





SHERWOOD OAKS NEWSLETTER 100 Norman Drive, Cranberry Twp., PA 16066

September 2015 "For the residents, by the residents" Vol. XVI No. 7



Photo by Linda Blum

From swan ... to bear... to large-mouth bass

BIRD, BEAST AND/OR FISH

Dear resident:

You may remember our "winged" visitor on the cover of the May ACORN or our fourfooted "guest" (intruder?) in June. In this issue we introduce you to another sort of long-time Sherwood Oaks resident, a gilled and finned one. rbb



Joe Asin

WILDLIFE AT SHERWOOD OAKS

Although few of us came to Sherwood Oaks for the "wild life," wildlife abounds on our campus. Little known to many residents, the greatest concentration of nature's creatures may be found in the most peaceful and serene location on campus...the Lake.

According to Jim Blum, Sherwood Oaks' unofficial "Fisherman-in-Chief," catching fish here on campus is both fun and easy. Weather permitting, Jim normally fishes for about 1-2 hours, 3-4 days per week. He has caught more than 325 fish and 20 turtles since moving here in April, 2014...His total catch-to-date, which has been thrown back to keep the Lake well-stocked:

200+ Large-Mouth Bass 50+ Bluegill 35+ Perch 30+ Crappie 8+ Small-Mouth Bass 1 Catfish 1 Carp 20+ Turtles The several Koi, originally introduced into the lake by Phil and Dotty Stebler in 2011 (*cf. ACORN, vol. xiv, #6, Summer, 2013*), manage to ignore Jim's charm and the lure of the bait.

So far, the largest fish caught here by Jim has been a 27" long large-mouth bass weighing 5-7 pounds. The largest turtle was 20" in diameter.

Jim started fishing 10 years ago when he and Linda moved to western PA. He has become more focused since moving to Sherwood Oaks. He is looking for a few good residents who might like to fish with him. So, ... if you are interested in getting closer to the wildlife at Sherwood Oaks, contact Jim (8135).

Mike Rose



Linda Blum

BILL BAHRKE 604 Interviewed by Jean Henderson



Imagine a man who's called many states "home" — WI, NJ, MO, CT, PA, IL, KS, TX — that's Bill Bahrke!

Imagine a man who's traveled all over the world — Saudi Arabia, Greece (his favorite), Egypt, The Philippines, Iran, Bermuda, Canada — that's Bill!

Imagine a man who loves sports hunting, fishing (Find his boy/girl fishing statue in his yard.), golfing, sailing, working outdoors. In his retirement home in Clintonville, WI — 32 acres on a beautiful river — he cut trails for ATVs and fished with friends and family. We'll try to forgive him for being a Packers fan! He even has a special Packers stone in his front yard — that's Bill! Imagine a man whose family is primary to him — wife Mae, to whom he was married for 62 years before her death last December (They fell in love with Patio Home 604 during a visit to SO last fall.), three daughters (in Glenshaw, PA, CT and IA) and five grandchildren! For years he's arranged a family vacation for all 12 — sailing the Greek Islands, Hawaii, Bermuda, fishing in Ontario, sailing from Boston to Montreal — that's Bill!

Imagine a man whose mind is always engaged — GI bill to Marquette University after Army service, mechanical engineer with Dravo (retired in 1989), a reader of authors James Patterson and Tom Clancy, a collector of silver dollars (begun by his dad), which now he disperses to family members on special occasions — that's Bill!

Imagine a man of faith who appreciates how helpful his local priest in WI was to him when his wife died — that's Bill! Active in the Roman Catholic churches he's attended, especially helping with financial issues, a volunteer with Menominee Indian Tribe Economic Council, the local Police/Fire Commission, the American Legion and VFW — that's Bill.

Take time to welcome our new neighbor and friend, Bill Bahrke.



MARIETTA COSENTINO 209 Interviewed by Connie Brandenberger



When you meet Marietta Cosentino for the first time you know she is a welcoming person who wants to make friends. Marietta has been at Sherwood Oaks just since July 10 and already feels at home. Home to Marietta for the past 50 years was Churchill, but she was raised in Squirrel Hill where she attended St. Philomena Church and graduated from Taylor Allderdice High School.

Marietta has a humorous and heartwarming story of how she met her husband Sam, who passed away four years ago. He was the older brother of her very best friend. Marietta thought he was very good looking and encouraged her friend to "set them up." However, before Sam could date her, he had to get the permission of her very old-school father. That led to a good friendship and a great marriage that lasted 60 years. She is fortunate to have her two daughters and their husbands and all of her wonderful grandchildren (ranging in age from 33 to 11) and two sweet greatgrandchildren living in Pittsburgh. Her younger daughter who lives in Wexford was instrumental in introducing Marietta to Sherwood Oaks. Her older daughter is shopping for a home nearby.

For many years Sam owned and managed real estate in the Monroeville area. Marietta always helped in sharing the responsibilities of the business. She will be glad to relate any of the interesting stories that they experienced in this business. For many years they spent three months in Naples, Florida during the winter season.

