IN THE BEGINNING . . .
WAS THE CHURCH HOME
PART II
(For part I, see the April 2016 Messenger)

Neighbors and prospective residents watched with eager anticipation as the big black hole at the corner of East 56th Street and South Shore Drive in Hyde Park began to fill with a 14-story brick building. The architect designed every apartment to have at least one window projecting outward for a better view of Lake Michigan.

A few neighbors complained that the new tall building blocked their view of the lake. Their objections were assuaged with the promise of a parking place in the Montgomery Place underground garage—an advantage in all kinds of weather! The idea of a garage also alleviated neighbors’ concerns about an increase in on-street parking problems.

The upper 11 stories of the oblong building were devoted to one-, two-, and three-bedroom Independent Living apartments, while floors 2 and 3 comprised the Healthcare Pavilion, which would offer assistance and nursing care as needed to those 65 and older. The semicircular drive and entrance were on 56th Street. The front doors opened onto a central welcoming lobby.

The Administrative Offices were to the left down a window-walled hall in the west wing. The Dining Room projected out from the rear of the building with windows on three sides so that diners could enjoy a garden view. There was a salad bar, and diners awaiting seating were seated in what is now called the Amigo Room. A spacious Lounge was in the east wing next to St. Anna’s Chapel, which had been moved from the Church Home and consecrated in its new environment. A beauty salon and the scenic East Room were at the end of the hall.

continued on p. 2
On the north side, there was an Activity Room which, according to early residents, contained the Activities Director’s desk. She arranged for a bingo game and trips to grocery stores and malls. She locked the door to the room every time she left. An Exercise Room was next door with a mirror and an exercise bar. The adjacent Library contained empty bookshelves, two tables, and some chairs so that it could also be used as a private dining room. The lower level contained building utilities, a workshop, the garage, storage lockers, and the resident laundry with coin-operated machines.

The first resident, Alex Coutts, moved in on September 16, 1991, and was greeted by Bishop Montgomery and Director Tony Bale. Others followed in short order. The first dinners served were catered because the city health department had not yet approved the kitchen.

The “pioneers,” as early residents were called, soon set to work organizing the Residents’ Association and its bylaws, which would be formally adopted in May of 1992. A group meeting in December saw the need for in-house communication, and in January of 1992, the first four-page issue of the resident-written Montgomery Messenger was cut out, pasted, and photocopied. It has never missed a month of publication since!

The residents organized activities, committees, and interest groups, with an emphasis on not using the word “club,” which implied selectivity. It was important that all groups and committees be open to any resident who wanted to join. Welcoming, Dining, Health, Recycling, and Housekeeping were first, soon followed by Poetry, Music, Art, Exercise, and Garden. Residents donated books to the library, which grew at a rapid rate.

Maria Piers donated her Steinway piano, still in use today, and Dr. John Rust set up a fund in memory of his wife to purchase daily newspapers for residents to read in the Library.

The wholesome energy of the pioneers was remarkable. They were determined to have an interesting life in their community. This attitude prevails today as new residents suggest ideas for new activities which are soon implemented by the staff. You can read about the early days of Montgomery Place in the book In It Together on the Library’s shelf of resident-written books.

Stay tuned to see what happened at Montgomery Place in 2006-8! (To be continued.)

Barbara Wilson
OUT AND ABOUT

Note: “Tickets required” means you are responsible for getting your own ticket. See Concierge Dino if you need help with buying tickets.

♦ Friday, August 5, at 11:30 a.m. the bus will go to the Courtyard at Treasure Island for a jazz concert by Bossa Tres, music of Brazil. Free.

♦ Friday, August 5, at 5 p.m. the bus will go to Grant Park for a concert with Carlos Kalmar conducting the world premiere of The Cosmic Garden in Bloom by Michael Gandolfi, inspired by the magnificent Garden of Cosmic Speculation in Scotland. The program will conclude with Mozart’s Great Mass in C Minor, with the Grant Park Chorus and soloists. Free.

♦ Friday, August 19, at 10:15 a.m. the bus will go to Grant Park for a rehearsal of Berlioz’s masterpiece The Damnation of Faust, featuring the Grant Park Chorus and an all-star lineup of vocalists. Includes a presentation by a docent. Free.

♦ Friday, August 19, 11:30 a.m. the bus will go to Harper Court for a jazz concert with Ari Brown. Free.

♦ Wednesday, August 24, at noon, the bus will go to Café on the Grove for lunch, which serves dishes such as spicy New England crab cakes, BLT club, chicken and avocado, or a fresh salad.

♦ Tuesday, August 30, at 1 p.m. the bus will go to the Museum of Contemporary Art for “Mastery by Marshall,” a special exhibit of paintings by Kerry James Marshall. Free.

♦ Wednesday, August 31, at 11 a.m. the bus will go on a Loop trip, stopping coming and going at the Cultural Center and Water Tower Place.

