

THE CLARE

# CONNECTION

FALL 2019 Issue 216



## LETTER FROM KYLE



*Kyle Exline, Executive Director*



### THE CLARE

*Gold Coast Retirement Living Your Way*

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*Overall, I have found that the keys to strong management are constant communication and honesty about expectations and performance.*

Occasionally in the elevators, residents or family members tell me, “This place is very well managed!” I always take this as a huge compliment. And since we have so many residents who started their own businesses or served as leaders in their organizations, I thought you would enjoy a snapshot of what it looks like to manage The Clare day-to-day.

The Clare operates 24 hours a day, seven days a week, with 11 different departments in place to oversee all aspects of the community. Each department has a Director to lead individual projects and manage employees:

- Marketing
- Human Resources
- Plant Operations
- Accounting
- Environmental Services
- Nursing/The Terraces (which has another 10 departments)
- Resident Experience
- Resident Services
- Security
- IT (Information Technology)
- Dining Services

To start each morning, all Directors convene for a daily stand-up meeting, where they review updates and identify issues with which they need assistance. As a team, we prioritize and discuss the best solutions for any problems that arise. Through it all, we focus on details and the resident experience, seeking to execute events and mitigate resident concerns with care.

From there, Directors go about their days, and they typically lead daily stand-up meetings with their own departments. For example, the Dining Services team has a staff meeting before every meal to go over what’s on the menu, review reservations, train staff on new techniques, and ensure dining rooms are prepared. Every department pays extreme attention to detail to guarantee that everything has been thought of in order to provide exceptional service.

Personally, I hold individual meetings with each Director on a weekly or bi-weekly basis. During these meetings, we review departmental projects, evaluate any items of concern, consider their goals, and initiate future plans.

Of course, every day at The Clare is different. We might have a leak in the Fitness Center, an elevator out of service or a resident or staff member handling a serious issue. We have a structure in place, but flexibility as well to adjust to real-time issues as needed.

Overall, I have found that the keys to strong management are constant communication and honesty about expectations and performance. Our talented employees certainly make it look easy, but details matter. That’s why our Directors remain focused on even the smallest details, so that The Clare continues to be a “well-managed” community for years to come. ☺

## NEWS FROM YOUR COUNCIL & COMMITTEES



### Marketing & Communications Committee

Dorothy Pirovano | Chair

Those cute little signs on the tables in the Ambassador Lounge at breakfast asking you to clear your plates after you're done eating are the first step in a series of gentle reminders about community living. We all need to do our part so that our surroundings are not only good to look at and good to live in, but also so that we show consideration to others.

After feedback from residents, you can expect to see signs popping up that ask you not to use your cell phones in the dining areas and on the elevators. As much as we love each other, we don't want to share in each other's conversations. You can help us in this effort by heeding the signs and providing a gentle reminder to family, guests and caregivers. ☺



### Hospitality Committee

Gail Margolis | Chair

The Hospitality Committee, consisting of 10 active and committed participants, is continuing to explore ways to bring residents together to share a variety of experiences. One such activity is the "Dine with New Friends" dinner. The second instance of this dinner in September brought 60 residents together to eat a meal with randomly chosen neighbors in The Grafton and The Bistro. During the winter months, the committee will facilitate informal get-togethers where groups of residents who share common interests and experiences can get to know one another and plan future encounters if desired.

Another activity that premiered at the end of October is the concept of "Abbey Afternoons," where those who so wish can have quiet conversation with others in The Abbey while sipping tea and coffee. Finally, we continue to mentor new residents, and we added small group meetings to share tips and information to assist in the transition to life at The Clare. ☺



### Facilities Committee

Ken Mullin | Chair

A continuing topic of interest has emerged for the Facilities Committee, thanks to committee members **Joyce Johnston**, **Karol Moller** and **Pat Terry**: Recycling. This has often been an agenda item over the years, and it has now secured a permanent place in our meeting's interest and deliberations, via a working group designated "The Green Team."

To date, The Green Team has produced articles for a number of internal publications, evaluated and promoted the concept of reutilizing "to-go" containers at The Clare's dining venues, and spot checked recycling receptacles for non-compliance. Planning activities for the future are an on-going endeavor and includes ideas such as educational forums, uniform graphics of dos and don'ts and utilization of materials available from our trash/recycling contractor, Waste Management, Inc.

