

40

HOMEWOOD

Community Newsletter

May, 2013



May 12th, 2013



May 20th, 2013

Mother

M is for the million things she gave me
O means only that she's growing old
T is for the tears she shed to save me
H is for her heart of purest gold
E is for her eyes with love light signing
R means right and right she'll always be
Put them all together, they spell
MOTHER
A word that seems so much to me



Coming in July



Coming in August



Callie Grace & Pinkie



Callie Grace and Pinkie can often be seen observing the comings and goings at 40 Homewood from their first floor vantage point. Callie is a beautiful orange and white longhaired calico with a lovely wide-eyed gaze and a shy but sweet personality. She is very quiet but affectionate.

Her “sister”, Pinkie (named for her pretty pink ears) is very outgoing – Miss Personality (with a capital “P”). She is fondly known as “Impie Pinkie” by her many friends because of her mischievous nature.

Both Callie and Pinkie are much loved by their human “mom”, Lorraine Folds, whom they allow to share their home as long as she provides cuddling and, most of all, treats, treats and more treats!



Don's Movies For May

*All movies at 7:30pm in
Recreation Room*

Thursday, May 2

SOMETHING IN THE WIND (1947)
Deanna Durbin, Donald O'Conner

Friday, May 3

IT STARTED WITH EVE (1941)
Deanna Durbin, Robert Cummings,
Charles Laughton

Thursday, May 9

THE IRON LADY (2011)
Meryl Streep, Jim Broadbent

Thursday, May 16

I AM A FUGITIVE FROM A CHAIN GANG
(1932)
Paul Muni, Preston Foster

Friday, May 17

THEY MADE ME A CRIMINAL (1939)
John Garfield, Claude Rains, Ann Sheridan

Friday, May 24

MARY OF SCOTLAND (1936)
Katherine Hepburn, Fredric March

Thursday, May 30

KNIGHTS OF THE ROUND TABLE (1953)
Robert Taylor, Ava Gardner, Mel Ferrer

Friday, May 31

FIRST KNIGHT (1995)
Sean Connery, Richard Gere





Questions and Answers to and from the Board and Management

Question: Does the 40 Homewood library accept donations of DVDs and CDs?

Answer: No. The library is not equipped with enough space to do this as well as books and some magazines. One suggestion is that DVDs and CDs could be put on sale at our Annual Yard Sale (stay tuned for the date, coming in late spring or summer). If you have what you think is a top-notch collection, you might advertise in the Newsletter, the website or on the Laundry Room Bulletin Board to sell yours.

Question: When will we get a window wash?

Answer. The “innaccessible” windows will be washed in May. (Those are the ones that you can’t reach from your balcony.)

Question: Will any of the difficult doors be automated? There are some doors that are very heavy and/or that are very awkward for those with a wheelchair or a walker.

Answer. The Board hopes to be able to automate some doors, such as equipping them with a punch button which will open the doors. The cost is substantial, so priorities will be set. Mentioned as top priorities are the doors to the office (opens outwards) and to the Recycling Room (very heavy). These will not be immediate corrections.

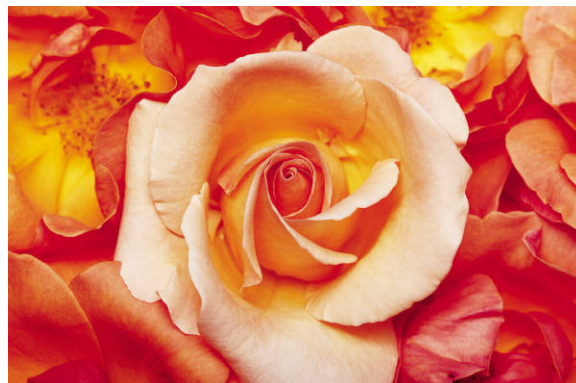
Question: Are the BBQs really coming?

Answer: Two have been purchased. They will be connected to gas on our patio (between the swimming pool and the recreation room). A booking system will be further developed for people to book a BBQ for an hour or two at a time.

