

THE ACORN

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

Summer 2015 “For the residents, by the residents” Vol. XVI No. 6



Photo by Ken Hareza
Story on page 16

And it's “bearly” Spring...

"ROLL OUT THOSE LAZY, HAZY, CRAZY DAYS OF SUMMER ..."

Yes, in summer, agendas are less muscular, clocks less insistent. There is time to read! An old magazine, a new detective story, a classic from high school days. This issue of THE ACORN features the Sherwood Oaks Library: the people, the systems and the workings behind the book stacks, magazine racks, comfortable chairs and that free book cart out in the hall. In other words, we will go behind the scenes.

Two books walked into a library... But how did they get there? Some were selected and purchased by the Book Selection Committee. (Our SORA dollars at work...see Tom Fararo's article elsewhere in this issue.) Some were donated by residents and their families. Some of those, — foundlings, — arrive in boxes on the library doorstep. However, inquiring prior to a book delivery is much easier all around. Librarian Betty Polley can tell you which of your books the SO Library can use. Come into the Library and ask for a donation form. Betty is also willing to make house calls! If you are culling book collections, make a date with Betty and she will come to your place to help in the sorting process. She will also provide information about places to donate other, leftover books.

And how do books leave? Daily. People sign them out (for three weeks with renewal options). On Wednesday, May 13, 33 books were signed out! If you are late in returning or renewing a book, a volunteer (who else?) will remind you.

The Coletta McKenry Library, the largest library of any retirement community in the Pittsburgh area, lists 6,100 hard cover books in the card catalog. That number does not include 1,600 paperbacks...or journals and magazines.

Periodically (no pun intended) Betty, assisted by Ed Vidt, sorts books. If a book has not been signed out in five years, it might wind up on the Free/Do Not Return cart. Mind you, "One of a Kind" books achieve emeritus status and remain on the shelves.

Between a book's coming and going, many workers tend to its care and well-being. At least two dozen residents donate time and work. The Library Committee, chaired by Jane Mallory, is a SORA Committee. Its offshoot is the Book Selection Committee. Some volunteers do double duty: they serve on a Committee and work in the library. Betty Polley and Louise Hackett are the Librarians, Flora Farinelli, Library Aide. Each performs specific, professional tasks. Remember Dewey Decimal numbers? The book which lists them is called SEARS LIST. But, not to worry, this information is also available electronically, on a world-wide list. There is money in the SORA budget so that we can "plug in." It will take awhile.

Every day except Sunday, someone records sign-out slips, returns books to the shelves, "redds up" magazines. Someone sticks orange dots to the spines of new books, blue ones to large-print volumes. You read the list of new books in THE ACORN. Bob Hines compiles that... More volunteer tasks than meet the eye!

As John Lorenz says, "Books help sustain us." So let's say thanks to Library Committees and Volunteers. And, as the entire staff reminds us: "Be sure to sign out your book."

rbb





Sherwood Oaks residents who worked as librarians have achieved many remarkable things...

Beverly Schacht was head of the reference library in Butler when they received the first grant in Pennsylvania to connect two libraries by computer. They linked Butler and Zelienople public libraries in the 70s. At the reference desk, one memorable query was "How many dimples are on a golf ball?"

Ruth Fondi spent three years earning her Library Science degree at night school. Her helpful husband handled the seven kids, ages 2-12, each night she had classes. Her proudest achievement was teaching Library Science at Marywood College.

Louise Hackett had intended to teach high school English and Social Studies. When a librarian retired at her school, she was offered the position with the proviso that she earn her Library Science degree while doing the job. She did and her proudest achievement was to have two of her student volunteers become school librarians.

Gussie Dimmick's most memorable time was moving the books and equipment to Pitt's Hillman Library in 1968. Prior to this they operated out of three floors and the basement in the Cathedral of Learning. The empty floors of the Hillman Library looked as big as football fields. The building itself was beautiful and seemed to float on its base. Gussie found the new library full of amenities she'd never seen before - offices for faculty, student study carrels, group study rooms, audio-visual rooms and computer

rooms. It was like a step into the 21st century without going through the 20th. Because the books and staff were moved into the building before furniture arrived, students sprawled on floors all over the building. With no chairs, each floor looked more like a day at the beach than a proper library.

Betty Polley had the task of setting up the library for Seneca Valley's new senior high school. With a small budget of \$50,000, she had to scout sales across western Pennsylvania and Ohio to get a proper collection. Happily, she was able to pull a good many books from the old library which had been for grades 9-12, to form a base for the new grades 11-12 building. With Betty Polley as head librarian for Sherwood Oaks, each of these former librarians has been consulted and put to good use for the running of our great Library.

Peggy Meister



Photos by Joe Asin

I call **John Lorenz** "The Father of Us All" and that is OK by the retired librarians who live at Sherwood Oaks. From 1966-1976 he was Deputy Director of the Library of Congress. Work on a global automated book cataloging system was begun under his aegis. But what might be easier to envision are Bookmobiles. They hit the road when John was Head of Library Services of the US Office of Education. The Office and the American Library Association (of which John was an active member) borrowed the idea from the US Department of Agriculture as a way to enhance rural life. When John says "Books help sustain us," he not only knows what he is talking about, he knows the work it takes to bring books and people together.

A BOOK SELECTION COMMITTEE ANNOUNCEMENT

As most residents probably know, a committee selects new books for our library. The current members are: Helen Haberlein, Mary (Gussie) Dimmick, Beverly Sanker, George Mallory, Kathleen Schartner and Tom Fararo (Chair).