CONTRIBUTORS THIS ISSUE

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GARDEN TALK—WILDFLOWERS

By now you may have noticed, while strolling in our lovely garden, what appear to be two plots of weeds, or “Marilyn’s Folly.” This month’s article is devoted to what looks like an eyesore but may yet turn into what it was intended to be, a lovely wildflower garden.

At this year’s first meeting of the Garden Committee, we all agreed that we wanted our plots, pots, and raised boxes to be a garden that would attract birds, bees, and butterflies. There were two plots available that no one was interested in working, so I saw this as a chance to experiment.

I have gardened since I was seven years old (that’s for at least 40 years) but had never tried to start a large area with seeds. I am a gardener of the hoe and hope variety, so I went online and purchased one quarter pound of wildflower seed (Exhibit A), and a seed spreader from American Gardens.

When spring came at last and the gardens were prepared, I loaded the seeds into the spreader. Following directions, the seeds were mixed 3 parts seed to 3 parts sand. No sooner were the seeds spread than birds were attracted. The sparrows covered the plot. (Score 10 for attracting birds.) For approximately two weeks nothing germinated and I feared for the worst, but lo, at last, a small carpet of green appeared. The plants grew and grew. And what to my wondering eyes should appear but a flowerless plot of what appeared to be very healthy weeds. (Exhibit B).

On July 10, I went into the garden, and lo and behold, the wildflowers were beginning to bloom. They are delicate but perfect. I hope in our September Messenger to show pictures of a lovely wildflower garden and will devote the article to the butterflies that are now maturing in the wildflower plot.

Marilyn Weigensberg, Chair, Garden Committee

NEW YORKER READERS

The New Yorker Readers will meet on Saturday, August 20, at 2 p.m. in the LLLC. The article to be discussed is a letter from Oberlin by Nathan Heller, “The Big Uneasy.” It appears in the May 30, 2016 issue. What is the discontent roiling the liberal arts campus? Lois Livezey will lead the discussion. Please call me at 4647 if you need a copy of the article.

Dorothy Scheff, Chair, New Yorker Readers
NEW ARRIVALS

Barbara Dolan Marriott moved into apartment 1306 (phone 4600) to join her husband, McKim Marriott, who had been residing there for a few months after recuperating from various injuries in the Healthcare Pavilion. (You can read Kim’s profile in the April 2016 Messenger.)

Barbara was born in Chicago and raised in Oak Park/River Forest, Illinois. She went to college in St. Louis, Missouri, then married a fellow student when she was 19 years old. She moved to Houston, Texas with her husband, George Dolan, and they had four children by the time Barbara was 22 years old. After ten years they were divorced and Barbara went back to college at the University of Houston, graduating cum laude with a bachelor’s degree in anthropology. She then moved with her four children to New York City to pursue an advanced degree.

In 1972, Barbara entered Columbia University’s PhD program in anthropology. She was chosen a President’s Scholar the first year, getting her master’s degree the following year. In 1976 she left Columbia to become a fulltime reporter/researcher at Time magazine. As a national correspondent, she covered stories across the US, interviewing celebrities, politicians, scientists, and businesspeople.

In 1992, Barbara left Time to start her own media/marketing consulting firm. She specialized in healthcare issues and worked with major healthcare companies and consulting firms on issues with the media.

In 2000, Barbara met McKim Marriott in Hyde Park through a matchmaker who was Kim’s student. They married at the University of Chicago’s Bond Chapel in October 2001 and have lived in Hyde Park ever since.

Barbara began a new career as a real estate broker after beginning to invest in real estate. Today she is a broker with Berkshire Hathaway HomeServices KoenigRubloff Realty Group in Chicago.

Barbara’s son Dave is a veterinarian in Houston, Texas. Her daughter Therese is an international marketing director for Metadata in New Jersey. Her son George is an engineer at General Motors in Detroit. Her daughter Mary is artistic director at a commercial real estate firm in Albuquerque. Barbara has nine grandchildren plus Kim’s six grandchildren.

Evi Levin

MEET THE CHEF

David Glasse (the e is silent) is our new executive chef at Montgomery Place. He was born and grew up in Chicago. He demonstrates that you don’t learn to be an executive chef from a textbook. David met the famous French chef Lucien Verge in 1983 and trained under him as sous chef. He worked at the Ritz Carlton in Atlanta, the Hyatt Atlanta, and the Pump Room in Chicago. He became the executive chef at the Pick Congress Hotel in Chicago in the 1990s. He is quite proud of having won the American Tasting Institute Award in 1990. As he says, it is particularly nice to be recognized by your fellows.

David answered my question, is it working out, with a yes. David has been in senior dining for the past 13 years. He teaches people to do things the way they should be done. One of his training activities has been taking members of the waitstaff to La Petite Folie to see how the job should be done. He also has new cooks to train.

David seemed to appreciate my personal observation that the food has been better since his arrival. Considering David’s background as a chef, I feel safe in saying that we are fortunate to have him as our new executive chef.