Meanwhile, this year’s Landscaping Project will be installing some planters (and plants in them!) in the patio area.

Question: There is a leak in the women’s sauna/change room. Will that be fixed?

Answer: Now that spring is here, we will be able to assess the source of the leak and then repair it.



Lobby Painting

The new painting hung in the lobby behind the security desk marks the completion of the lobby renovations begun last year.

The painting, commissioned by the Board, is by James Huctwith, a resident of the building.



Visit Sylvia

Sylvia Keshen, long-time resident on our 11th floor, is now living at the Rekai Centre, 345 Sherbourne Street. It's just south of Carlton Street, on the east side, facing Allan Gardens. Sylvia says she'd like to have neighbourly visits.

She used to submit jokes for the Newsletter and had her own column for a while.

Elevators

The elevator consultant has prepared a draft Request for Proposals (bids) for the manager and the board to review and approve about the work of modernizing our elevators.

Once finalized, the "RFP" (Request for Proposals) will be sent to companies in the field and there will be a relatively short turnaround by which time they must submit a bid if they wish to compete for the job.

At that time the Board will choose a contractor for the work. This may be done under the current (2012-2013) Board or the next Board (2013-2014), depending on the timing.

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

By the time of publication of the May Newsletter, owners will have received their preliminary notice of the Annual General Meeting in the mail.

The AGM will again take place at the Primrose Best Western Hotel at Jarvis and Carlton. The date this year is **Wednesday, June 12**. The meeting will begin at **7.00 pm**; see the notices for the time of early registration.

The main purposes of the AGM are to elect directors to the board and for presentation of the 2012 audited financial statements and the election of auditors for 2013.

This year, there are three seats (of the total of five) on the board of directors open for election. The two-year terms of Maureen Houlihan, Stefanie McQuaid and Charles Marker are up. Each owner will be able to vote for three candidates for these positions, all of which are for two-year terms.

In the preliminary notice, a nomination form was enclosed. Candidates may submit their own names or they may be nominated by another person. In order to have your name on the proxy ballot and to have a page in the mailed, official AGM package, the nomination must be submitted to the office by May 13.

To help understand the backgrounds and positions of the candidates and for owners to ask questions of the candidates and to review the audited financial statements for 2012, **there will be a meeting in the Recreation Room on Monday, June 3, at 7.00 pm.**



Heaven And Hell In Potosi: The Mine

*This is Part V of a five-part journal of travels in Peru and Bolivia by resident **Kirby Go**. The first four parts have run in previous Newsletters.*

I enjoyed a fancy four-course lunch and then headed to the mine tour. The tour company is owned, managed and run by ex-miners and they are a pretty upbeat and manly man bunch. The seven of us were packed in a van and driven to the mountain, outfitted with hardhats and other gear, and then we excitedly entered the mine.

I walked into a working mine. The tunnels became smaller and smaller. At some points we were in crouched positions, definitely not a place for people suffering from claustrophobia.

We were shown different streaks of minerals along with oral history of the hell hole this place had been for centuries, after the discovery of silver. The Spaniards enslaved the aboriginals and brought in more slaves from Africa. They were made to work in horrendous conditions on 12-hour shifts, only exiting the mines once every four months, exposed to mercury and other harmful substances. Most slaves contracted silicosis and died before reaching 40. Another sad by-product of this era exists to this day. The descendants of the surviving African slaves, now totalling 30,000, live in ignored, squalid conditions in nearby villages segregated and marginalized by society.

Our ex-miner guide, Pedro, was a miner for five years. As we walked through the working mine, we would say "hi" to the other

working miners, chat with them and take pictures with them. We were also encouraged to help hammer, load and push the heavy wheelbarrow, and it was heavy! Most of the present day miners started when they were 16. Government regulation is 18, but nobody checks. Most of the mines now are run by the mines cooperative. Pedro recounted how they took the mines by force from the corrupt government a few years back. They went on strike, and there were even physical fights tantamount to battles, with the government forces using dynamite. Eventually the workers won and now the mines are run as cooperatives.