Some books selected are by well-known and popular authors, but others are not. Of the latter, it sometimes happens that word-of-mouth is sufficient to encourage readers. In other cases, the book languishes in the stacks with only one, or even no, reader, — despite very positive media reviews as well as the committee's judgment that the book also would be of interest to residents. To enhance the visibility of some of these books, THE ACORN will begin to publish recommendations in the form of mini-reviews of such books. Some of these will be by Ed Vidt, as usual, and others will be by a member of the Committee (see below).

Tom Fararo

In the Kingdom of the Ice: The Grand and Terrible Polar Voyage of the USS Jeannette

Hampton Sides 2014 (Nonfiction)

There was a time when the polar regions were considered to be nearly as inaccessible as the moon. Nevertheless, brave adventurers set forth, as did the crew of the USS Jeannette. Sponsored by James Gordon Bennett (who sent Stanley to Africa to find Livingstone), the expedition hoped to reach the North Pole. In 1879, the ship set sail from San Francisco. But sailing into uncharted waters was

hazardous; it became trapped in pack ice. In the next two years, the 32-man crew was faced with the loss of their ship and a march across the ice to safety which involved meager supplies and the constant dangers of polar bears, snow blindness and storms. Hampton Sides, who also wrote **Ghost Soldiers**, has written an exciting, carefully researched tale of an amazing adventure. Highly recommended.

Mary (Gussie) Dimmick

Euphoria

Lily King 2014 (Fiction)

Named one the "ten best of the year" by the **New York Times**, **Time** and other review sources, this absorbing short novel is based upon an episode in the life of Margaret Mead, the famous cultural anthropologist. Her fictional counterpart is a young woman who is already famous when she arrives in New Guinea in the early 1930s to begin a new study of a tribal culture. She is accompanied by two other anthropologists, one her unpredictable and often nasty husband. The other, an insecure young British man filled with doubts about his capacity for field work, deeply admires her methods and soon becomes drawn to her romantically. The story draws the reader into the intense emotional and intellectual lives of the three protagonists, closely mirroring the real events with one major and surprising exception at the end of the story. Told with vivid attention to how these Westerners adapt to the torrid jungle environment, the story is one that you will not soon forget. Strongly recommended to Sherwood readers looking for quality fiction.

Tom Fararo

STORY TIME AT SHERWOOD OAKS



Kim Good and friend Photo by Melissa Chapman

No one is ever too old or too young for a good story. During the school year, Kim Good, sometimes aided by other residents, reads to students from Garden Montessori School who come to visit once a month, October through April. You might have seen them in the Center, trailing over to the Oak Grove Center where residents and kids alike gather to listen. Kim, a long-time reading specialist, chooses the books with suggestions from the Montessori staff. After story time, Oak Grove residents share cookies and juice with the guests. Who has a better time, the teachers, the kids, the readers? Each group will tell you "We do."

In May, the Sherwood Oaks folks visited their students at Garden Montessori.

MY LIFE AND TIMES BY FELICITY FLAMINGO

(In 2001, flamingos arrived en masse on a grassy area in Parking Lot F. The community was astounded, — then charmed, — by the quiet, gentle pink creatures; they endeared themselves to residents; soon they were adopted by a number of folks. Now, flamingo cousins return to their adoptive homes on May 1 each year to be welcomed into the community once again.)

scd

In case you were wondering, my Mom, Madelin Clements, asked me to share my

extraordinary life story with all of you readers. I came to Sherwood Oaks in 2001, the love child and unexpected blessing to Ace Conner (Dad) and Madelin. They married in 1996 and I was the last thing they expected and the first thing that happened (almost). Both of them were delighted with my arrival.

Shortly after I graced the community with my presence, Mom and Dad declared May 1 to be "Return of the Flamingos Day" at Sherwood Oaks. It has been a tradition ever since.

My family tree has been traced back to an island off the coast of Africa, home of my ancestors and current family. You may have seen pictures of our family reunions.

Being true to my family, I reside next to the front door of Patio Home 183 where I enjoy taking in the sights of neighbors, housekeepers, dog-walkers and others as they pass by. During the hot summer days, I wear a lot of sunscreen and a straw hat with pink flowers or a fancy bow around my (*ahem*) swan-like neck.

Like many of the feminine persuasion, I have an extensive wardrobe. I'm proud of my matching holiday outfits of hats, coats and assorted accessories.

From May 1 - October 1, my family members (17, currently) reside on campus in several garden areas. Then we leave for warmer climes so that our tail feathers don't freeze.

Dad left us in August, 2004. Mom and I miss him, but we're sure he is decorating heaven with many of my cousins.

Feel free to say hello when you're in my neighborhood. I enjoy meeting new friends.

(As told to Mom, Madelin Clements)

GEORGE AND LYNNE ELLIS

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Interviewed by Marianne Davis



Perhaps you've already met them - that good-looking, 6'5" guy and his enthusiastic, pint-sized wife. George retired in 2010 and is often at the Center for meals.

He came west from Wilkes Barre to attend the University of Pittsburgh. After competing his degree in Civil/Structural Engineering, he took his first job in Canton, Ohio.

After graduating from Slippery Rock High School, Lynne was employed as a secretary at Spang. She soon realized she wanted something more. While still employed, she enrolled at Pitt, completing her Bachelor's degree in Business some 14 years later. Presently she is Vice President of Human Relations at the same company. "With 37 years at the company, they had to reward me some way," she said laughingly.

In 1979 George came to work at Spang. They rapidly realized that they had much in common and after a strong friendship of over 15 years decided to get married. His son and her daughter, both pre-teens, fit together well. So began their 20 years of married life in Butler. During this time the two of them completed their MBAs at night, also at Pitt. "We were always proud of that and the success of our two children. They both finished college and are great adults," Lynne shared.