Don Reynolds
From the CEO: Yesterday, Today, and Tomorrow

When I walked into Montgomery Place in May 2016 to interview for the CEO position, it had been nearly ten years since I had walked up the sidewalk from 56th Street. A flood of memories consumed me! So much appeared the same, yet differences were obvious. The Wellness Center, pool, and Café/Library were all new and such wonderful additions.

Beyond the front doors, it was wonderful to be met by so many staff members who have continued to serve here all these years. Having their support and encouragement has made my transition into the CEO role so much easier.

Over the last ten years, many things in our world have changed. A new president, a new mayor, the growth and expansion of the U of C, a new grocery instead of the Co-Op; but some things remain the same. Leslie Hairston is still the alderman, Hyde Park Bank still comes to Montgomery Place each week, town meetings happen, and there are still potholes on Lake Shore Drive.

Today we evaluate our world at Montgomery Place. I am charged with guiding the organization to meet today’s challenges as well as the future health of the business. Changes will occur in the next years under my leadership. I hope you will see these as enhancements to your experience living here. Some changes will be obvious, like the newly installed awning on the front of the building. Other changes may be subtle. As plans are developed and adopted, I will share with you our plans and successes.

The goal is another 25 years of service to the Hyde Park community. We look forward to changing along with the world around us to meet the needs and desires of the next generation of engaged seniors who embrace life to its fullest! It is my honor to serve you and I am glad to be home!

Deborah Hart, CEO and Executive Director

Booklovers Group

For August we come back to the Midwest for So Big, a classic turn-of-the-century novel by Edna Ferber.

Born in Kalamazoo, Michigan, Edna Ferber was a novelist, short-story writer, and playwright whose works served as the inspiration for numerous Broadway plays and Hollywood films. She was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1925 for So Big.

So Big is a classic novel of a turn-of-the-century Chicago suburb, and the story of Selina, a gambler’s daughter, and her struggles to stay afloat and maintain her dignity and sanity in the face of marriage, widowhood, and single parenthood. It tells the story of the transformation of American society from agrarian to industrialized city living.

Barbara Wilson will be the discussion leader and once again Anne and Ben Zeidman have picked up our monthly supply of ten copies of the book from the “Book in a Bag Program” of the Chicago Public Library.

If you have a visual or physical handicap (too difficult to hold a book), the Talking Book Center will provide an audio machine, books, and magazines through the mail. It is federally funded through the National Library Service. Call me at 4638 if you are interested in applying for this service or want to get our featured book. Let’s set a new goal of 25 people reading/listening to the book this coming year!

Our next meeting, to discuss this book and get the next book will be on Monday, August 15, at 3:30 p.m. in the LLLC.

Laurieann Chutis, Chair, Booklovers Group
Harvest Time at the Tower Gardens

We’re in the middle of a very productive summer for the two hydroponic tower gardens. We’re growing lettuces, spinach, chard, bok choy, collard greens, basil, and chives.

Three teams of residents (Suzi Terranova and Marilyn Weigensberg; Mae Wygant and Gene Gressley; Nate Kalichman and I) add water and nutrients and check the Ph of the water. With the guidance of Rev. Linda Wygant, head of Grace Seeds Ministries, and University of Illinois Master Gardener Nick Janakas, we harvest 6 to 8 big plastic bags of fresh greens every Saturday.

Do you know what happens to the harvest? Linda takes it to a food pantry, usually either the Catholic Charities Food Pantry at St. Blaise Catholic Church in Summit or the Mosque Foundation Food Pantry in Bridgeview. The veggies are snapped up in a few minutes, and several families get to enjoy a healthy, tasty fresh salad!

Paula Givan

Overnight!

It’s a little nerve wracking to have even a small wild creature in the bedroom all night. One night up in the north woods we had an uninvited guest all night long. When the door stood open for a few minutes, a curious chipmunk took advantage to hop in. I didn’t know this at first, but my dog certainly did, and so did Ellen’s dog Chilly. I did catch a flash of brown and a white stripe, then chattering, then total silence when the chip realized he/she’d got into a corner with a dog in the room.

Gerry Martin
HEWSON SWIFT CONCERTS

There are five Wednesdays in August. So we decided we would do something very special: August 2016 will be Opera on DVD Month, with the first three Wednesdays dedicated to Der Rosenkavalier by Richard Strauss on DVD with English subtitles.

The libretto is by the famous German author Hugo von Hofmannsthal. Evi Levin and Dorothy Scheff will show a 1982 telecast performance from the Metropolitan Opera in New York, conducted by James Levine, in color.

♦ August 3, Der Rosenkavalier Act I
♦ August 10, Der Rosenkavalier Act II
♦ August 17, Der Rosenkavalier Act III

The cast is Tatiana Troyanos, Kiri Te Kanawa, Nico Castel, Kurt Moll, Luciano Pavarotti in a short appearance as the Singer, and others. The running time is a total of 200 minutes divided among the three evenings—each about one hour.