Marietta is very active and enjoys being with people. Her husband always said: "Be positive, enjoy life." And that is what she intends to do. Spending time with her family is a priority in her life. Marietta loves to cook. She admits that she probably brought too many of her cooking utensils with her. Her favorite time of year is Christmas Eve when she prepares the traditional "meal of the seven fishes" — and she intends to continue doing this for her family. Other interests include gardening, reading and caring for others. She was a volunteer at Forbes Regional Hospital and enjoyed assisting and talking to patients. Marietta is attending SO exercise classes already and hopes to become involved in more activities in her new home.

Welcome, Marietta. We're blessed to have you here.

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CHARLES GOURLEY 257 Interviewed by Harriet Burress



Charles Gourley was encouraged to move from Tucson, AZ, to Sherwood Oaks by his daughter who lives in Wexford. It didn't take much coaxing since his wife JoAnn had died in 2013 after 58 years of a wonderful marriage. "We were high school sweethearts and our song was Nat King Cole's 'Too Young'." He and JoAnn were blessed with five children, 10 grandchildren and two great-grands. Charles is delighted to be closer to his PA family. Many of us at Sherwood Oaks already know his floppy-eared Doberman named Duchess.

Growing up on a farm in South Dakota and returning after a three year tour with the Army Airborne, he felt led to "go west, young man" after two seasons of horrendous weather (the life of a farmer). A drought one year and a July 4 hail storm the next ruined the crops of corn and soybeans he and his Dad were growing. He and JoAnn moved to California. He completed an associate degree in Criminal Justice at Moor Park College and had a 20 year career in law enforcement with the LAPD, retiring as a Detective III.

After his retirement from the LAPD and before moving to Tucson, Charles served as Chief of Police in towns in Arkansas and Wisconsin. He later worked in the Santa Barbara, CA, Sheriff's office as a deputy. The only surviving detective of a 1972 case, he has just returned from LA where he testified in the "cold case" concerning the crime scene. DNA evidence was used to close this case.

Some years ago Charles wrote a book for his grandchildren to encourage them to read. "THE CURIOUS KIDS AND THE SIOUX RIVER BANDITS is a book for all kids from 9 to 90 and is based on my and my big sister's escapades exploring the river. We rode a plow horse named Molly so wide across her back that our legs extended straight out - horizontal to the ground." (A copy is now in our library.)

Charles does not know to this day which of his buddies volunteered to go to Korea in his place, but he does say "It was another time the Lord led." His superior officer, who was sworn to secrecy, told him that because Charles was a newlywed, one of his friends made it possible for him to remain at Ft. Benning, GA, with his bride. He became an instructor in their jump school, teaching others to become paratroopers.

Charles' current hobbies are target shooting, reading, gym workouts and studying the Bible. He retired from competitive power-lifting in 2014. He is already attending the men's Bible Study here and worships at St. Ferdinand's.

Welcome, Charles, to our community.

HUGH MOORE 333 Interviewed by Betty Eichler



Hugh's father was one of six brothers who immigrated from Belfast, Northern Ireland, to the Pittsburgh area. Hugh was born in Brighton Heights. His father was owner of the Wexford General Store, which is now an antique center. When Hugh graduated from Mars High School where he had taken shop classes, he began work in the store. He often delivered hardware to the W & J Lumber and Supply Company where he was offered a position and worked for five years, learning carpentry and maintenance skills. His father wanted to send him to school in Chicago to become a butcher so that he could take over the General Store. Hugh declined, saying, "I'd rather cut lumber than meat." At W & J Lumber, he helped with building houses in the developing Bradford Woods area. Then he was offered a position as a carpenter with the building Ssperintendent for the Pittsburgh Press building in downtown Pittsburgh. Since it was time for him to fulfill his military obligation, he joined the Army Reserve, completed his active duty time and then took on the position for the Pittsburgh Press. He started work on January 1, 1960.

"I thought it was great — my first day of work was a paid holiday!" When the **Press** was taken over by the **Pittsburgh Post Gazette**, he continued doing their carpentry/maintenance work for 40 years.

Always an active church member wherever he lived, Hugh attended a meeting of Young Adults of Pittsburgh. Here he spied a lovely young woman and learned that her name was Gloria. Within a year and a half, she became his wife. She came from the South Hills and worked at Gimbel's Department Store. They lived in an apartment in the South Hills. Since it was quite a trek to work in Pittsburgh, they purchased property and built a house in Franklin Park. (Hugh did all the inside finish work himself!) Here they raised their two daughters, who both live in Franklin Park with their families. Each daughter has two sons. Sadly, Gloria died in November 2013, after a lengthy illness.

Hugh did carpentry work for North Park Evangelical Presbyterian Church and met Charlie and Marilyn Brown. As a member of Christ Church, Mt. Nebo, he worked on the new church building with Ernie Pinyot. He was acquainted with Pearl and Safwat Habishi, Dale Thurston and Jim and Linda Blum. He also is a good friend of Phyllis Franks. Is it any wonder he chose Sherwood Oaks as his new home? He plans to join the woodworking crew here.

In addition to participating in Tuesday work days at Christ Church, Hugh is a member and announcer for the Prime Timers, attends Sunday School and a Community Bible Study. He's already a member of Male Call at Sherwood Oaks.

Hugh's interests include reading and music; he is a fan of the River City Brass Band.

Hugh enjoys living here. "It's just like being on vacation." A warm welcome, Hugh!