Their daughter and her engineer husband live a few blocks away where they are rearing a two-year old daughter and are expecting another child. Their ROTC son and his teacher wife live in Augusta, GA, where he is attached to an IT unit in the US Army.

Evidence of George's artistic talent is visible throughout their home. Striking photographs depicting the lush beauty of the woodlands surrounding their Butler home and the awesome grandeur of the Lake Tahoe area adorn the walls of their patio room. "He was the skier," Lynne said, "I enjoyed the peacefulness of the area, the spa and shopping." His amazing woodworking skills are evident in the beautifully crafted cherry desk, several tables and the TV stand in their great room. Tom Risch has eagerly recruited him to join the wood shop group. Although George formerly enjoyed long-distance biking and participating in 100-mile fundraisers, he has currently restricted his riding to local areas.

Lynne has been serving on the Board of Butler's Community Care Connections (formerly United Cerebral Palsy) for 30+ years assisting them with employee-related issues. "Such a worthy organization." Her recent travel is mostly work-related. "I attend many trainings, seminars and meetings, as well as travel to our company sites in Pennsylvania, Ohio, Hong Kong, and Xiamen, China. We both enjoy traveling in the western US, when time allows."

They are glad that they made the choice to come to Sherwood Oaks while still young enough to participate and enjoy the many activities available. Some years ago, Lynne attended a Human Resource meeting here and thought, "I could live here!" Now 25 years later, it is a reality. "Such a friendly and welcoming place," she said.

TOM GREGORY

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Interviewed by Harriet Burress



Tom has had his eye on Patio Home 153 for some time knowing that his grandchildren and his dog would enjoy running and playing on the Summer House grounds. "I spend 90% or more of my time in the patio room, and from there I can hear the chimes. Sherwood Oaks is a good life."

Tom was born in Pittsburgh, but when he was one and a half years old, his family moved to West Virginia. "Growing up in the 50s was carefree. Probably that's true of my years at West Virginia University as well." After receiving his BS degree in geology, he was drafted into the Army for two years and served in Frankfurt, Germany, in military intelligence. "I don't know how I was chosen for that assignment, but once there I took off my uniform and wore regular clothes. It was a very classified job."

When Tom returned to the United States and civilian life, he began working for All-state Insurance in Shaker Heights, Ohio.

"I entered a large room filled with employees and saw the most beautiful young woman I had ever seen. I said to my friend, 'I am going to marry her,' and I did. Carol was gifted in so many ways — in music, art, education, etc., and we were married for 52 years." She died in February, 2014.

Tom came to Pittsburgh to pursue his MA in Community Organization and Administration at Pitt, and he and Carol never left. They had two children and lived in the North Hills for 49 years. His work was in the field of mental health for children and case management services for the developmentally disabled. He retired in 2001 as CEO of Family Links.

Often seen coming out of the Center with a book, Tom is a prolific reader. He enjoys music of all kinds, especially classical and Blue Grass, and is an avid swimmer. He also does a lot of walking and enjoys the company of his dog, Zoe, who "barks like a dog and bays like a hound." A 15-year-old, snow white cat named Whiskers completes the household. His family, who live close by are frequent visitors.

One of Tom's hobbies is genealogy. His 5x great-grandfather was Col. William Crawford for whom Crawford County was named. In 1782, the Colonel led 500 soldiers out of Ft. Pitt into Ohio as part of the Sandusky campaign. It was there that Crawford and his son were captured and burned at the stake. Crawford County, Ohio, is also named after this true frontiersman. Tom's ancestors came from Scotland and Ireland in the 1680s.

A member of St. Paul's Methodist Church, Tom attributes his learning about Sherwood Oaks to the Brandenbergers who also attend there. Welcome, Tom, to your new home.

CAROL SECKINGER

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Interviewed by Betty Howard

Carol grew up in Parrsboro, Nova Scotia on the Bay of Fundy. She had one sister. Both her parents had 10 siblings. Carol is still a faithful daughter of Canada: she has passports from both her countries. She celebrated her birthday last August in Parrsboro with about 30 people, some of them high school friends.

Carol enjoyed growing-up in Nova Scotia. She loved all seasons. In winter it was skiing and skating: boys' hockey and girls' hockey, plus figure skating. Everybody skated, especially on a two-mile stretch of a frozen river, just across the bridge from the salt water.

Summer was wonderful. Her mother could hardly wait until they got to their beach house on the Bay of Fundy. The magic flow of the tides, in for six hours, an hour between, and then back out for six hours is unique to the Bay of Fundy. Her mother could not be persuaded to return to town until the morning school opened. The family piled into the car. But horrors, the two lane road into Parrsboro was clogged by a herd of cows. Carol arrived an hour late for her first day in 9th grade. To this day, when she drives past that farm house, she says "That's the place." After her mother's death, the family moved to Ottawa. Eventually, Carol went on to study nursing there.

Carol always loved travel. During her first marriage, she and her husband, Kerry Gill, spent a year teaching in Zambia. Her husband was on leave from the Canadian National Research Council. Kerry taught chemistry and Carol taught basics of

nursing to teen age boys who had completed 10th grade. At that time, most girls "finished" schooling at 4th grade.

After Kerry's untimely death, Carol returned to Halifax, Nova Scotia, and continued studies in education at the University of Dalhousie where she earned a Master's Degree. One day Carol parked her car in front of the classroom building and left the window open. Surprise! Her yellow lab, Julie, sniffed and followed Carol's scent to the classroom where she sat contentedly down beside her mistress.

Another surprise! A new professor, an American, Dr. Richard Seckinger, on leave from the University of Pittsburgh, was conducting that class. He and Carol were married and, with Julie, moved to Pittsburgh and bought a house in Highland Park where they lived for 45 years. Carol taught nursing. Soon her life was busy with babies, a girl and two boys. Carol's daughter and son-in-law now live in Massachusetts with her two grandchildren, a girl and a boy. One of her sons is with the Foreign Service in Russia; the other lives and works in Colorado. Her husband, Richard died one year ago.

