

Algonquin House Newsletter

Around the House



Dog Days are here...

Social Events...

- The **TGIF** will be hosted by the 5th floor on **August 18th**. *This event is always scheduled for the third Friday of each month and the hours are from 5:30 to 7:30 pm.*
- August's movie is "**Keeping Up With The Joneses.**" It will be shown on **Wednesday, August 9th**, at **1:30pm**, and an **encore evening showing will be on Thursday, August 10th at 7:00pm**. The movie runs about two hours.
- The **Belly Dancing Class** has extended its hours to **Monday at 10:30am and Wednesday at 10:00am**. The class is held in the Algonquin Room. **The cost is \$5.00 per class**. New members are welcome! This is more of an exercise class than a dance class, and stresses building up core strength. But happily, we also learn a few dances at the same time.

Mark your Calendars...

- In response to several residents' request that the Board hold some evening meetings so they can attend, here is your chance! The Board has scheduled the first evening meeting this year on **Tuesday, August 29th**, starting at **5:20pm** for the Homeowner's forum. **The formal meeting starts at 5:30pm**. An additional 10 minute homeowner's forum will be held following the Board meeting. This is our home and we all should take an interest in what is happening here. Please give some thought to what you would like to bring to the table and make it a point to participate. Also, remember that the Annual Meeting and board elections are coming up in October. Hope to see you on August 29th!

Special Announcements...

- On Monday August 21, a solar eclipse will cut across the entire United States. And wherever you are, you *will* be able to see it. Even though the "totality" — the area where the sun is completely

blocked out by the moon — is only 70 miles wide, the whole country (even Alaska and Hawaii) will experience a partial eclipse.

In zip code 23505, we will see a partial solar eclipse. The eclipse will peak at 2:47:10 pm EDT, when the moon obscures 85.8% of the sun. If you want to see the **total** eclipse, you'll need to travel 287 miles SW. Just be careful: Even during an eclipse, it's not safe to stare directly into the sun without special viewing glasses.

• **This will be the last month the "Around the House" newsletter will be distributed to each door.** Starting in September, the newsletter will be issued by e-mail, and there will be a supply on the counter in the mailroom for those who don't have e-mail or want a paper copy. If you are unable to view it in e-mail or pick it up (no e-mail, no computer, health issues) and need to have a newsletter delivered to your door, please let the front desk know.

• The next Civic League meeting will be held on September 25, in the Algonquin Room. Our representative, **Lesle Palmeri, 9J**, encourages all Algonquin residents to attend, if possible, or to send any questions or concerns they would like her to raise to Lesle.Palmeri@gmail.com, or leave a note for her at the desk.

Around the Corner...

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| • Solar Eclipse | Aug. 21 |
| • Board meeting | Sept. 26 |
| • Italian Dinner | Sept. 28 |
| • Annual Meeting | Oct. 25 |

Puns...

Why don't some couples go to the gym? Because some relationships don't work out.

Poem...

August by Mary Oliver

When the blackberries hang
swollen in the woods, in the brambles
nobody owns, I spend

all day among the high
branches, reaching
my ripped arms, thinking

of nothing, cramming
the black honey of summer
into my mouth; all day my body

accepts what it is. In the dark
creeks that run by there is
this thick paw of my life darting among

the black bells, the leaves; there is
this happy tongue.

Helpful Hints...

- As suggested by **Ellie Marasco, 10K**, we are running a recipe a month during the summer months, featuring recipes that utilize herbs from our herb garden. We can't go the summer without at least one recipe for pesto, so here it is.

Quick and Easy Pesto:

2 cups packed fresh basil leaves
2 cloves garlic
1/4 cup pine nuts
2/3 cup extra-virgin olive oil, divided
Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper, to taste
1/2 cup freshly grated Pecorino cheese

Directions:

Combine the basil, garlic, and pine nuts in a food processor and pulse until coarsely chopped. Add 1/2 cup of the oil and process until fully incorporated and smooth. Season with salt and pepper.

If using immediately, add all the remaining oil and pulse until smooth. Transfer the pesto to a large serving bowl and mix in the cheese.

If freezing, transfer to an air-tight container and drizzle remaining oil over the top. Freeze for up to 3 months. Thaw and stir in cheese.

- All the upheaval with the landscaping and the roof work has apparently caused some bugs to decide to upscale their homes. You may see them surveying your kitchen for their new territory. We

may not have anything as exciting as the *Ghost Busters*, but we do have exterminators. Anthony or Peter from Guardian Pest Control comes the 1st and 3rd Friday of every month. If you want him to help you evict your new unwanted neighbors, i.e., bugs, call the front desk and put your name on the list. Renee Wiman did some research on organic pest control and found "Diatomaceous Earth." You can find more information on Diatomaceous Earth at www.richsoil.com or www.motherearthnews.com.

- Remember, when you have a maintenance need in your unit, or see something in a common area that needs attention, put in a work order. You can tell one of the maintenance staff if you see them, but also put in a work order as back-up.

- **More "quick and dirty" reviews of pool rules:**

- For parties of 10 people or more, please register at the front desk and reserve the date, so others can schedule around your party.

- When you are done with a table, always take the umbrella down. This helps prevent wind damage. The tables and umbrellas are expensive to replace.

Book Review...

SMITH by Timothy J. Lockhart

Smith is an assassin, but he's not a professional and isn't in it for the money. It's supposed to be a short career - three jobs in total. Three kills. Three people who deserve to die for what they did...

But Smith is ex-military and such a person could be quite useful to certain secret U.S. political interests. He is recruited by a "black ops" organization referred to only as the "Enterprise." After completing a boot camp training so rough it is accepted that some won't survive, he is expected to become a secret assassin of those who threaten the real (but hidden) goals of the U. S. government.

The idea of being compelled to kill for someone else's interests leaves Smith morally torn. Ethical qualms aside, though, he has little choice. His choices are stay alive, kill some political enemies, and *maybe* retire young, or life in prison.

The plot keeps the reader intrigued and the suspense is palpable. Lockhart is a modern master of pulp espionage and deserves a broad audience. *Note: Tim Lockhart is Margaret Magnussen's son-in-law and a partner in the Wilcox and Savage law firm here in Norfolk. A copy has been placed in the library.*

August 2017 Edition (Lyn) "Around the House"