August 24, Beethoven’s Emperor Piano concerto No. 5 will be performed by Alfred Brendel with Zubin Mehta conducting the Vienna Symphony. The recording will be presented by Ed Krentz.

August 31, we will have lighter fare. Herb Gertz will present his CD of popular songs and Broadway hits from the thirties and forties.

Evi Levin, Chair, Hewson Swift Concerts

THE GOOD OLD DAYS

On Sunday, August 21, at 2 p.m. in the East Room, the Hyde Park Historical Society will offer an oral history program, “Hyde Park/Kenwood stories: remembering the good old days.” Come and tell your stories and listen to others’ stories.

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

8/8 Miriam Onel
8/14 Irv Weigensberg
8/17 Connee Clerk
8/18 Basima Bezirgan
8/18 Barbara Wilson
8/19 Charles Custer
8/19 Emily Ford
8/21 Dottie Barron
8/21 D. Maria Neighbors
8/22 MaryEllen Ponsford
8/29 Leah Kadden
8/31 Richard Miller

8/8 Miriam Onel
8/14 Irv Weigensberg
8/17 Connee Clerk
8/18 Basima Bezirgan
8/18 Barbara Wilson
8/19 Charles Custer
8/19 Emily Ford
8/21 Dottie Barron
8/21 D. Maria Neighbors
8/22 MaryEllen Ponsford
8/29 Leah Kadden
8/31 Richard Miller

Evi Levin, Chair, Hewson Swift Concerts
**library notes**

The Library committee purchases approximately two books a month, chosen from residents’ recommendations (see the clipboard on the front table). In addition, we regularly receive residents’ donations. The following books have been added to our collection in the past seven months:

**Purchases—nonfiction:**
Karen House, *On Saudi Arabia*
William Polk, *Understanding Iran*
Jane Meyer, *Dark Money*
Henry Gates, *The African Americans: Many Rivers to Cross*
Charles Fisherman, *The Big Thirst*
Julie Checkoway, *The Three-Year Swim Club*
Nancy Isenberg, *History of Class in America*

**Purchases—fiction:**
Thomas Zigal, *Many Rivers to Cross*
Tiphanie Yanique, *Land of Love and Drowning*
Elena Ferrante, *Neopolitan Novels* (set of four)
Ruth Ozeki, *A Tale For The Time Being*

**Donations—nonfiction:**
Fernanda Santos, *The Fireline*
Kim Barker, *The Taliban Shuffle*
Felicia Pearson, *Grace After Midnight*
Megan Stack, *Every Man in This Village is a Liar*
Annie Jacobson, *The Pentagon’s Brain*
Rinker Buck, *The Oregon Trail*
Richard Engel, *And Then All Hell Broke Loose*
Jill Leavy, *Ghetto Side*
Walter Isaacson, *Einstein*
Molly Bloom, *Molly’s Game*
M. Shulman, *Her Again* (biography of Meryl Streep)*

**Donations—fiction:** (plus many others not listed)
Lloyd Jones, *Mr. Pip*
Donna Leon, *The Waters of Eternal Youth*

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**PIANIST NEEDED!**

The participants in the monthly singalong have greatly enjoyed Norma van der Meulen’s delightful accompaniment for the last year. I am sorry to report that Norma has decided to retire from the activity after the August singalong.

We will be needing someone to prepare and play for an hour every month . . . 7 to 8 p.m. on the first Tuesday of the month. We sing popular songs from the 1930s and 1940s, show tunes, folk songs, and songs appropriate to the month: Valentine’s songs in February, patriotic songs in July, and the like. Sheet music with lyrics is provided.

Do any of you new residents play the piano? Or do you have a friend or family member who might enjoy accompanying us? Please let me know! You can contact me by email at paula_givan@yahoo.com, by phone at 4631, or with a note in mailbox 1114.

Many thanks to Norma; you’ve given us so much enjoyment!

*Paula Givan*

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Dottie Barron, Co-Chair, Library Committee
This Land Is Was Your Land

This land is was your land, this land is was my land. The public lands are being threatened, not just by antigovernment militants like those who took over the wildlife refuge in Oregon, but by corporations seeking to put their names and/or logos on our national treasures. Legislation in Congress would sell naming rights, advertising space, and tracts of land to whomever for whatever.

The Republicans’ official platform includes “All efforts should be made to make Federal Lands managed by the U.S. Forest Service available for harvesting. The enduring truth is that people best protect what they own.” This in spite of continuing citizen support (70-80%) for our national parks, monuments, and forests. Various bills in Congress would sell these treasures, or give them to the states to do with as they wish. These bills are particularly popular in states where the federal government owns much of the state (nearly 87% of Nevada, 68% of Utah, and 67% of Alaska).

In 1872 Yellowstone became what is considered the world’s first national park, though at first it was promoted as a protected area, drawing on the Yosemite Act of 1864. This act set the Yosemite Valley aside, protected by the State of California. Yellowstone was designated a “public park or pleasuring-ground for the benefit and enjoyment of the people.” (Drachenfels in Germany, 1822, and the Forest of Fontainbleau in France, 1861, are “nature reserves” that predate Yellowstone.)