Carol recently retired to Sherwood Oaks with her two cats. Right now she hopes to find a three-year-old Labrador Retriever. She plans to travel more throughout the U.S., Canada and Alaska. With her piano ensconced in her living room, she hopes to take piano lessons.

Carol is a delightful addition to the Sherwood Oaks community.

Welcome Carol!

JUDY STOUGH

(Judy says " It rhymes with "How now, Brown Cow")

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Interviewed by Betty Eichler



Judy Stough lived the childhood that is a fantasy for many American children. She was a real, live Texas cowhand. Her horse Sleepy was gentle and slow. When she was six years old she went on a round-up with her mother and others to help neighbors get their cattle to market. It was a long day. On the way home, Judy and Sleepy lagged behind the others. Her mother was concerned, but a friend said, "Don't worry. They will be all right. Sleepy knows the way home." A while later, Sleepy wandered into the corral with Judy barely awake in the saddle.

Judy's father loved movies, the newest fad in entertainment. They went to the movies almost every Saturday night. Their favorites were Westerns. Judy's father arranged for her to meet cowboy star Tom Mix and even sit on his horse.

In her later childhood, the family moved to Lima, Ohio. Judy graduated from high school there, attended business school in Fort Wayne, then worked for the Ross Gear and Tool Company in Lafayette, Indiana. She met

her husband while traveling on the Wabash Cannon-ball, reportedly the fastest train in the country. But the train was eight hours late that day! Judy headed to work immediately; the young man rushed to morning classes at Purdue. Romance was slow to materialize because Judy was reluctant. Donald Stough was persistent and in due time they married. After graduating from Purdue, Donald worked for the Hagan Corporation in Pittsburgh. They raised their four children in Penn Hills, then moved to Massilon, Ohio, where Judy has lived for the past 40 years.

Judy is a member of the DAR and enjoys doing genealogical research. Her paternal grandfather came from Sweden and settled in Minneapolis. She has cruised in and around Sweden. She saw the palace of the Tsars in St. Petersburg, Russia. Her maternal Grandfather Grant was an immigrant from Ireland and an early pioneer in Holmes County, Ohio.

Judy is a member of Eastern Star, active in the Republican Party, loves to play bridge and has taught others to play. She also enjoys quilting and has made many quilts for children, grandchildren and great-grandchildren. (There's a waiting list.) She has kept just one of her creations for herself. She is connecting her computer and sewing machine to each other for her newest project!

Her children live in Mars, PA, Myrtle Beach, SC, Wadsworth, OH, and Seattle, WA. She has 10 grandchildren and 10 great-grandchildren. When looking for a retirement and health care community, Judy chose Sherwood Oaks because one of her granddaughters used to work here and said, "Everyone seems to be so happy." We welcome Judy and trust she will be happy to be here, too.

WHAT'S NEW WITH SORA?

Reports and actions at the May SORA Board meeting included:

Treasurers' Reports - Sherwood Gifts provided a \$5,000 donation to the Memorial/Special Projects fund, for a total of \$68,489. The Employee Appreciation Fund received \$1,500 from the Frances Conlon estate. Operating Treasurer Ray Friedel reported receipt of \$109.18 from the Auction Barn.

Liaison Reports

Welcoming Committee: The dinner for new residents will be held on June 9, prior to the SORA Quarterly Meeting. Diet restrictions will be taken into consideration. Kelley Noble and Connie and Gary Brandenberger were thanked for their service on the committee; their terms will end on June 30.

Security and Transportation: Two new staff persons have been hired and new security cameras are being placed in the coat room and scooter room.

Trips and Tours – New officers of the Committee are Charles Cullen, Chair, and Diane Neely, Secretary. Trips being planned are (1) Seven Springs, Fort Necessity, and Ohiopyle; (2) Lancaster; (3) Flight 93 Memorial and Jennerstown; (4) Foxburg; (5) Light-up Night in Pittsburgh. Dates are to be determined.

Memorial/Special Projects Committee decided that in the future it would discuss and decide whether or not to approve funding for projects without those advocating for their proposal being present during the discussion. They also decided to meet monthly (rather than bi-monthly), usually on the third Tuesday. Sherwood Oaks Administration has approved two projects referred to it by M/SP Committee: (1) a sun-protecting awning on the Oak Grove Center porch (\$13,824) and (2) a dust collection system in the work shop (\$15,000). The Committee approved a proposal from the Landscape

Committee for \$8,645 for "Drainage improvement of the access path to the North Woods." This was also approved by the SORA Board.

Sherwood Gifts: Ken Mundell has resigned as Treasurer; Judy Batson will fill the position.

Program Committee: The following programs were announced: June 6, 7:15 PM - Concert by the Hill United Presbyterian Church Youth Chorale; June 23, 7:15 PM - Program by the Cranberry Civic Chorale.

Management Report from Mark Bondi:

The new fitness center will be called the Cranberry Lake Fitness Center. Construction bids were received last week; we will award a bid and begin construction soon.

Old Business: The following persons will be nominated at the Quarterly Meeting on June 9, at 7:15 PM:

Officers: For a one year term (7/1/15 - 6/30/16) President, Peter Broeren; Vice - President, Bill Paul; Secretary, Betty Eichler.

Directors: For a two year term (7/1/15 - 6/30/16) 2nd terms: Jean McLaughlin, Ron Ouellette, Barbara Scruggs; 1st terms: Linda Blum, Ellie Castle.