Half an hour into walking through narrow passageways and seeing the horrendous, backbreaking work, what started out as queasiness in my stomach was now turning into major stomach cramps: lunch wants to come out early, and the excruciating cramps come in waves. I had to stop every time they hit. I finally told Pedro that I was sick and needed a toilet right away. He kept on encouraging me to go on. At one point he told me to hit my stomach and tell my stomach to f**k off and the pain would go away. I tried to carry on, but the cramps just got worse and worse.

It was around this time, that Pablo told us about the Devil in the mine. The miners are a very superstitious bunch, most of them are Native Quechuans. They will pray to Pachamama, their female deity for safe-keeping, before entering the mine. The blood of llamas is also painted on the entry. Once inside, they believe that they are in the territory of the Devil and as they are extracting and taking things away from the Devil, they have made an idol image of the Devil, placed in a niche deep inside the cave where they give offerings of wine and coca leaves to bargain with it. They call the idol "tio" (uncle), and never the "D" word, as uttering it will unleash its evilness.

After an hour of walking and crouching through different tunnels, I finally came face to face with this graven image. Painted red

with horns, it was really scary. That's also about the time when I gave up the good fight of carrying on in spite of my stomach cramps. I told Pedro with new urgency that I have to go, now! Pedro instructed his sidekick, a 10-year-old boy, to take me straight out. He led the way and I started running in between intervals of crouching in absolute stabbing and wrenching stomach cramps. I felt like I was running away from the Devil in the pit of Hell. After an hour of crouching through narrow tunnels and climbing up at least three rickety wooden ladders to get out, I finally saw the light at the end of the tunnel. I painfully raced to it. The rush of cool air and the massive bright light that hit me was one that I will never forget. I quickly asked the boy for the toilet; he pointed to nowhere in particular. Got it! Outdoor toilet, great!. Without further ado, I ran to a partially visually obstructed area, unbuckled and squatted. A wave of relief rushed through me, with two dogs staring at me while I do my business. Travelling could be so glamorous at times.



Thank you to the Social Committee for organizing a **Volunteer Appreciation Evening** on April 27th, 2013. It was a nice intimate get-together and it is also encouraging to know that our efforts are appreciated.

40 Homewood always needs volunteers.



Tassimo

Wow! There must be many people in the building who have a Tassimo coffee maker.

The Green Committee has collected around 4,000 Tassimo "discs" (each disc allows for the making of one cup of coffee, for the information of those few who don't own one), and TerraCycle recycles them. TerraCycle is the outfit that previously took our yogurt containers.

Besides recycling them, TerraCycle also pays money on our behalf to the Daily Bread Food Bank, in our case to the branch at Sherbourne and Carlton.

Thanks to all those in the building who take their "Tassimo t-discs" to the bin in the Recycling Room. And remember, only the Tassimo-brand can be used. The Green Committee has to sort through and throw other brands into the garbage bin.

THANKS, FRIENDS!

Another thank you to the Social Committee who arranged for a Police Officer to come in and speak to us about neighborhood safety. She was very informative and if we follow her suggestions, we should be safer.



RULES

Updates And Revisions Of Rules

Along with your preliminary notice of the Annual General Meeting, you who are owners will have received an outline of rule revisions and additions that have been approved by the Board of Directors.

Some are revised to make the wording or the meaning clearer. Some are added to put in writing what have been assumed to be rules.

Rules of the building should be considered a "living document," continually subject to updates and changes as circumstances, opinions and needs change.

As the introduction in the preliminary notice accompanying the changes outlines, there is a procedure for owners who object to one or more changes to petition to have the change or changes brought to a vote of owners.



Spring is here. Residents will be planting flowers on their balconies. Please remember when watering your flower boxes, do not water them too near the edge to avoid water pouring down to the balcony below



Bike Parking

Some residents may have noticed that new bike parking racks were going to be installed a couple of weeks ago. While the plan looked good at first sight, the installer and management realized that the spaces in the Bicycle Room were too tight to make these additional parking racks feasible.

As an alternative, a number of extra racks have been added in the Resident Parking area on the B1 Level.