Even after the creation of Yellowstone and 37 other national parks and monuments, another 44 years passed before an agency was created to administer these units in a comprehensive way. As one might expect, without anyone watching and managing, destruction to both the animals and the vegetation occurred. (Of the 409 sites managed by the National Park Service, only 59 carry the designation of National Park.)

One hundred years ago this month, in 1916, with former President Theodore Roosevelt, already an active campaigner and influential stump speaker (a necessity in the pretelecommunication era), leading the charge, Congress passed the National Park Service Organic Act, which President Wilson signed into law on August 25. (Republicans and Democrats worked together in those days for the good of the people!)

Pulitzer Prize-winning author Wallace Stegner is credited with saying, “National parks are the best idea we ever had. Absolutely American, absolutely democratic, they reflect us at our best rather than our worst.” Many other countries have copied the idea.

Carma Forgie
BAD POETRY DAY: FELINE FANTASY

A beautiful cat
doggedly expressed fastidious
gratitude (however incredible)
just knocking loose myriad
natural origami presents,
queerly reoriented, sophisticated,
to universally verify
wondrously expressed yearnings zoologically.

Of the myriad annual holidays, one (August 18), lesser known, but observed by many, is Bad Poetry Day. The above verse, while not ranking with those of famous poets who have sometimes written bad poetry, was remarkably easy for me to write; especially since its “free verse” gave a leg up when it appeared before the editor’s tired eyes.

Ev Bernstein

WAITING FOR LIFE

So much of life is about waiting.
We wait in a warm dark place for the adventure to begin.
We wait to grow up into a noisy boy or nosy girl.
We wait for the first exciting day at school.
We wait for school that will never end to end.
We wait for that special graduation day.
We wait for the flower we planted to bud,
Then bloom into bright reds, yellows, whites.
We wait for the baby to smile and kick.
We wait for the next family wedding.
We wait for the grandson to go to the store with us.
We wait for the tiny puppy to open his eyes.
We wait for the first winter snow, white and silent.
We wait for the yellow-green of spring, and summer’s riot of color.
We wait for fall leaves to sport their reds and yellow. Even rusty brown.
And at the end, we wait for the natural end to come
Because waiting is really all about life.

Gerry Martin
**AUGUST FILMS**

Movie fans will enjoy a variety of fascinating films presented by our committee members on Mondays and Thursdays at 7 p.m. in the Lounge and on Channel 4. Popcorn and lemonade will be served on Mondays in the Lounge.

**Monday Films:**

- **August 1**, *The Italian Job*, 2003. Action/crime/thriller. 1 hour 15 minutes. Director: F. Gary Gray. Starring: Donald Sutherland, Mark Wahlberg, Edward Norton, Charlize Theron. A gang of thieves pulls a gold heist in Venice, Italy and is double-crossed by one of its members, who wants to keep the loot for himself. Presenter: Rhoda Harvey.


- **August 29**, *Cold Mountain*, 2003. Adventure/drama/history. 1 hour 50 minutes. Director: Anthony Minghella. Starring: Jude Law, Nicole Kidman, Renee Zellweger. A wounded deserter from the Confederate Army is trying to make his way back to North Carolina to find the girl he left behind. Presenter: Leah Kadden.

**Documentary:**


**Foreign Language Film:**


*Leah Kadden for the Film Committee*
EQUALITY AND HIERARCHY IN THE US AND JAPAN

Americans highly value social equality, the idea that no person is better than another, but economic equality is not a major concern. They see nothing wrong with disparities in income so long as they are the result of hard work. Salaries are generally negotiated between the employer and the job seeker.

Not knowing this, when I was hired by UIC, my department head told me what subject matters I would teach and what my salary would be. I accepted it and did not ask for a higher salary, although I could have and should have. Every year, my colleagues who did not like their raises met with the head and negotiated with him.

How does equality work in Japanese universities? As in other areas of Japanese society, universities are hierarchically organized. Salaries in each rank of a university division, such as liberal arts, are equal. In a given year, those hired in permanent positions receive the same salary, and those who are promoted receive the same raise. Departmental chairs and deans receive extra pay for their tasks. This system breeds a sense of equality within each rank.

Similar salary provisions are used in large corporations as well. When a company hires university graduates in the spring, all of them start out with the same salary and receive the same raises in the following years. Approximately ten years later, those who have demonstrated superior abilities are promoted to section chiefs. Again, the salaries of all section chiefs are the same in all divisions of the company. The same holds true for the next higher rank, division chiefs.

From then on, those who demonstrate superior abilities move up the corporate ladder faster than others and thus earn higher salaries. Large Japanese corporations pay careful attention to equality and fairness among employees with the idea of promoting cooperative teamwork.