New Business: Phil Stebler, representing the Lake Sub-Committee of the Maintenance Committee, presented a proposal to construct a floating dock, purchase two pedal boats and sufficient life jackets and build an asphalt walkway to the dock, at a cost of \$24,842. Following questions and discussion by the Board regarding safety, response time for Security and Medical staff and other issues, the proposal was defeated by a vote of three in favor and ten opposed.

Betty Eichler,
Reporter



Joe Asin

NEWS FROM THE SORA ARCHIVES

We recently received a copy of an oral interview of former Sherwood Oaks residents, James and Marjorie Theys, active and much-liked members of the SO community during their years here. The interview was conducted by Heinz History Center archivists and given to us by the late Sandra L. Baker, former History Center Volunteer Program Director, who presented a talk about the Heinz Company at a March 2015 Continued Learning program.

Jim Theys had been a senior production manager in food processes at HJ Heinz Company. Before that, as a young Air Force pilot in World War II, he flew a B17 bomber on 35 missions over France and Germany and was a recipient of the Distinguished Flying Cross. The account of these very different times in his life are unusually detailed and interesting. Presently a copy of this interview is in the SORA Archives cabinet. Another copy has arrived from the bindery and is available for residents to read in the library.

Jane Mallory
SO Library Committee

SORA QUARTERLY MEETING AND ELECTION

Tuesday, June 9th at 7:15 PM

Please plan to come and vote in the election of officers and board members.

The nominating committee report was placed into your mailboxes with the names, positions and terms of office of the proposed nominees.

Peter Broeren
President, SORA

A library is thought in cold storage.
~Herbert Samuel

ATTENTION YELLOW JACKET VOLUNTEERS

A Vigil (Hospice) Volunteer Training program will be offered this summer. This training is for Yellow Jacket Volunteers who would like to become Vigil (Hospice) Volunteers. However, any Volunteer who has taken this training in the past, may also attend for a refresher course.

The two hour training, offered through Family Hospice, will be held July 23 at 1:30 PM in the Card Room.

Please keep an eye open for additional information. Questions? Call me at 8471.

Laura Childress

SHERWOOD GIFTS

Sherwood Gifts extends a special welcome to all the many new faces in our community. We'd like you to know that the gift shop is an entirely volunteer-run enterprise, ably managed by Juanita Manley, chairperson, and Sonja DeGray, vice-chairperson.

The shop is like a mini-department store with 5 separate departments, each of which has its own manager: Cards - Marianne Davis; Candy and Snacks - Jean Gibson; Sundries - Sonja DeGray; Jewelry and Scarves - Juanita Manley and Ginny Yundt; Granny's Attic - me with indispensable help from co-managers, Carol Caum (who owned an antique shop and has managed estate sales!) and the indefatigable Peggy Meister. Working with us behind the scenes are the sorters, the packers and the un-packers.

Granny's Attic is the department that receives donations for re-sale from residents and their families. Furniture items too large to display in the shop are on display in patio home #156 and photos of those items can be seen in a scrapbook in the shop. Arrangements to see the items can be made by speaking to me or my co-managers. We will publicize regular hours when furniture can be seen in #156.

All Sherwood Gifts profits go to the Memorial/Special Projects Fund.

Sales would be impossible without our wonderful corps of cashiers, trained by a very knowledgeable and patient Flora Farinelli. We are always eager for more volunteers in this area.

Essential to the success of the shop are the money managers: Treasurer, Ken Mundell; Assistants, Tom Shepard, Kelley Noble, Anne Williams and Judy Batson (who will be taking Ken's place when he retires this year).

At least forty volunteers work together to make the shop a social and financial success. Come join us...we have just the right job for you!

*Barbara Scruggs
Manager, Granny's Attic*

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A GLIMPSE INTO THE PAST PART 4 OF THE SERIES

June 1980 Sherwood Oaks Newsletter:

Our Number Grows

In the last Newsletter we reported that we had 79 Priority List Agreements. We are happy to say that the number has increased to 86. This means we still have a way to go to reach the necessary 130.

"Living at Sherwood Oaks will be giving the whole family a great gift of Peace."

Bob & Marion Snowdon

February 1985 issue:

New Postal Rates In Effect

Postal rates are increased. First class stamps are 22 cents, postcards - 14 cents, aerograms - 36 cents, pre-stamped envelopes - 27 cents, air-mail to Europe - 44 cents, air-mail to Central America - 39 cents, overseas postcards - 33 cents and special delivery fee - \$2.95 plus postage.

Sally Donnell

MISHAP ON THE BOUNTY

It was one of those rare, cloudless days with blue sky and warm, but not hot, temperature. An exciting afternoon was on the horizon. Arriving at the dock on the Monongahela River, we removed the tarp from our boat and prepared for the afternoon fun. One of our favorite activities was to attach a tube to the stern and take turns cruising up and down the river, often asking friends to join us. This was one of those days. Our friends, Don and Virginia, eagerly looked forward to the afternoon. We brought extra clothes for changing so that at the end of the afternoon, we could dock at one of the riverside restaurants, sit on their deck and look out over the river. It sounded perfect.

All was off to a good start, but the Captain of the ship, my husband Bob, thought it would be wise to fill the gas tank before going too far. He looked at Don who had little or no experience with boats, and said in his Captain voice, "I will pull up to the dock, you hop out and I will toss you a rope which you can secure to the cleat on the dock." I could tell from the look on Don's face that he was not at all sure he wanted this assignment and since I had done it before, I nobly stepped in with, "Don't worry about it, Don. I will do it." I noticed a look of relief on his face; but Bob said later that I was just showing off.