Waste Management reports that approximately 30% of our building's refuse removal is recycled. I urge The Clare community to support the efforts of The Green Team to improve our recycling performance. We welcome your suggestions and encouragement. ☺



### Resident Advisory Council

Chris Lyon | RAC President

It's hard to believe the year has gone by so fast (again!). The summer months had an easier pace, with many of our residents enjoying time at their second homes. Now that the weather is cooler, we're counting on more people joining us the first Tuesday of every month for the Resident Council meeting, which takes place at 3pm in the Oxford Room at 3:00 and generally lasts about an hour. Remember that when you can't make it in person, you will find videos of the meetings on Odyssey, as they are always taped and appear within a day or two of the actual meeting.

As an enticement, we've restarted inviting staff members as guest speakers. **Michael Plowman**, Director of Human Resources, started us off with a bang at the October meeting as he described the challenges he faces in finding the wonderful people who work here at The Clare. Plus, there is always an informative update from Executive Director **Kyle Exline** on the state of The Clare and information from Associate Executive Director **Ashleigh Guerin** on The Terraces.

Otherwise, the committees continue their good work as we strive to serve the needs of the newcomers, old timers and those in between. The Council is the place to be to catch up with what's going on in the committees and to see if there is one you might want to join. Hope to see you at our next meeting on Tuesday, December 3. ☺

# RESIDENT NEWS



*Left to right: Sallie McBride, Shirley Jackson, Marilyn Day, Virginia Wolff, Joyce Johnston, Edna Schade and Beverly Rodgers*

Members of The Clare Garden Club took a tour of Skyline Park, a private 2.5-acre oasis located on the third floor of high-rise Lake Point Tower. The park was designed by world-renowned landscape architect Alfred Caldwell and features a lagoon, colorful glower gardens and more. ☺



Resident **Walter Melion** (left) received the Woolford B. Baker Award in August “for his tireless and outstanding service to the Michael C. Carlos Museum,” located on Emory University’s main campus in Atlanta. With his husband, John Clum (right), Walter also celebrated the opening of a major exhibition he curated at the museum, “Through a Glass Darkly: Allegory and Faith in Netherlandish Prints from Lucas van Leyden to Rembrandt.” ☺



**Heather and Herman Ebner** joined a group of residents for a Mystery Trip to Lagunitas Brewing Company Chicago, where they enjoyed a tour and some brews in the taproom. For Mystery Trips, residents sign up and get on the bus without knowing where they’re headed for a surprise tour or event. ☺



*Left to right: Rich Pincus, Jan Linn, Carolyn Driscoll, Clare guest Shari Augins, Roberta Weisberg, Rich Kaczmarek, Joanne Daly, Tom Daly, Cathy Madayag, Kathryn Brown, Sue Brown, Linda Chinn, and Barb Arsenault*

The Clare kicked off its annual fundraising efforts for the Alzheimer’s Association with our very own 5K walk! Overall, the community raised more than \$20,000 through various events, including a silent auction. ☺



Clare residents **Catherine Keebler** and **Ruth Nelson** recently enjoyed the theatrics of Teatro ZinZanni Chicago, deemed a whirlwind of international cirque, comedy and cabaret served with a multi-course feast. Although the two dined on separate days, they were similarly invited to participate in the act on stage! ☺



*From left to right: Joyce Saxon, Mary Roche, Mary Ellen Streit, Eleanor Lynch, Joanne Daly, Tom Daly, Lillian Scommegna, Mary Fran Burke, Sara Aversa, Ned Ryan, and Betsy Kennedy*

Several residents took a tour of the National Shrine of St. Frances Xavier Cabrini, located in Lincoln Park. The tour highlighted unique architecture and sacred art treasures, including marble imported from Italy and Florentine stained glass windows. ☺

Clare Executive Chef **Hagop Hagopian** won the first-ever LCS Chef of the Year title! Our residents came together to celebrate his accomplishments in the competition. ☺



*Jackie Miner, Executive Chef Hagop Hagopian, and Minette Miner*



*Jay Tunney, Joy McDevitt, Executive Chef Hagop Hagopian, and LaDonna Whitmer*



*Sally Schwartz, Sally Kinnamon, Gail Margolis, Roberta Weisberg, and ML Karth*



*Executive Chef Hagop Hagopian, Virginia Wolff and Luise Kappe*



*Jack Jennings and Steve Molinari*



Ed Wentz



"Chicago's Chinatown"

## ARTIST PROFILE

### Ed Wentz: Breaking the Rules

Elare resident Ed Wentz doesn't abide by the rules when it comes to art. Upon retiring, Ed took up watercolor, honing his unique style, his individual technique. He woke up one day, he says, and he decided to break the rules. That's where the fun and creativity came in.