This sense of equality is widely accepted in Japan. Even in the boom period of the 1980s, 80 to 90 percent of the population happily thought of themselves as middle class.

Japan is changing, though. Lifetime employment is becoming less common, and employees change jobs more frequently. Workers are beginning to negotiate higher salaries individually, particularly in IT fields. But universities lag behind in this respect.

Kyoko Inoue

NOTICE

RUMMAGE SALE

We are collecting all your items as you do your summer declutter. Our next sale will be held when we have enough items to have a great sale. Bring your treasures to apartment 910 or call the Concierge Desk for help in moving them.

Laurieann Chutis, Chair, Rummage Sale

PLAYREADERS

Playreaders will take place on Tuesday, August 9, at 7 p.m. in the East Room. Several scripts are under consideration, including an old time radio play. Do join us.

Alex and Sheila Elwyn, for Anne Zeidman, Chair, Playreaders
HISTORY OF THE OLYMPIC GAMES

The first ancient Olympic games were played in the wooded valley of Olympia in the city-state of Elis. There was a religious tone to these Olympics, as the grove where they were played was dedicated to the god Zeus. In the grove are a temple dedicated to Zeus and an ivory and gold statue of Zeus created by the sculptor Phidias, considered one of the original Seven Wonders of the World.

The year of the first games is commonly believed to be 776 BCE. However, scholars have speculated those were not the first games played; rather, that they were the first after the games became an every-four-years festival to honor a peace agreement between the city-states of Elis and Pisa. Games were also played as part of religious ceremonies honoring dead heroes, such as the funeral games for Patroklos in Book 23 of Homer’s epic poem The Iliad.

According to Hippias of Elis, who compiled a list of Olympic winners in 400 BCE, the first Olympic event was a 200-yard dash, called a stadion or stade. This small one-race event continued until 724 BCE when a two-stade race was added. Two years later a 24-stadia event joined in and in 708 BCE the pentathlon and wrestling were added. Later, chariot races, boxing, and other events were included. The Elians traced the founding of the games to their King Iphitos, who was told by the Delphi Oracle to plant the olive tree from which the victors’ wreaths were made.

The games were even held in 480 BCE during the Persian Wars. Although not suspended, the games of 364 BCE were not considered Olympic because the Aradians had captured the sanctuary and reorganized the games.

In 338 BCE, Philip of Macedon and his son Alexander gained control over Greece and in 80 BCE they held the 175th Olympiad in Rome. The games were held every four years from 776 BCE to 393 CE, when the Christian Byzantine Emperor Theodosius I abolished them for religious reasons.

Modern Olympic Games

A campaign to revive the Olympics was started by Baron Pierre de Coubertin in late 19th century France. The modern summer games opened on March 24, 1896 in Athens. The first championship of the modern Olympics was won by James Connolly, an American college student.

The modern Olympic games are still named after the athletic contests held in ancient Greece for almost 12 centuries. The winter games were added in 1924. The 1916 Games, scheduled to be held in Berlin, were canceled during World War I. They were again cancelled in 1940, during World War II, and did not resume until 1948.

The best athletes in the world match their skills and endurance in the Olympic contests. Almost every nation sends teams of athletes. The purpose of the Olympic Games is to promote a “sound mind in a sound body” and friendship among nations.

Viva the Olympic Games!  

Marilyn Weigensberg

IN MEMORIAM

Biddie Brown
UNIVERSITY MEMORIES: GOTHIC COOL

Bartlett Gym is a Gothic building on the northwest corner of 57th & University

Today, a student center,
a dining room
with crowded tables and chairs
and students rushing to eat
in their allotted time.

In my day
that expansive room
was the gym with baskets at either end,
a running lane hung where the balcony should have been—
often crowded, God knows how many circuits to the mile.

Down the stairs and to the rear
was the real track,
where in better days champions set their records.
The track was dirt, wet down every Saturday,
eight times around made a mile,

Hardly used in those days,
I often had the oval to myself,
and I ran in the cavernous Gothic cool—
refuge in the Chicago summer.

I remember that long ago cool.

Phil Hefner

FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKERS

The speakers committee has chosen the following speakers for August, which is a prime vacation month.

♦ August 5, to be announced.
♦ August 12, Stephanie Baumgart, who is pursuing a degree in integrative biology at the U of C, speaks on “Bones of Air.” Alex Elwyn will introduce her.
♦ August 19, Maurizio de Pittà, a postdoctoral scholar in computational neuroscience at the U of C, speaks on “Einstein’s Brain.” Alex Elwyn will introduce him.
♦ August 26, Phil Hefner, Montgomery Place resident, speaks on “Re-making Nature.”

Rhoda Harvey, Co-chair,
Friday Night Speakers Committee
**Walking on Water with Christo**

Christo’s art is “wrapping” things—buildings, coastlines, monuments, and more.

In 1969, he wrapped the two-story Museum of Contemporary Art in Chicago and its lower-level gallery (shown below). My wife and I and our three daughters, ages 8, 6, and 2, accepted the invitation to lie on the floor wrapped in canvas and roll around on it. We connected with this work of art. We’ve followed him ever since.