This addition to our spaces (250 +) will probably eliminate the current waiting list for spaces, but the need continues to grow over the years.

All residents who are using a bike parking space but who are not using their bicycles anymore are asked to consider other options, such as donating the bike to organizations who will find someone who DOES need it. This would free up parking spaces for those who are actively using their bikes.

You may find a list of bike charities on our website:
<http://40homewood.org/home/about-hours/bicycles>



**People are like envelopes
Those marked "Important"
seldom are**



Garbage Goes To The Landfill

The Green Committee presented a very interesting movie on April 23. It was a documentary that told various stories about Toronto's waste management and was called "Garbage."

One highlight was the story of a Toronto family (Mom, Dad and three little kids) who collected their garbage and recycling for three months in their garage. They and all viewers were astounded at the accumulated amounts. And this was after they continued to send away their "wet" organic waste.

Another feature, as the movie was made in 2006 or 2007, was the traffic of garbage trucks from Toronto to the Good to the landfill in Michigan where our garbage was laid to rest until 2010. Probably everyone will remember that there were many, many loud complaints from people along the 401 where all these trucks went and from Michigan where they got the noisy trucks and the smell (of course, they had some jobs there, too).

Garbage and waste have been issues of contention on and off for many years here, and they probably will be again before long.

The history is that Toronto's last usable landfill, in Keele Valley, was filling up in the 1990s and was closed in 2002. There were City Council battles about shipping our garbage to Adams Mine in Northern Ontario, but that agreement was made and then cancelled. The travel to Michigan started. Around 2007, the City of Toronto bought landfill, the Green Lane Landfill, north of the 401 about halfway between London, Ontario, and St. Thomas, Ontario, and that's where our garbage goes now.

How long the Green Lane Landfill lasts before the land is filled, is not clear (20

more years?), but it's said that planning a new landfill or building an incineration plant are endeavours that take 12 - 15 years, so the time is not far off when major decisions will have to be made.

It's the garbage that goes to the landfill that costs us homeowners. We are charged for all garbage taken away, but the things that we recycle, including the green organics, are "free" to us and thus save money in the condo budget.



Didja know?

Did you know that there is no other word in the English language that rhymes with month?

Did you know that Go is the shortest sentence in the English language?



Photos by Hiroshi Morita

Mr. Morita, an original 40 Homewood resident who died last November, was a good amateur photographer. He took photos at 40 Homewood and around town. His niece has posted 18 photos (2008 mostly, one from 2003) online and shared the link with us.

www.40homewood.org

The photo of him here is 10 or more years old.

Roger Ebert – In Memoriam

By Jeffrey Amos

On April 4, 2013, the American journalist and film critic Roger Ebert died of complications from cancer. He was the first film critic to win the Pulitzer Prize for Criticism in journalism in 1975. His death affected me, since Roger Ebert has basically been my tour guide to the world of the movies ever since I was a child. So this month, instead of writing a film review, I am writing about my memory of Roger Ebert. It seems appropriate that this critic should remain silent for one month in respect of my most senior and revered colleague.

First, a little background about Roger Ebert himself. He was born in Urbana, Illinois in June 1942. His interest in journalism started when he wrote for his high school newspaper. While attending the University of Illinois, he wrote for and edited the campus newspaper. After moving to Chicago, he started as a reporter and feature writer at the Sun-Times in 1966. After their film critic Eleanor Keane left the Sun-Times in 1967, he stepped into the role and the rest is history. His reviews always did more than scraping the surface of a film's quality – his reviews were essentially essays with several layers of depth and analysis of the films that he saw. Based upon this, he won the Pulitzer Prize in 1975. That year, he started a television show with colleague from the Chicago Tribune, Gene Siskel, which he co-hosted until Siskel's death in 1999. During this period, he also taught film part time at the University of Chicago. After Siskel's death, he continued to host the show with Richard Roeper until Ebert's cancer in the mid part of the last decade made it impossible for him to continue. However, this did not stop Ebert. He continued to write reviews for the Sun-Times and also on his website until his death at the age of 70. By the time he had

passed away, he had written thousands of reviews on almost every major film made since the late 1960s.