MARY TUCKER 347 Interviewed by M. Davis



Where were you during the blizzard of '78? Mary Tucker was heading home from her job at the Lahey Clinic in Boston. It was a life-changing journey, extending from the normal one hour, to two horrifying weeks. (Note: Mary has written an account. Read it. Better yet, ask her to tell you the details over dinner.) Before the next winter, she and her roommate moved to Miami, FL.

Born in Pittsfield, MA, Mary spent her early vears in Rome, GA. Then, when her father was transferred, she moved to Providence, RI. After graduating from Regis College in Weston, MA, she worked in the lab at Miriam Hospital in Providence.

In Miami, she first worked in a private lab, then at St. Francis Hospital on Miami Beach and finally at South Miami Hospital. There she met a delightful group of interesting friends, a dozen or so women of different backgrounds and ethnicities, as well as their token male. He was a widower, a retired auto mechanic, at the time doing

landscaping. He could fix everything. The group dubbed themselves "Charlie's Angels" and regularly celebrated birthdays and special occasions together.

Following one of their gatherings, Charlie spotted a strange pile of lumber in Mary's car. She had found a partially constructed child's dining set at the dumpster and couldn't resist. Intrigued by the challenge, he offered to help. One construction visit led to other meetings. In about 16 months, Mary and Charlie were married. Their life together was shortened when he died in 2012. "We had seven wonderful years that I wouldn't exchange for anything."

Her sister, living in McCandless, had been encouraging Mary and her mother to come join her family in Pittsburgh. Her mother was living near Mary's brother and sister-inlaw and their son in Portland, OR. After a visit to Sherwood Oaks last winter, Mary chose a patio home and her mother chose to return to Portland. In late May, her sister, brother-in-law, nephews, nieces, grandniece and grandnephew were all on hand to help with the move.

Mary is enthusiastic about the friendliness of our community and the variety of activities available. She has already joined the line-dancers and is being trained as a cashier in the gift shop. At the July birthday party, she was seen strolling our "beach boardwalk" in a multi-hued swimsuit, flowing skirt, matching shirt with a large picture hat. "I enjoy celebrations, decorating, dressing-up for all the holidays, especially Halloween," Mary said.

Her cabana, offering screened protection for the convertible futon/swing, is an interesting addition to her patio overlooking Oak Grove. If you use the trail through the grove, she invites you to stop by. A hearty welcome to Mary.

WHAT'S NEW WITH SORA?

Reports and actions at the August SORA Board meeting included:

Treasurers' Reports – Sherwood Gifts provided a \$5,000 donation to the Memorial/Special Projects fund, for a total of \$64,534. Ray Friedel reported receipt of \$178.20 from the Auction Barn. Activities fees were paid in the amount of \$995.00 in July. Reminders will be sent to those who have not yet paid.

Liaison Reports:

Energy and Recycling: Batteries collected for recycling will now be taken to Battery Giant in Cranberry rather than mailed out of town. This will eliminate taping over the terminals and the cost of postage. Electronic items (including computers, printers, ink cartridges and televisions) can be recycled at Best Buy, up to three items a day that the donor can carry into the store. Cranberry Twp. water rates are going up. The largest consumption in Sherwood Oaks has been caused by water line breaks, all of which have now been repaired. Please report all problems, including dripping faucets, to the Maintenance Dept.

Welcoming Committee: The Olsons and Pittmans were thanked for their service on the committee. Joe Widmer, Marilyn Schoch and Gerry Dudley were welcomed as new members. Jean Davis and Ed and Fran Borrebach will become members after Sept. 15. Ten new families have moved in this summer and will be welcomed at the dinner and Quarterly Meeting of SORA on Tuesday, Sept. 15.

<u>Security and Transportation</u>: A portable electronic mile-per-hour sign will be

borrowed from Cranberry Twp. and set up on Norman Drive on a trial basis to alert drivers of their actual speed. If this results in better observance of the speed limit, the Department may purchase a unit.

<u>Trips and Tours</u>: Thanks was expressed to the 60 residents who responded to the recent survey. A trip to Wendell August Forge and the Grove City Outlets is planned for Aug.14. A trip to the Flight 93 Memorial near Somerset and a play at Jennerstown is scheduled for Sept. 23.

<u>Program Committee</u>: The following programs are scheduled: Sept. 24 – E Freemen Singers. Oct.15 – Pittsburgh Symphony Woodwind Trio Concerto. This program is in honor of Sherwood Oaks residents, Katherine and the late William Rinehart, who endow the Second Chair of the Woodwind Section.

<u>Management Report</u>: Mark Bondi reported that occupancy and homes sold are at 95%. We had 6 move-ins in July.

Upcoming Marketing Events include: Four Course Conversation, Aug. 11, and Donna Groom, Aug. 24.

Our first bus with a ramp (our most popular 14 passenger, 2008) is nearing the end of its useful life. This year we were considering purchasing a 33 passenger bus with a lift and ramp to replace our large 2007 bus. We are now re-thinking this and may purchase a replacement for the smaller bus. The new bus would be equipped with a lift and ramp. The newer versions of the ramp/lift bus have been significantly improved over our current 2008 model.