For me, the brilliance of the work of Christo and Jeanne-Claude (the art was a collaboration until her death in 2009) is the way they bring earthiness and transcendence together.

What’s earthier than rolling around on a canvas-covered floor? You feel the floor. You “see” the work of art with your whole body. The artists deny any deeper meaning to their work. They simply create for joy and beauty and offer new ways of seeing.

But at the museum, it wasn’t just a floor, it was a work of art. Artists invited us to roll on their creation! The total experience transcends the act of viewing a canvas-covered floor, but the transcendence requires the rolling, the participation. And the 2-year-old participated as much as 40-year-old adults.

On June 18, 2016, almost 50 years later, people walked on Christo’s monumental installation on Iseo Lake, 60 miles from Milan, Italy. Some 200,000 floating cubes create a runway nearly two miles long, connecting the village of Sulzano to the small island of Monte Isola on the lake, for a 16-day outdoor installation entitled “Floating Piers.”

When was the last time you examined a building by physically rolling on its basement floor? Christo talks about the people walking on his floating piers—they will experience the actual surface of the lake, walking on the cubes as they float with the movements of the water. They are discovering the water.

*Phil Hefner*
**SPECIAL EVENTS IN AUGUST**

*goodbye July, hello AUGUST*

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Day</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Activity</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Bus Trip Jazzy in the Courtyard</td>
<td>Treasure Island: Bossa Tres (P. 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>5:00 PM</td>
<td>Bus Trip</td>
<td>Grant Park: Mozart Mass &amp; Gandolfi Premiere (P. 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>East Room</td>
<td>Friday Night Speaker ~ TBA (P. 15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monday</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>9:30 AM</td>
<td>Bus Trip</td>
<td>Marshall’s, Michael’s, Whole Foods (New!)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Bus Trip</td>
<td>Shakespeare Theater: The Merchant of Venice (P. 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday</td>
<td>11</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Bus Trip</td>
<td>Encore Chorale Concert (P. 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>East Room</td>
<td>Friday Night Speaker ~ Stephanie Baumgart (P. 15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>1:00 AM</td>
<td>Bus Trip</td>
<td>Steppenwolf Theatre: Between Riverside and Crazy (P. 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>10:15 AM</td>
<td>Bus Trip</td>
<td>Grant Park Rehearsal: The Damnation of Faust (P. 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>11:30 AM</td>
<td>Bus Trip</td>
<td>Jazzy in Harper Court: Ari Brown (P. 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>7:00 AM</td>
<td>East Room</td>
<td>Friday Night Speaker ~ Maurizio De Pittà (P. 15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sunday</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1:00 AM</td>
<td>East Room</td>
<td>Hyde Park Historical Society Oral History Program (P. 8)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>Noon</td>
<td>Bus Trip</td>
<td>Café In The Grove (P. 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>East Room</td>
<td>Friday Night Speaker ~ Phil Hefner (P. 15)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>1:00 PM</td>
<td>Bus Trip</td>
<td>Museum of Contemporary Art: Mastery by Kerry Marshall (P. 3)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>11:00 AM</td>
<td>Bus Trip</td>
<td>Loop Trip (P. 3)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
REGULAR EVENTS IN AUGUST

MONDAY

  8:00–9:00 AM     BUS TRIP     FITNESS WALK, MUSEUM OF SCIENCE & INDUSTRY
  9:30-10:30 AM    THERAPY ROOM  WELLNESS CLINIC WITH WELLNESS STAFF
  8               9:30 AM     BUS TRIP     WHOLE FOODS, MICHAEL’S, MARSHALL’S SHOPPING
  15              9:30 AM     BUS TRIP     HYDE PARK PRODUCE
  10:15-11:15 AM   LLLC        POETRY GROUP
  11:30 AM-Noon    EAST ROOM   PHYSICAL FITNESS
  1:00 & 1:30 PM   BUS TRIP     LIBRARY & ERRANDS/WHOLE FOODS
  1, 15, 29       2:15-3:15 PM LLLC        DINING COMMITTEE
  8, 22           3:00-4:00 PM EAST ROOM   TOWN MEETING
  15              3:30-4:30 PM LLLC        BOOKLOVERS GROUP (p. 6)
  8, 22           4:00-4:30 PM EAST ROOM   GADGETS Q&A WITH DINO
  8               5:20 PM     PRIVATE DR  FRENCH SPEAKERS’ DINNER TABLE
  15              5:20 PM     PRIVATE DR  GERMAN SPEAKERS’ DINNER TABLE
  7:00 PM         LOUNGE/CH 4  FILM DISCUSSION GROUP MOVIE (p. 12)