As a child, I was always a fan of film. One of the ways that I was exposed to films was through watching Siskel and Ebert. Up to my mid-teens, I used to only watch popular films and was not aware of what else was out there. This was, after all, before the age of the internet. Their show exposed me to independent and foreign films and, as a result, I started in my late teens and in my university years to go to independent theatres (like the Revue and the Bloor) and the Carlton, which showed these films that were not easily accessible at the multiplex in Etobicoke where I grew up. I also joined Suspect Video downtown where I could rent movies that I could not get at my local Rogers or Blockbuster Video. Thus, my exposure to, and love of film, is directly attributable to that show.

And as an adult, I would regularly visit Ebert's website, www.RogerEbert.com, in order to see his reviews and gage whether I would enjoy a film. I would also use it in order to discover movies that I either had not heard of or which were not well publicized by the studio machinery. Ebert's widow, Chaz Ebert, has announced that the website will live on and a number of film critics have been picked to continue reviews (including Ebert's old colleague, Richard Roeper). The website also has a catalogue of Ebert's reviews going back over 40 years. As a fitting memory to Roger Ebert, and in his memory, I encourage people to visit the site. Think of any movie that you have seen that has been released in the last 45 years and there is a good chance that you will find a review of it. Thus, it becomes apparent how extensive his legacy is. Rest in Peace, Roger.



President's Report

by Brian Brenie

We are three months into the new year and your Board and Management are pleased to report that the elevator refurbishing project is moving along. This is our major capital project for 2013 and 2014. We have engaged an elevator consulting engineer to manage the tendering of the work and oversight to ensure the work gets done in a timely and satisfactory manner. This will take some strain off of the Property Manager's shoulders. We expect to be tendering the project soon with a selection of winning bidder sometime in the next six weeks. This means parts should be able to be ordered in June and the project started once parts have arrived. We anticipate completing one elevator this fall and the remaining three starting in January next year. Each elevator's refurbishment should take about 10 weeks.

Other capital projects for 2013 include the 12 garage exit doors and the fuel tank replacement to bring these up to code. The garage doors are in desperate need of replacing and the tanks used to hold the fuel for our emergency generator have to be replaced.

The AGM is approaching soon. There are three open Board positions available. If you think you can offer your skills to help with Board activities please submit your nomination before the filing deadline.



Treasurer's Report

by Stephanus Greeff

The auditor has finalized the financial statements for the year ended December 31, 2012. The building ended the year with a small surplus of \$20,000, wiping out the previous year's accumulated deficit. The garage ended the year with a surplus of \$16,000, reducing the previous year's deficit to \$6,000.

The auditor has noted no issues or concerns. The draft audited financial statements will be distributed as part of the AGM package. Owners will have the opportunity to review them and ask questions at the open meeting planned for June 3.

The first quarter of the new fiscal year has generated a small deficit of \$25,000 for the building and \$8,000 deficit for the garage. These deficits are anticipated early in the year due to the heating costs for the winter. As the summer is approaching, the deficit will be erased. The management and board are monitoring the financial results regularly and will adjust if warranted.

Let's Talk.



A good way to get to know your neighbours and encourage more of a sense of community in the building is to talk to each other in the elevators.

It can be your vertical sidewalk.



Green Cleaning Solution For Grout

Freshen up your floors and other places with this green solution:

7 cups water, 1/2 cup baking soda, 1/3 cup lemon juice and 1/4 cup vinegar.

Put this in a spray bottle and spray the floor. Let it sit for a minute or two and then scrub.