> Betty Eichler, Reporter



Mark your calendar for the Continued Learning events scheduled for October.

Sherwood Oaks' favorite political scientist, **Bill Markus**, will be here each Wednesday during the month of October (7,14, 21 and 28) discussing current international issues.

Tuesday, October 6: Clifford Brown, graduate of Memorial University of Newfoundland, will speak about Newfoundland.

Thursday, October 8: Linda Jagerski, Sherwood Oaks Resident, will tell us about her experience teaching in a juvenile detention facility.

Tuesday, October 13: Thomas White, author of "Ghosts of Southwestern Pennsylvania" will share some Pittsburgh ghost stories.

Thursday, October 15: Stewart O'Nan, Pittsburgh author - known for "Emily Alone" and his latest book "West of Sunset" - will speak about F. Scott Fitzgerald.

Tuesday, October 20: Todd DiPastino, historian and founder of "The Veterans Breakfast Club," will discuss the Great Depression.

Thursday, October 22: Jno Hunt, former music director at St. Brendan's Episcopal Church in Franklin Park, will speak about movie musicals.

Tuesday, October 27: Ellen Baxter, chief art conservator, Carnegie Museum of Art, will be here.

Thursday, October 29: Louise Sturgess, executive director of the Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation, will tell us about the treasures to be found along "Incredible Penn Avenue."

Jim Miller



Peggi Ploof

FOWL WEATHER GEAR

It is no secret that I like to knit and crochet. I love making Caps for Kids. It gives me great joy that some little girl or boy will have nice warm ears next winter. Ginger and I like to sit outside and usually I have some knitting in my hands. Of course, people are always wanting to know what I'm making. All of them are happy to know that I'm making a cap for someone who needs it.

One day Sonja DeGray saw me and asked about what I was making. When I replied "I'm making a sweater for a chicken," her mouth opened wide and her eyes became the size of apples. I knew she wanted an explanation; so here's how it went:

I have a friend who came to me one day and asked if I could knit or crochet something to keep her five hens warm in the winter. She keeps five hens so that she always has fresh eggs. Since there is no pattern available to make a chicken's sweater, I agreed to experiment and get back to her. After trying a variety of stitches and patterns, then ripping them apart to try again, I did come up with something that looked as though it could keep a hen warm. It slides over the head, then comes down in the front to cover her breast. The back covers her tail.

Because the weather was still cool when I finished, I asked my friend to put it on the chicken overnight to see if it would stay in place. HOORAY!!, it did fit and it stayed in place.

My friend gave me some yarn to use and I kept working until I finished five of them. I plan to be very happy this winter, knowing that five hens are kept warm.

By the way, I'll still continue to make Caps for Kids for next winter.

Shirley Kappeler



GRAB AND GO BOOK CLUB

The first meeting of the "Grab and Go Book Club" will be Monday, Sept. 14, 7:00 PM in the Conference Room. We shall discuss "The Light Between Oceans" by M. L. Stedman. Future time and dates of meetings, as well as selections, will be made at this time.

Judy Batson (8149)

CURIO CABINETS

From mid-May until mid-July there were many interesting and unusual bookends on display in the curio cabinets, thanks to Gussie Dimmick and her committee. The wooden dice bookends were made by Lieselotte Bloss's father. I think the antique chair bookends would take a "something different" prize. The Daum glass bookends sparkled under the lights. Did you have a favorite?

Beginning July 9, "Banks and Banking" was the display theme. Norm and Pat Stephen's three antique mechanical banks attracted a lot of attention. Who would imagine a mouse or a frog bank or a Popeye dime bank? But there they were. Jean McLaughlin loaned her late husband's large collection of metal banks. Also, a number of local banks contributed current marketing items for the display.

On Aug. 27, Gussie Dimmick and her committee created a lovely display of brass and glass candleholders and interesting candles.

The October theme will be "Love ya, Pittsburgh!" and I hope to fill both cabinets with items that demonstrate why Pittsburgh is such a great and exciting city. Residents will be asked to provide memorabilia/souvenirs from the Steelers, Pirates, Penguins, three local universities, all the performing arts, Carnegie Museums, Phipps Conservatory, the Aviary, Zoo and Kennywood. There will be a reminder in the October ACORN, but start planning for it now.

Fran Borrebach

ENERGY CONSERVATION AND RECYCLING TIPS

Dead batteries (ends no longer need to be taped), old eyeglasses and used printer cartridges can be deposited in the labeled bins on both sides of the outside entrance to the Scooter Room.

Computer printers and other household electronics, ink and toner cartridges, rechargeable batteries (no alkaline), wires/ cords/cables are accepted by Best Buy. Check specifics online or by telephone.

Dripping faucets should be reported to the Maintenance Department. Cranberry water rates are going up!

Let's do our best to keep landfills free of poisons and our homes free of clutter!

Nancy Paul

CALLING ALL "DING-A LINGS" ALL "WANNABEE DING-A-LINGS" AND ALL SHOWER SINGERS ...

Handbell practice will begin Monday, Sept.14 at 1:30 PM in the auditorium. Our very capable and patient director, Lyn Marsh, will welcome anyone who may like "to try the bells." Of course we hope all last year's ringers will be there.