"Everything has been painted today," he says. "What an artist's objective is now is taking the usual and making it unusual."

Ed will use a photo, for example, and create a vignette. He takes what he wants from it, removes what he doesn't and adds his own flare. He plays around with colors and enjoys the freedom of his own interpretations. Sketches from his travels with his wife, **Jane Ellen Murray**, also serve as inspiration for his paintings.

"You're creating something," Ed says. "You're not copying something. There's a certain period of the painting where it becomes your own."

His watercolors typically take three sittings to complete, he says. Each time he returns to paint, he has a fresh perspective.

To date, Ed has finished hundreds of paintings. And it all began with a career in advertising.

Over the years, Ed climbed the ranks at various agencies, working toward his goal of art direction and winning awards for his campaigns. With each ad he laid out, he used a marker that was similar to a chisel-edge watercolor brush, which led to his comfortability with watercolors.

"It was like going to your sandbox every day," Ed says of his career.

His creativity then brought him back to the American Academy of Art on Michigan Avenue, where he took classes on scholarship in high school. He spent years teaching, helping artists tease out their strengths.

"What I would do is seek out the best part of what they do," he says. "I develop their style, not mine."

Eventually, Ed was named President of the Academy, and they put his very own artwork on display, too. That's the point when he truly began to consider himself an artist.

*"To an artist, having somebody hang your work, and pay for it, to boot, is an honor."*

*“The Clare played a significant role in helping us continue our art.”*

With this recognition came further representation at different galleries. Ed served as Vice President of the Palette & Chisel Academy of Fine Art, where he and Jane Ellen both had many exhibitions. Perhaps most noteworthy is that he was represented by the prestigious Kamp Galleries in the Drake Hotel. That, and the fact that people wanted his artwork for their own collections.

“To an artist, having somebody hang your work, and pay for it, to boot, is an honor,” he says.

When it came time for Ed and Jane Ellen to consider continuing care and senior living, then, studio space was a must. Without their own studios, it’s easy to imagine that they would have given up painting, Ed says.

Instead, Ed and Jane Ellen have individual studios in their apartment at The Clare. Every morning, Ed goes into his studio to prepare his paints, just in case inspiration strikes. Ed also submits watercolors for display in seasonal exhibitions in The Clare’s community studio space.

“In a way, The Clare played a significant role in helping us continue our art,” he says. “It’s very much a part of me.” 🍷



*“Wrigley Building & Tribune Tower”*



*“The John Hancock Building”*

# AROUND THE CLARE

## Flamenco Dinner



The Clare hosted a Flamenco Night in October, featuring a tapas-style dinner, Spanish wine and a Flamenco show!