As the filling station was in the opposite direction from the way we were planning to cruise, Bob needed to make a turn in order to pull up beside the pump. I hopped out as planned and grabbed the side of the boat. By this time, the wake we had created hit with some force. While I hung onto the side, with feet on the dock, the boat started to float "out to sea." My body grew longer and longer until I found myself with feet on the dock and hands clutching the boat which was drifting out farther and farther. Bob was thoroughly disgusted with my ineptitude

and sought to help matters by saying, "Stand up, Ellen." Realizing that I was not going to follow orders, my Captain came to the side of the boat, reached down and grabbed my wrists. At this point I remembered that I was wearing my swim suit and didn't need to avoid the water; so I simply stepped off the dock into the water. Bob had no idea I was about to do that; so when my body slipped down into the water, it pulled him off balance. As I went down, I saw his entire body flipping out of the boat into the water. Fully clothed, down he went — clothes, wristwatch, wallet, glasses, shoes, the works. From inside the boat I heard Virginia's fearful voice... "Don, the only people who know anything about this boat are in the water and we are all alone."

By this time we had created some interest among those on shore, who came to our rescue. We were none the worse for wear, but we did need to get Bob dried. He changed into his swim suit and we artfully draped his clothes around the boat so that they could dry in the air as we tubed up and down the river. By the time we were ready to pull into the restaurant, Bob's clothes were dry. There was one clue to the afternoon's adventure. Although Bob looked combed, dried and presentable, his shoes did not dry out and as we were led to our table, it was to the sound of "squish, squish, squish" coming from a pair of size 13 shoes.

It has been said that the two happiest days of your life are the day you buy a boat and the day you sell that boat. Well, the boat is long gone, but that adventure was one of the most delightful times we ever had on it. Twenty years later, it *still* makes us laugh.

Ellen Brierly

PROGRAM COMMITTEE

Saturday, June 6, 2015

7:15 PM in the Auditorium

The Hill United Presbyterian Church Youth Chorale, comprised of 45 students from 7th grade to college-age, will present the first concert of their Spring season. The Chorale conductor is Kathy Sawyer, daughter-in-law of Sherwood Oaks resident Mary Lou Sawyer.

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

7:15 PM in the Auditorium

The Cranberry Civic Chorale will perform here. This 30-member Chorale, founded by John Milius in 1944, comes highly recommended. The all-volunteer group believes singing is fun and rewarding in many ways. Come and enjoy the music.

A Special Note from Your Program Committee:

How would you like to feel that you are in heaven?

Well, this June, Gretchen Van Hoesen will be here with harp and violin music. The tentative date is Monday, June 15. Gretchen is principal harp with the PSO. She will appear with two of her students.

So come and hear some heavenly music.

Charlie Brown

Libraries: The medicine chest of the soul.

*~inscription over the door,
Library at Thebes*

TRIPS & TOURS

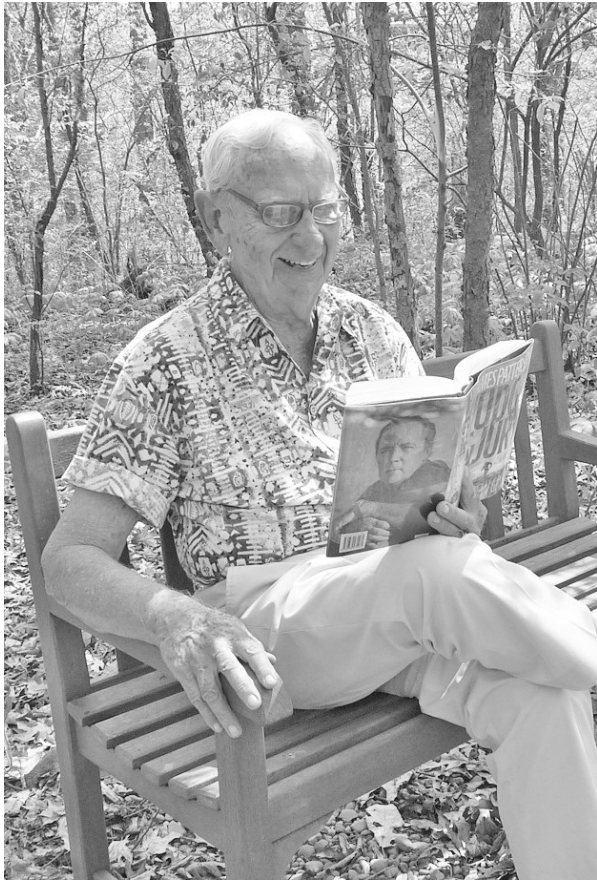
A variety of trips have happened this year, and there are more coming up! Please keep a close eye on our bulletin board in the mail room. The cost of a trip will be on the posting. However, unless it states otherwise, the cost of bus transportation will appear on your monthly Sherwood Oaks statement. This cost is determined by the driver's expenses plus the mileage cost divided by the number of people taking the trip. Generally, at least ten participants are required.

Upcoming trips:

- 1) June 4-6** - the Shaw Festival at Niagara-on-the-Lake with tickets to see three plays.
- 2) June 25** - PNC Park - Pirates vs Reds **SOLD OUT!**
- 3) July 17** - Gateway Clipper cruise with lunch and a Frank Sinatra show followed by a short visit to the Rivers Casino.
- 4) July 22** - Seven Springs for lunch with visits to Ohio Pyle and Ft. Necessity.
- 5) August 21-23** - Allenberry Resort with a dinner theater production of "South Pacific," an overnight, then "Joseph" at the Sight and Sound Theater in Lancaster.
- 6) October 7** - See the fall leaves at Foxburg with lunch and a carriage ride.
- 7) Flight 93 Museum** - date TBD.

If you have any ideas for future trips or if you would like to be on the Trips and Tours committee, please contact Charles Cullen, the committee chair, at x8313.