Chorus rehearsals resume on Wednesday, Sept. 9 at 3:00 PM in the auditorium. New members are always welcome.

Put some music in your life and join one, or both, of these happy groups. So... COME ONE & ALL! It is fun and rewarding.

Jean McLaughlin and LaVonne McCandlish



Tabby Alford

CUISINE AT LAKEFRONT

To the editors: Since there are so many new people, I though it might be good to introduce them to our dining room and its variety of foods.

Jean Wasniewski

Over the river and through the woods To Sherwood Oaks we go.

We're wined and dined in the Lake Front room

Which has many surprises to show.

On the counter they display a salad bar With a mixture of fruits and olives in a jar, Elegant greens with fancy dressings. We're always thankful for our many blessings.

On the menu is their famous Wonton soup. You can share with your partner or in a small group.

Great entrees like shrimp etouffee, so divine, Or choice leg of lamb, so tender and fine. All healthy vegetables, green beans and such,

Beets, corn, potatoes is that not too much?

Desserts are no problem. Peach Melba is great,

Or cherry pie a-la-mode served on a plate. All in all it's a special time of night To see all good friends. What a glorious sight.

FOCUS ON THE WORLD

Cyber crimes, identity theft, penetrating of corporate security ... these issues are all making the news everyday. Most of us were amazed at the bomb threats against the University of Pittsburgh a couple of years ago. How do these things affect us? How are they handled? What can be done? On Sept. 17 at 7:15 PM in the auditorium, Gregory Melucci will give us some answers.

Mr. Melucci is an Assistant US Attorney in the Cybercrime / National Security Division of the US Attorney's Office in the Western District of PA. He chairs the Financial Crimes Task Force and concentrates in the prosecution of persons who commit internet financial crimes and identity theft.

Jane Lavender

WORKSHOP

If you happened to look into the workshop recently, you would see a lot of silvery, new metal gleaming in the light. No, we are not building a new Cadillac out of miscellaneous spare parts. The shine comes from new ductwork, part of a state-of-the-art dust control system installed last month.

The system sucks up the air laden with dust at each woodworking machine, filters out the very fine dust particles and returns the clean air to the room. The result is a cleaner place to work; but most of all it creates a healthier environment for the workers in the shop.

We thank Mark and the Sherwood Oaks budget for finding room for this much needed improvement.



THE INTRUDER

You freeze and stare as I invade your space.

Doe eyes open wide ... ears at attention,

alert for any hostile move that might hurt your fawn.

I freeze and stare, admiring your majestic stance. An intruder in your home, I have come to share the beauty of your world.

I wish that I lived in your woods full-time instead of only five days each year.

Your woods are beautiful. You are beautiful.

Your woods are calm. You are calm.

Your woods are peaceful, and I am at peace.

Mike Rose

SATURDAY NIGHT AT THE MOVIES 7:15 PM Sharp

After many years of faithful service, SO's one-woman film critic and dynamo, June Withers, has retired. She leaves behind extensive lists of films shown over the past many years. We will not try to duplicate these as there are so many others out there to choose from. She also provided us with a list of films she recommended for the future. We will try to show a variety, and welcome your suggestions. Thank you June!

Saturday evening movies are now being shown through a new technology called Roku. Roku is a subscription service that allows us to show films currently playing in theaters, as well as the classics of yesteryear, with just a click of the remote (if all goes well).

The movie committee consists of Hugh Downing, Stewart Lawrence, Linda Mamaux and Dave Moon. September movie titles are:

9/5 Two Days and One Night

9/12 Move Over Darling

9/19 Blind Side

9/26 Away From Her

Linda Mamaux



PROGRAM COMMITTEE

The E Free Men Thursday, September 24 - 7:15 PM

The E Free Men will bring their musical program to the Sherwood Oaks auditorium. Since this is their first visit with us, I thought we could use some more information about them. Here is a brief interview with Kevin Dumpe, one of the group's baritones:

What can the audience expect?

People seem to like to hear the richness of sound of tenors, baritones and basses. That sound combined with our particular repertoire appeals to people. The number in our group varies at times, but we average a "double quartet." We have to sing well, because we're not a very handsome group!

How do you choose your songs?

We have two major criteria: (1) Is the song fun to sing? (2) Does it help tell God's story of salvation in Jesus Christ? If we have fun singing it, people usually have just as much fun listening to it. The gospel has been called "the greatest story ever told." We try to highlight aspects of that story in our music.

Do your songs fit into a certain style?

Although a lot of our songs fit into the Southern Gospel tradition, we don't put any restrictions on ourselves. We like to keep it interesting to us and our listeners. Varying our style helps do that. You'll also hear some new arrangements of old hymns and a little barbershop action. Some songs we sing a cappella; we include accompaniment on others. Bring your singing voices, because there's a good chance you'll get to sing along.

Your group has a strange name.

Our group actually doesn't have a name. We have been getting together to sing for quite a while and had our origins in our home church. We were just "that group of guys that sing together at the Evangelical Free Church." Our designation therefore became shortened to "The E Free Men." That designation has become our default name until someone comes up with something that strikes us.

How did Sherwood Oaks get on your schedule?