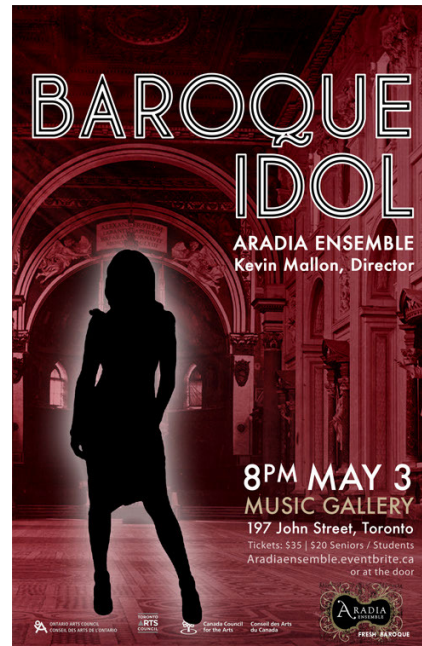
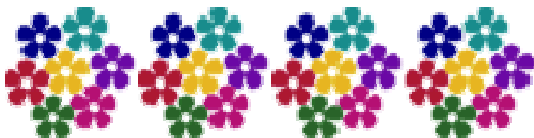
weird historical facts

Each king in a deck of playing cards represents a great king from history:

- a. ♠ Spades - King David
- b. ♥ Hearts – Charlemagne
- c. ♣ Clubs -Alexander the Great
- d. ♦ Diamonds - Julius Caesar

Many years ago in Scotland, a new game was invented. It was ruled "Gentlemen Only... Ladies Forbidden"... and thus the word GOLF entered Into the English language.

In the 1400's a law was set forth that a man was allowed to beat his wife with a stick no thicker than his thumb. Hence we have "the rule of thumb"



Baroque Idol – Vote For Our Residents!

For the second consecutive time, 40 Homewood residents **Catherine Magowan & Spy Dénommé-Welch** are finalists in Baroque Idol, on Friday, May 3rd at 8:00 PM, presented by the Aradia Ensemble. They will be premiering their new work, "Bike Rage" at the Music Gallery (197 John Street), and audience members will have an opportunity to vote for their favourite new work.

The winner will be hired to write a piece for the Aradia Ensemble in an upcoming concert. Tickets are \$35 or \$20 if you are an Arts Worker.

"Bike Rage" is a musical interpretation of a bike's journey through our neighbourhood. Come out and support Catherine and Spy!

More information is available at:
<http://www.aradia.ca/>

"Good Eats, Cheap Eats, Sweet Spots"

by Cammy Lee-Bostwick



What: Sansotei Ramen

Where: 179 Dundas Street West

What You Get: Ramen noodle soup, *Tonkotsu*: a pork based milky broth with your choice of thick or thin ramen noodles (I recommend thin). It comes with two slices of pork belly, lightly boiled egg sliced open, black fungus, and green onions, \$9.25.

Why I Like It: Ever since I came back from Tokyo, I've been on the hunt for real Japanese ramen. And though ramen restaurants have opened up in the last few years, I've been disappointed every time, that is, until I went to Sansotei. This is the real deal: Japanese-run, and pork broth so concentrated it is milky. But it's the taste, that porkiness that makes it authentic. The egg is also very traditional and the yolk adds to the creaminess of the broth. The crunchy fungus creates interesting texture and the pork belly is slippery smooth and tasty, and so not good for you...but, once in awhile, who cares? This is a taste explosion. But be warned, this place is so busy we had to wait outside for 10 minutes in the cold before getting a table. Another caveat, the authenticity isn't confined to the soup, what this means is, once you're

seated, have a listen: you'll hear the unmistakable long, loud slurp heard in all ramen shops across Japan. Just go with it!



Das Fagott Mannschaft Returns!

After playing for a packed house on a cold weeknight in February, Das Fagott Mannschaft is repeating its success on Friday May 31st at Relish Bar & Grill. They will once again be joined by female impersonator and vocalist extraordinaire, Eve Angelica, freestyle rapper Bryan Van Dusen, and more special guests!

Das Fagott Mannschaft features 40 Homewood resident **Catherine Magowan**, and you may have heard them rehearsing in the Recreation Room. If you hear the melodious sounds of three bassoons and a contrabassoon in the basement halls feel free to pop in, or you can watch some of their videos at <http://www.youtube.com/DasFagottMannschaft/>.

Relish Bar and Grill is located at 2152 Danforth Ave, near Woodbine, and *Das Fagott Mannschaft* storms the stage at 9:00 pm on Friday May 31st. Hope to see you there!

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