Barbara Scruggs



Ralph Peabody reads in the North Woods Photo: Joe Asin

NORTH WOODS

The path from the perimeter walkway to the bridge into the North Woods has had problems. Occasional heavy rains have washed the material on the path downward toward the stream and gullied the path, making walking difficult.

By the time you read this all will have been corrected. We have contracted with Fairfield Landscaping to install a drainage channel along the uphill side of the path to direct rain water so that it does not run across the path. In addition, workers will apply a more stable material to the path surface. This will provide a better surface, requiring less maintenance.

Happy visiting in the North Woods!

Deane Lavender

GREENHOUSE NEWS

Most of you will be taking your plants outdoors this month. The new chart for Fall and Winter space is now posted on the Greenhouse bulletin board. It will remain there until all the spaces have been claimed.

If you have any questions, please contact me at x8179. Have a good summer gardening outdoors.

Debby Jacoby



Tabby Alford

FOCUS ON THE WORLD

Thursday, June 11, 2015
7:15 PM in the Auditorium

You will not want to miss this program. The speaker, Dr. Irving Jones, will address the subject of "Problems and Prospects in Public Education." Dr. Jones has a history of turning around under-achieving schools. While he was principal of an exceptional high school in Charlottesville, VA, he was named the National Secondary Principal-of-the-Year. He is now a consultant to struggling inner city schools. It will be an informative evening.

Mark your calendars:

Quarterly Food Bank Collection
Sunday, July 12 - Saturday, July 18
Leave contributions in the Scooter Room.

Ellie Castle

“GONE IS GONE” IS NOT GONE!

In the second grade at P.S. 53 in Buffalo, New York, Friday afternoons meant "library books." The newly returned books, and those that had been waiting to be chosen, were all arranged in the chalk tray, leaning against the black board. Row by row, Miss Thomas would call a group of pupils forward. Sometimes my row got first dibs.

There was this small, greenish-yellow book, GONE IS GONE by Wanda Gag. It had wood-cut illustrations. I might have recalled the author's name from MILLIONS OF CATS. At any rate, I chose the book, signed it out, took it home. Either Mom or Dad read it aloud to the whole family, my three older brothers, too.

We all laughed. I was proud: it was the first time in my life that I had found something NEW which my brothers and parents had never heard of or seen. We all laughed again and again when someone or other read the book for the third or eighth time. It got so that any family member would comment on a loss by repeating the refrain from the story: "Nah, Nah, what's gone is gone."

The following Friday I logged the book in and it was returned to the chalk tray. For Christmas 1940, I gave a copy of GONE IS GONE to my Dad. For Christmas 2013, I gave a copy of GONE IS GONE to our four-year old granddaughter.

Ruth Becker

When I got my library card, that's when my life began.

~Rita Mae Brown

COVER PHOTO:

*Dateline Sherwood Oaks, May 7, 2015, 2:21 PM....*Maintenance man Jay Klir was repairing a fan in Marianne Davis' unit when he stopped to admire a rose-breasted grosbeak on the bird feeder. He commented, "What's that animal under the wall?" It's a d-o-uh..." she stammered and then looked closer. "It's a **Bear**," they exclaimed in unison.

scd

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

It is "Summertime when the livin' is easy." We are headed to the hammock with a stack of books. See you in September, well, actually August 14, if you are an ACORN contributor.

**COLETTA MCKENRY LIBRARY
ACCESSIONS**

FICTION INCLUDING LARGE TYPE:

All Around the Town

Mary Higgins Clark © 1992.F/CLA/L.T.

Another Woman

Penny Vincenzi © 1994.F/VIN

The Cinderella Murder

Mary Higgins Clark © 2014.F/CLA/L.T.

Cold Cold Heart

Tami Hoag © 2015.F/HOA

Digging Up Clues

Kelly Ann Riley © 2014.F/RIL

Dirt

Stuart Woods © 1996.F /Woo

The Divide

Nicholas Evans © 2005.F/EVA

Dracula

Bram Stoker © 1993.F/STO

Driving on the Rim

Thomas McGuane © 2010.F/McG

The Escape

David Baldacci © 2014.F/BAL/L.T.

The Fifth Gospel

Ian Caldwell © 2015.F/CAL

Fifty Shades Darker

E.L. James © 2011.F/JAM

A Fine Summer's Day

Charles Todd © 2015.F/TOD

Fools Die

Mario Puzo © 1978.F/PUZ

Forever

Pete Hamill © 2003.F/HAM

Forgotten Country

Catherine Chung © 2012.F/CHU/L.T.

Goodbye to Yesterday

Wanda E. Brunstetter © 2013.F/BRU

The Hope of Spring

Wanda E. Brunstetter © 2013.F/BRU

The Husband's Secret

Liane Moriarty © 2013.F/MOR

Last One Home

Debbie Macomber © 2015.F/MAC

Leaving Berlin

Joseph Kanon © 2015.F/KAN

The Leopard

Jo Nesbo © 2011.F/NES

A Letter of Mary

Laurie R. King © 1997.F/KIN/L.T.

Looking Back

Belva Plain © 2001.F/PLA/L.T.

Memory Man

David Baldacci © 2015.F/BAL

One Was a Soldier

Julian Spencer-Fleming © 2011.F/FLE

Ordinary Grace

William Kent Krueger © 2013.F/KRU

The Pact

Jodi Picoult © 1998.F/PIC

The Patriot Threat

Steve Berry © 2015.F/BER

Phantom

Ted Bell © 2012.F/BEL

The Pieces of Summer

Wanda E. Brunstetter © 2013.F/BRU

Power Play

Catherine Coulter © 2014.F/COU/L.T.