My mother-in-law, Louise McKee, has enjoyed living at Sherwood Oaks for quite a few years. She has repeatedly told me that our group sings really well and that the folks at Sherwood Oaks would undoubtedly enjoy our program. During a visit, I contacted Kelly Noble and Charlie Brown, who coordinate your events and set up this date. Louise's first response was, "You guys better sing well!" I don't know if her confidence is waning. We'll have fun doing this, but Louise may have a bit of performance anxiety for us on Sept. 24.

> Charlie Brown Program Committee

DRAMA CLUB

The Drama Club will begin meeting again on Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2015, 1:30 PM in the Cranberry Lake Grill. The Club meets regularly on the third Tuesday of the month.

We invite you to join us for a time of reading plays and enjoying drama and humor. No need for past experience, only a willingness to participate. We have a very engaging time reading and laughing together.

Last year we read a variety of plays ranging from melodrama to the hilarious "The Kidnapping of Emily Jane."

If you have any questions, please contact me at 8338.

Dick Baker



BAKE SALE Save the Date – November 18, 2015

The Bake Sale is a great Sherwood tradition. The week before Thanksgiving, the residents and staff come together to hold a Bake Sale for the Sherwood Oaks community. The contributions are as diverse as our contributors...cookies, cakes and candy, soups, baked beans and apple butter.

Fanny Farmer will be making one of her rare appearances to pass around samples of her famous candy. Chef Luigi Mascarpone is no longer making public appearances but we are happy to announce that an up-andcoming celebrity chef has agreed to appear in Chef Luigi's place. To keep the media away, we cannot release his name until closer to the day. He, too, will be bringing samples of his most famous creations.

Plan now what you can make and let your specialty become a tradition. Put the dates on your calendar: Nov. 17 to drop off your offerings and Nov.18 to buy, buy, buy! More details forthcoming.

Questions? Call Linda Mamaux at 8284.

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UPDATE ON THE SECURITY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Current committee members are Jim Blum, Charles Gourley, Rudy Guilloud, Bill Hansmann, Christiane Majeski and Chairman Al Schartner. SORA liaison is Ron Oulette; ex officio member is Mike Mills, Director of Security and Transportation.

Mike Mills reported that the purchase of a new, large 33 to 37 passenger bus has been approved. UPMC is checking to see if they can purchase the vehicle at a lower cost than Sherwood Oaks can. This bus will be powered by a rear-mounted diesel with ramp entrance (no steps) and a heavy-duty kneeling chassis which should ride better than our present 29 passenger bus.

Vehicle speed limits on Norman Drive were discussed. Mike Mills reported his department is obtaining an electronic MPH sign on a trial basis from Cranberry Township. It would be placed along the perimeter road to alert drivers of their speed, hopefully prompting them to slow down.

> Al Schartner, Chair

SHERWOOD GIFTS

Granny's Attic has expanded into Patio Unit 156. This is a perfect location to showcase our larger pieces of furniture, pictures, mirrors and mobility equipment, as well as some small items from the shop. It is open the first Saturday of each month and every Wednesday from noon until 2:30 PM. Stop in, look around, visit with Barbara, Carol or Peggy and meet Miss Maggie Mae. Thanks to all who have donated; donations arrive continuously; check for new merchandise weekly. Since we are non-profit, income tax deduction slips are available for your donated items. Our profit is used for the good of the community.

Good news! Charge accounts, similar to our old due bills, are again available for all employees and residents. Statements are sent at the beginning of each month. When paying, please bring the entire statement with you to help the cashiers with the bookkeeping.

Contrary to the last ACORN report, Ken has not retired; he is training Judy Batson who is a very quick study, already assuming several of Ken's responsibilities. We still need additional volunteers who enjoy people and are willing to donate a few hours each week to keep the shop functioning. Come in to see how you can help.

Several new items have arrived over the summer. Why not dress up those tired fall outfits with a new scarf or some fall jewelry? For those who like to get an early start, Christmas cards are available! The second shipment of our famous

spot remover, selling for \$2.95, is disappearing quickly. Katherine Wagner enthusiastically recommends it saying, "It works miracles on all spots and stains. I've purchased it to give to others. It's small enough to fit into your travel bag or purse. Now that I've found it, I won't be without it."

Stop by to visit. You never know what you might find.

Marianne Davis

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

The Landscape committee honored the workers in the Grounds Department at a lunch on Aug.13.

The grounds crew employees:

Full-Time

Anthony Raitano, Jeffrey McGaughey, James Harris and Sheryl Bittel.

Summer Employees

Elliott Dambaugh, Mitchel McPeek and Nicholas Dahlstrom.

<u>Grounds Supervisor</u> Stephen Guth

This Crew works for us in the heat of summer and the cold of winter. They mow and trim and clear snow and make repairs faithfully. So the committee took the opportunity to thank them on behalf of SO residents.

Deane Lavender



Joe Asin

R & R CLUB

Sherwood Oaks is pleased to introduce and conduct a trial period of the R&R Club on campus. This program is designed specifically for couples on our campus residing independently.

Our mission is to provide opportunities for structured, social stimulation for participants, while providing respite for their spouse and caregiver.

The program is running on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 AM to 2 PM and is supported by staff from Special Services and Therapeutic Recreation. So far, there are two participants; both have responded positively. We plan to continue the program and encourage other couples on campus to take advantage of this opportunity.

