRIDAY TENEBRAE SERVICE

As part of the Holy Week services planned by the Chapel Committee, there will be a Tenebrae service on Good Friday afternoon, April 3, at 4:00 p.m. in the Auditorium. The word "Tenebrae" is from the Latin, meaning "shadow" or "darkness." Hymns, Scripture and Psalms tell the sequence of events in the last days before Jesus's crucifixion. With the gradual extinction of candles, the light grows more and more dim and the shadows grow longer, until at last the Christ candle itself is extinguished and the room becomes quite completely dark.

Jean Henderson will lead in this moving remembrance of the darkest day of the Christian calendar. Whatever your church background or preference, you are invited to attend this meaningful service.

Olive Tiller

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COMING SOON... HANGING BASKET SALE

The Landscape Committee is holding a Hanging Basket sale in May. We will offer Begonias, Fuchsia, Geraniums, Bridal Veil, Impatiens, Petunias, Thumbergia, Tortena, Herb planters, and varieties of Tomatoes.

See the May *Acorn* for complete details

Deane Lavender

I AM HERE IN APPALACHIA

The melting ice glows,
'round silent trees in quiet Appalachia.
Beneath frozen branches
clear, cold water flows
down the mountainside.
Hear the drip of melting droplets
one by one,
From branches bent
and too little for life to spring forth.
and yet yea! Life doth spring forth
in glorious Appalachia.
It is only hidden
from the sun's sweet rays
once more mocking
what we give up for gone
and dried away.

Beneath the sun's warm days
and moon's cool nights
I hear the sputter and crackling of new life
through the mountains,
in branches reaching for the sky,
turning full circle.
Oh how glorious this moment!
Like a baby's first cry
bursting forth
to announce to all
of nature and mankind.

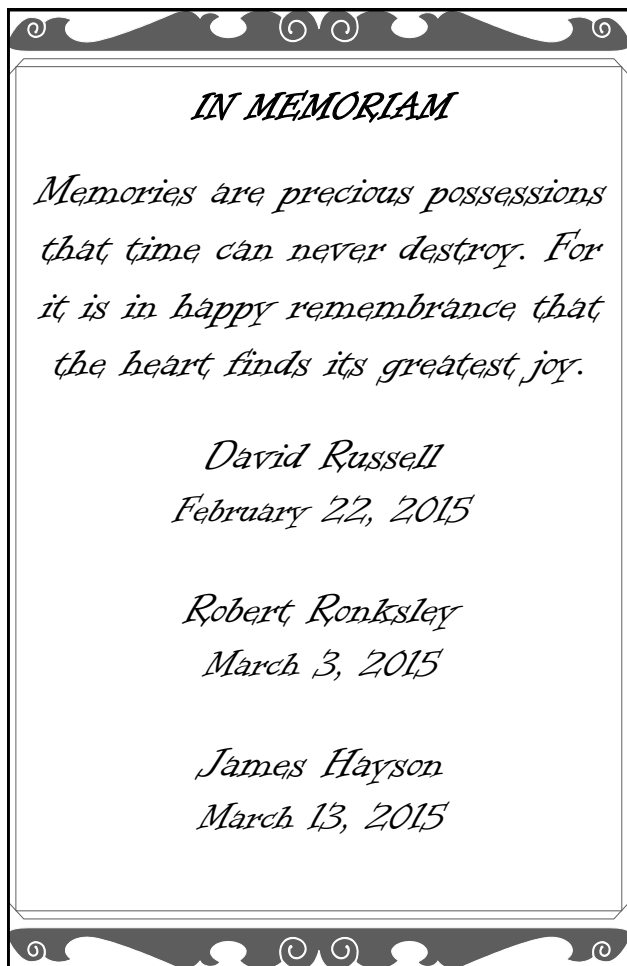
I am here...once more in Appalachia

Jean Wasniewski

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER

We thank Jean Henderson for introducing us to the World Day of Prayer on March 6. The Service for 2016 is being planned by women of the churches in Cuba and will be held on the first Friday of March, 2016.

Agnes Peebles



IN MEMORIAM

*Memories are precious possessions
that time can never destroy. For
it is in happy remembrance that
the heart finds its greatest joy.*

*David Russell
February 22, 2015*

*Robert Ronksley
March 3, 2015*

*James Hayson
March 13, 2015*

CHAPEL NOTES

A joyous Easter and a hope-filled Passover to you from the Chapel Committee. When you receive this issue of *The Acorn*, we will be in the middle of Holy Week on the Christian calendar. On the Jewish calendar Passover begins on Friday, April 3.

Our two Holy Week services will be led by residents of Sherwood Oaks: a Maundy Thursday Communion service at 4:00 PM on April 2, led by the Rev. Dr. John Rodgers, and a Good Friday Tenebrae service at 4:00 PM on April 3, led by the Rev. Dr. Jean Henderson. Both services will be held in the auditorium. (See separate article on the facing page.)

We welcome the Rev. Brenda Barnes to lead our Easter Sunday service at 2:00 PM on April 5 in the auditorium. Brenda was here on Easter last year and we are pleased that she can join us again.

Preaching for us on the other Sundays in April are:

April 12 - The Rev. Charlie Hamill,
Christ Episcopal Church, Pittsburgh

April 19 - The Rev. Scott Russell,
St. Brendan Episcopal Church,
Sewickley

April 26 - The Rev. Heather Lubold,
Berkeley Hills Lutheran Church,
Pittsburgh

You are invited to any or all of these services at 2:00 PM in the auditorium.

ACTIVITIES IN THE CHAPEL

Women's Bible Study
First and Third Mondays
10:45-11:45 AM

Men's Bible Study
Weekly, Wednesdays
10:00-11:00 AM

*Holy Communion, Episcopal Rite
Second Monday of the month
11:00 AM

Quaker Meeting for Worship
Fourth Sunday of the month
10:30-11:30 AM

* Note: day and time change.

Agnes Peebles

It's Here...



Lila Cornell



Joe Asin



Lila Cornell



Lila Cornell



Lila Cornell



Joe Asin