A Revelation in Autumn

Wanda E. Brunstetter © 2013.F/BRU

Rose Harbor in Bloom

Debbie Macomber © 2013.F/MAC

Shady Characters

Susan Page Davis © 2014.F/DAV

Saint Maybe

Anne Tyler © 1991.F/TYL/L.T.

Silas Marner and Two Short Stories

George Eliot © 2005.F/ELI

The Silence of Winter

Wanda E. Brunstetter © 2013.F/BRU

Somewhere Safe With Somebody Good

Jan Karon © 2014.F/KAR/L.T.

A Vow for Always

Wanda E. Brunstetter © 2013.F/BRU

NON-FICTION, INCLUDING BIOGRAPHIES:

A. Lincoln

Ronald C. White ©2010. Bio/LIN

Ancient Greece

Nigel Rodgers ©2013. 938/ROD

The Disappearing Spoon

Sam Kean ©2010. 546/KEA

GI Brides

Duncan Barrett ©2014. 940.92/BAR

ISIS: Inside the Army of Terror

Michael Weiss ©2015. 303.6/WEI

Jim Cramer's Mad Money

James J. Cramer ©2006. 332.6/CRA

Play Poker Like the Pros

Phil Hellmuth ©2003. 795.412/HEL

Simpler Times

Thomas Kinkade ©1996. 179.9/KIN

The Book of Wanderings: A Mother-Daughter Pilgrimage

Kimberly Meyer ©2015. 305.4/MEY



*Worth the
Time by Ed
Vidt*

Stress Test

by Timothy Geithner 330.973 (Gei)

A big, dense and very comprehensive description of the causes and cures for the U.S. financial recession 2007 - 2011. Geithner, as Secretary of the Treasury, following his job as Chairman of the New York District of the Federal Reserve Bank, gives us a play-by-play summary of what happened and why. This book is well worth your time if you have any interest in credit, debt or investment of money in the U.S. banking system, but it does not come easy.

The Boom

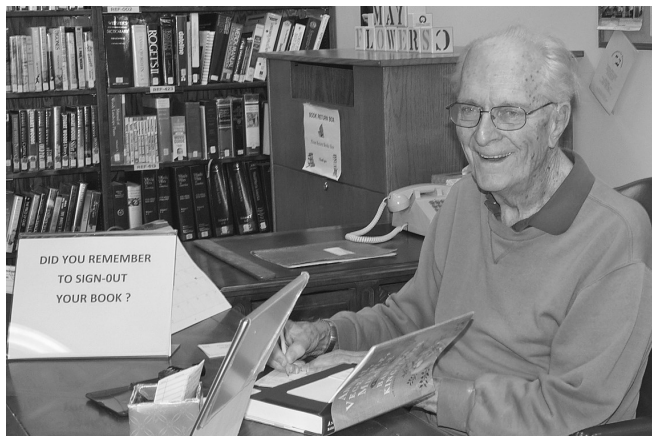
by Russell Gold 333.8 (Gol)

FRACKING!! A truly frightening word. It brings to mind poisoned water, disruptive industrial equipment and terrible smells. This carefully written book explores all of that and more. It delves into the background of the industry, and then into the real benefits of methane production to our American society. The need for future regulations, plus the need for enforcement of existing regulations, and how this must be accomplished, is the subject of this very well-researched book.

Dark Star

by Alan Furst F (Fur)

A magazine writer named Szara sends his articles to Pravda! He is nominally Russian, stationed in Paris in 1937, and must, of course, slant his stuff to praise Communism. But Szara is also an intelligence agent working against the Nazi German interests in France. He is followed in this first-hand tale through Krystallnacht and then the invasion of Poland, as a participant in the tragic beginnings of WW II. Told from the view of an insider, completely different in viewpoint from one of us in the U.S., this compelling story is well worth the time.



Ed Vidt

Photo by Joe Asin

CHAPEL NOTES

IN MEMORIAM

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

*Richard Mockenhaupt
April 27, 2015*

*William Rinehart
May 1, 2015*

*Gene Renziehausen
May 8, 2015*

*William O'Brien
May 14, 2015*

*Margaret Partee
May 16, 2015*

Summer: Sunday afternoons out in the sun, at the ball field, picnicking at the Summerhouse, worshipping with friends in the auditorium — options for our choosing. We hope you will join us for worship at 2:00 PM during these summer months. Leading our services in June are the following:

June 7 - The Rev. N. Graham Standish, Calvin Presbyterian Church, Zelienople.

June 14 - The Rev. Stewart Lawrence, Sherwood Oaks, retired military chaplain.

June 21 - The Rev. Barry Mariana, Christ Church at Grove Farm.

June 28 - The Rev. Rosalyn Kummer, retired minister, Crestview Presbyterian Church, Callery.

The list of ministers for July and August, while THE ACORN is on vacation, will be posted on the bulletin board in the mail room. Names will also be listed, as usual, in the weekly bulletin, audio bulletin and on the television channel.

Agnes Peebles

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



Librarians are almost always very helpful...and absurdly knowledgeable.

~Charles Medawar



Library Aide, Flora Farinelli



Librarian, Betty Polley



Librarian, Louise Hackett

The library lets you borrow the beauty and keep the knowledge.

~Author Unknown



From left: Retired Librarians, Beverly Schacht, Betty Polley, John Lorenz, Louise Hackett & Ruth Fondi. Missing from picture, Gussie Dimmick.

Library Volunteers: Jean McLaughlin, Jack Haller, Eleanor Rowe, Jeannette Lawrence, Ginny Yundt, Catherine Wagner, Sally Hollister, Jane Mallory, Bob Hines. Substitutes: Mary Garland, Barb Christie, Helen Haberlein, Anne Williams.