Please call me with any questions.

Lori Greer, 4651 Personal Care Administrator

SHERWOOD OAKS SUBSIDY FUND

It is Sherwood Oaks' stated policy and practice to not discharge residents for inability to pay. Sherwood Oaks is committed to subsidizing residents in need to the extent possible without impairing its ability to operate. When a couple's assets are reduced to \$100,000, we recommend that residents begin the application process by contacting either Mark Bondi (President/CEO) or Annette McPeek (CFO).

Residents are permitted to retain up to \$40,000 in assets, for an individual, and \$60,000 per couple.

The confidential application (no names) is provided to the six-person Subsidy Committee for consideration. This committee is comprised of three PLCC Board members and three Sherwood Oaks residents.

Upon the applicant's approval, the resident is asked to sign a subsidy agreement. Subsidy can be renewed annually. Subsidy payments are posted to the monthly resident statement. Such payments are made from the Sherwood Oaks Subsidy Fund which is comprised of donor-restricted contributions made to Sherwood Oaks for such purpose and is administered by the CFO. Donations are invested in accordance with the Sherwood Oaks Investment Policy.

Currently Sherwood Oaks is subsidizing five residents.

Annette McPeek Chief Financial Officer

AIR MAIL a la SHERWOOD OAKS

A couple of months ago when my husband, Ernie, was recuperating from surgery, we received an unusual air mail letter. Prior to its arrival, a call from our upstairs neighbor, Ellen Brierly, directed me to our deck. Once there, I saw a long cord being lowered with the following note attached.

June 23, 2014

Dear Sir:

It has come to our attention that you are in your home and recovering from surgery. Would you please send us the proper procedure for visiting people who choose to stay in their home during this time rather than using the nursing facilities available? In the skilled nursing area I know that the patient is in his room and we can drop in with get-well greetings, stay a brief moment and be on our way, all without causing the patient undue stress. In the home, one has no idea when it is convenient to visit or even if the patient wants a visit. Moreover the caregiver may prefer solitude and wish to be left alone. You can see that we are in need of a manual with well-defined instructions.

Thank you for your help. I am sending this by "air mail".

Your lofty neighbors from 734

Isn't that original? It certainly brightened our uncomfortable, tedious, long days at that time, as did all of the many cards, prayers and well wishes Ernie gratefully received.

We so appreciate living among such kind, friendly, thoughtful people!

Thanks Ellen and Bob and the rest of you.

Love and blessings, *Rita Pinyot*



One of our Lake turtles

Joe Asin

The Acorn **Co-Editors Ruth Becker** ruthbb@zoominternet.net Sally Donnell donnells@zoominternet.net Reporter Mike Rose mike1005@zoominternet.net **Profile Coordinator** Marianne Davis marianne.davis@zoominternet.net **Production Editor** Tabby Alford alfordtl@sherwood-oaks.com **Photographer** Joe Asin **Bio Photographer** Ed Borrebach **Ex Officio** Mark Bondi bondi@sherwood-oaks.com

> October ACORN deadline: Tuesday, September 15.

All submissions to Ruth Becker at the above email address.

SPOTLIGHT ON NEW BOOKS

In the summer ACORN issue we introduced brief reviews of <u>new books</u> in the Library. These are (in contrast to Ed Vidt's "Worth the Time" selections which may be new, old or classic) books you might overlook but which the Book Selection Committee hopes might pique your interest.

scd

Top Dog: The Story of Marine Hero Lucca. Maria Goodavage. 2014. Nonfiction.

The Dog Who Could Fly: The Incredible True Story of a WW II Airman and the Four Legged Hero Who Flew at His Side. Damien Lewis. 2014. Nonfiction.

The combination of bravery, dedication and wartime heroics makes these two nonfiction books a treat for dog lovers. "Top Dog" Lucca is a bomb detection expert, serving in Iraq. Her diligence in keeping her squad safe earns her the nickname "Mama Lucca." The training that these canine soldiers receive and the missions they undertake are fascinating. Antis, the "flying dog," an abandoned puppy in war-torn France is rescued by a downed airman. Together, they make their way to safety and Antis becomes the squadron mascot. But more importantly. Antis also flies missions over Europe with his master in an RAF bomber. Note for the tender-hearted: - despite dangers they face on a daily basis, Lucca and Antis survive war and return home.

Gussie Dimmick

The Lady from Zagreb.

Philip Kerr. 2015. Fiction.

This is the most recent novel in a series about a German police detective named Bernie Gunther whose criminal investigations began back in the pre-Nazi era (in earlier books). In the new novel, it is late 1944. The Nazi regime is about to collapse, yet the infamous Goebbels uses his influence to have Bernie assigned to him to undertake a secret mission involving a beautiful film actress, the lady from Zagreb. This assignment turns out to lead to intrigue, danger, mystery and even a bit of unexpected romance for the middleaged detective when he meets the seductive actress. Bernie is a man with a mixed reputation as far as Goebbels and other Nazi bigwigs are concerned. They wish to make use of his admired investigative skills but are wary of his sly mode of interpreting orders in his own way. Finding himself working for a regime he despises, Bernie also uses his mocking sense of humor toward his superiors and their ideology to help him retain some semblance of self-respect. The story opens slowly but if you stay with it, I think you will appreciate getting acquainted with this unusual detective.