TUESDAY

  9:30–11:00 AM    STUDIO      PAINTING & DRAWING CLASS
  2               10:00-11:00 AM LLLC        ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE
  10:00 AM-Noon    GAME ROOM   HYDE PARK BANK
  11:00 AM-Noon    EAST ROOM   MEDITATION
  12:15–1:15 PM   EAST ROOM   CARPET BOWLING
  2, 16           1:00-3:00 PM THERAPY ROOM  AUDIOLOGIST KATE HOPKINS
  9               1:00-2:00 PM LOUNGE       BALANCE CLASS WITH JIGAR
  16              1:00 PM     BUS TRIP     TRADER JOE’S
  23              1:00-3:00 PM THERAPY ROOM  AUDIOLOGIST DR. LATA JAIN
  1:30-2:00 PM    POOL        WATER FITNESS
  2:00-3:00 PM    EAST ROOM   CURRENT EVENTS
  3:30–5:00 PM    CAFÉ & LOUNGE WINE & CHEESE SOCIAL
  2               7:00-8:00 PM EAST ROOM   MONTGOMERY SINGERS SINGALONG
  9               7:00 PM     EAST ROOM   PLAYREADERS (p. 13)
  23              7:00-8:00 PM LLLC        SHORT STORY DISCUSSION GROUP
PLEASE NOTE: Any event listed without a specific date or dates occurs on that day of the week every week. Events listed with specific dates occur on those dates only.

**WEDNESDAY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:00-9:00 AM</td>
<td>BUS TRIP</td>
<td>FITNESS WALK, MUSEUM OF SCIENCE &amp; INDUSTRY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9:30-10:00 AM</td>
<td>LOUNGE</td>
<td>TAI CHI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10, 24 10:15-11:00 AM</td>
<td>GAME ROOM</td>
<td>FRIDAY NIGHT SPEAKERS COMMITTEE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10:30-11:30 AM</td>
<td>LIBRARY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00-11:45 AM</td>
<td>CHAPEL</td>
<td>MIDWEEK EUCHARIST</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:00 AM-1:30 PM</td>
<td>CAFÉ/LIBRARY</td>
<td>MONTGOMERY MARKET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11:30 AM-Noon</td>
<td>EAST ROOM</td>
<td>PHYSICAL FITNESS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1:30-2:30 PM</td>
<td>THERAPY ROOM</td>
<td>WELLNESS CLINIC WITH WELLNESS STAFF</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3:00-4:00 PM</td>
<td>LLLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>3:00-4:00 PM</td>
<td>LOUNGE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>7:00-8:00 PM</td>
<td>LOUNGE</td>
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</table>

**THURSDAY**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>9:30 &amp; 10:00 AM</td>
<td>BUS TRIP</td>
<td>TREASURE ISLAND/HARPER COURT FARMERS’ MARKET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>9:30-10:30 AM</td>
<td>STUDIO</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>10:00-11:00 AM</td>
<td>GAME ROOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>NOON-1:00 PM</td>
<td>DINING ROOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1:30-2:00 PM</td>
<td>POOL</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>1:30-2:00 PM</td>
<td>CAFÉ/LIBRARY</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>1:30-2:30 PM</td>
<td>STUDIO</td>
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<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>2:00-3:00 PM</td>
<td>CHAPEL</td>
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<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>2:30-3:30 PM</td>
<td>LLLC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>2:30-3:30 PM</td>
<td>EAST ROOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>3:30-5:00 PM</td>
<td>EAST ROOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>LOUNGE/CH 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11, 18</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>LOUNGE/CH 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>7:00-8:00 PM</td>
<td>EAST ROOM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>7:00 PM</td>
<td>LOUNGE/CH 4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Note New Time)
REGULAR EVENTS IN AUGUST

FRIDAY

8:00-9:00 AM  Bus Trip  Fitness Walk, Museum of Science & Industry
9:30-10:30 AM  Therapy Room  Wellness Clinic with Wellness Staff
10:00-11:00 AM  Lounge/Ch 4  DVD Series: History of Ancient Egypt
5
11 AM–3:45 PM  Therapy Room  Podiatrist Dr. Joanne Davis
11:30-Noon  East Room  Physical Fitness
1:00-4:00 PM  Studio  Open Studio
4:45-5:30 PM  Chapel  Shabbat Service
7:00-8:00 PM  East Room  Friday Night Speakers (p. 15)

SATURDAY

8:45-Noon  Bus Trip  KAM-II/Rodfei Zedek Transportation
9:30-10:30 AM  Bus Trip  61st Streeth Farmers Market / Experimental Station (New)
10:00-11:00 AM  Lounge  Saturday Morning Roundtable
20
2:00–3:00 PM  LLLC  New Yorker Readers (p. 4)
7:00 PM  Lounge/Ch 4  Weekend Movie

SUNDAY

8:00 AM-Noon  Bus Trip  Church/Synagogue Transportation
10:45 AM-Noon  Bus Trip  Rockefeller Chapel Transportation
11:00 AM-Noon  Chapel  Service of Holy Communion
7:00 PM  Lounge/Ch 4  Weekend Movie Encore Presentation