Tom Fararo



COLETTA MCKENRY LIBRARY ACCESSIONS

FICTION, INCLUDING LARGE TYPE:

Absent Friends S. J. Rozan © 2005.F/ROZ After Math Miriam Webster © 1997.F/WEB All Around the Town Mary Higgins Clark © 1992.F/CLA/L.T. Another Woman Penny Vincenzi © 1994.F/VIN The Architect's Apprentice Elif Shafak © 2014.F/SHA Blueprints Barbara Delinsky © 2015.F/DEL The Bone Tree Greg Iles © 2015.F/ILE Breaking Point C. J. Box © 2014.F/BOX **Changing Habits** Debbie Macomber © 2003.F/MAC The Chasm: A Journey to the Edge of Life Randy Alcorn © 2011.F/ALC Children of Wrath Paul Grossman © 2012.F/GRO Choke Point Ridlev Pearson © 2015.F/PEA The Cinderella Murder Mary Higgins Clark © 2014.F/CLA/L.T. Cold Cold Heart Tami Hoag © 2015.F/HOA Cold Wind C. J. Box © 2011.F/BOX **Come a Little Closer** Dorothy Garlock © 2011.F/GAR Death Wears a Beauty Mask Mary Higgins Clark © 2015.F/CLA **Digging Up Clues** Kelly Ann Riley © 2014.F/RIL Dirt Stuart Woods © 1996.F /Woo Disclaimer Renee Knight © 2015.F/KNI The Divide Nicholas Evans © 2005.F/EVA **Dombey and Son** Charles Dickens © 1957.F/DIC Dracula Bram Stoker © 1993.F/STO Driving on the Rim Thomas McGuane © 2010.F/McG The English Spy Daniel Silva © 2015.F/SIL The Escape David Baldacci © 2014.F/BAL/L.T. **Every Fifteen Minutes** Lisa Scottoline © 2015.F/SCO The Fellowship of the Ring J.R.R. Tolkien © 1994.F/TOL

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NON-FICTION, INCLUDING BIOGRAPHIES: 20/20 Brain Power Joshua Revnolds ©2005. 612.8/TWE

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Worth the Time by Ed Vidt

The Lighthouse P. D. James F (Jam)

Combe, a small island off of the south coast of Britain, is a haven for those who are well-to-do and want to be alone and pampered for a while. No more than five individual guests are put up in "sparse stone cottage" kind of luxury and are cared for by a permanent staff of well-paid cooks, caretakers and administrators. But then one of the guests is found dangling by his neck from the top walkway of the island's old lighthouse. How that came about, and what should be done about it, is the fascinating subject of this mystery involving Adam Dalgliesh, an Investigative Commander from New Scotland Yard's service.

The Ultimate Dog Book

David Taylor 636.7 (Tay) Oversize

As the title indicates, this big book is chock full of beautiful dog photos! It also is the book to read if you want to choose, buy, feed, groom, house or otherwise care for a dog. And, it is so full of gorgeous dog illustrations that you will want to just browse through it to feel good about life. So OK, I am a dog lover and not bashful about admitting it. But even if you are not all that gung-ho about dogs, the book may still be well worth your time.

The Disappearing Spoon

Sam Kean (546) Kea

A truly fun to read and comprehensive review of the chemical elements listed in the Periodic Table. We learn how the elements were discovered, how they are used and how the science of their existence affects us all. It is fun to read because the stories of the people involved in discovery (and in their confusion and misunderstanding of what was discovered) allow us to share in the all too human mistakes that all of us make. Gallium, element number 31, is what the title's spoon was made of. How it was made and then how it becomes unmade are typical of the fascinating and truly strange events Mr. Kean shares with us.



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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 Second and Fourth Sundays 10:30-11:30 AM

CHAPEL NOTES

During the summer months we welcomed several ministers new to our chapel services. Now, in September, we look forward to seeing some of our long-time friends leading worship.

Sept. 6 - The Rev. Paul Cooper, All Saints Anglican Church, Cranberry Twp.

Sept. 13 - The Rev. Mark Boyd, Park Presbyterian Church, Beaver

Sept. 20 - The Rev. Chris Suehr, Hope Lutheran Church, Cranberry Twp.

Sept. 27 - The Rev. Dan Corll, Mt. Pleasant Presbyterian Church, Wexford

We invite you to join us Sunday afternoons at 2:00 PM in the auditorium.

Agnes Peebles

LADIES COFFEE AND DONUTS SOCIAL

Monday, Sept. 14 at 10:00 AM in the Great Room at the Oak Lodge, all ladies are cordially invited to come and check out our Bible Study Group. This is not a Bible Study, just a social gathering before we begin our new season which starts the following Monday, Sept. 21 at 10:45 AM in the Chapel.

Please R.S.V.P by Labor Day, Sept. 7, if you are coming on Sept. 14 so that I get enough donuts... *"Cause <u>I'm</u> gonna want at least 2..."*

> *Rita Pinyot* 724-591-5160

Thank you, Joe, for capturing the beauty of our campus in full bloom; may these photos be etched in our memories to sustain us through the coming winter!