*Kathryn Brown and Marie-Luce Parker*



*Gerry Talen and Joanne Celewycz*



*Ned and Nancy Ryan*



*Barbara Bernard and Sue Brown*



*Tom and Joanne Daly*



*HD and Beth Mitchell*



*Joy Hammer and Jim Morton*



*Roger and Ginny Carlson*

# OKTOBERFEST Happy Hour



*John Clum and Shirley Mullin*



*Nancy Lee Spilove and Jeanne Aronson*



*The Happy Wanderers accordion and tuba duo*



*Jacquie Brave*



*Ken Mullin, Jack Jennings and Linda Brooks*



*Elizabeth and Bill Conley*



*Eileen Donnelly and Virginia Wolff*





# Halloween 2019 at The Clare



Bob and Linda Brooks



Virginia Wolff



Laurel Blau and Gayle Keefer



Jay and Kelly Tunney



Marilyn and Bob Day



Karen Banhidi



Carlotta Maher



Mary Ellen Streit and Eileen Donnelly



Larry and Dorothy Pirovano



Rita Bakerwell



Sally Kinnamon



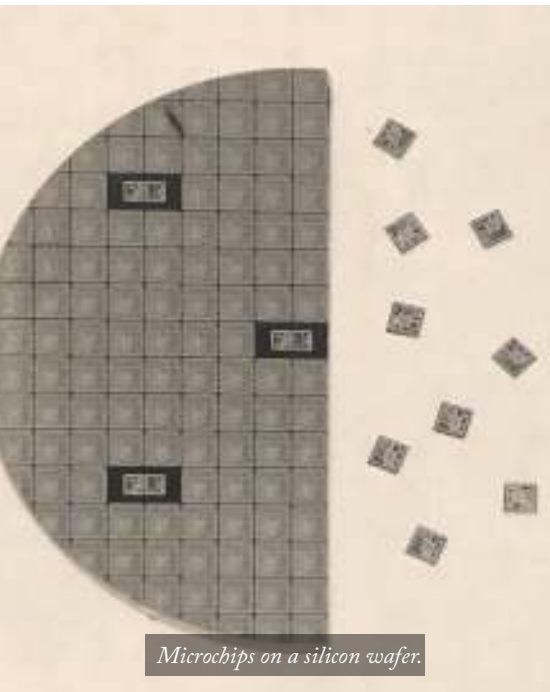
Joan and Bob Arzbaeher

## RESIDENT PROFILE



*Dr. Sunil Shabde with his wife, Sheela and daughters, Dipti and Aarti.*

*“I feel proud to have participated in the microchip revolution from the beginning.”*



*Microchips on a silicon wafer.*

### Dr. Sunil Shabde: Physics and Electrical Engineering Researcher Shares his Journey to the United States

Growing up in India, Clare resident Dr. Sunil Shabde was surrounded by science.

His father was a renowned mathematician, known for conducting research on Einstein’s Unified Field Theory in the 1930s. It was he who inspired Sunil to pursue his own scientific passions.

After earning a degree in physics from Nagpur University and a degree in electrical engineering from the Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore, Sunil struggled to find a job to his liking – one that would involve working with semiconductor devices, since they were developing at the time. He moved to the United States in 1963, where his journey truly began.

#### Life in the U.S.

Sunil knew moving to the U.S. would provide him with life-changing opportunities, but he felt guilty leaving his mother alone to care for his younger siblings. His father had died a few years prior, but his family ultimately encouraged him to leave.

So, Sunil married his childhood sweetheart and moved to the U.S. three months later on a student visa, having been accepted to Purdue University.

Upon stepping foot on Purdue’s campus, Sunil knew he made the right choice.

“Purdue, compared to India, was like a breath of fresh air,” he says.

There, he experienced a new level of academic freedom at his fingertips. Sunil wasn’t used to the idea that students could choose their own courses and career paths.

“My counselor said I could take as many courses as I wanted,” he says. “That was unheard of in India.”

In his home country, parents tended to choose careers for their children, and students typically followed fixed curriculums, he says. He seized the freedom afforded to him at Purdue and enrolled in courses outside of the electrical engineering department.

“I took a quantum mechanics course that really thrilled me,” he says.

As he worked toward his master’s, his wife joined him in the United States, and he soon began envisioning where his career might take him. When he received his degree, a professor from Purdue who was given a promotion at Rice University offered Sunil an assistantship while he worked on his Ph.D. He was hesitant, but his wife pushed him to accept the offer.

“She said, ‘Remember what you came here for. You came to do research, and if you take a job in some industry after your master’s, you won’t be able to do that,’” Sunil recalls. “That was the best advice she had ever given me.”

So, he accepted the assistantship, which only paid \$250 a month. Sunil worked in a lab day and night, researching thermomagnetism, a new physics-related phenomenon for energy conversion.

While Sunil loved his work, the pay wasn't sufficient, especially with a baby on the way. After his wife gave birth to their first-born daughter, Sunil didn't know how they were going to cover the charges. Luckily, the doctor noticed that Sunil was working toward his Ph.D. and knew how very little he was earning. The doctor did the unthinkable for them.

"He waived all of my charges," Sunil says. "I couldn't believe it. I really got the sense that Americans are generous people."

Within two years, Sunil finished his Ph.D. and was offered a job to make microchips for Collins, known for its aviation and space electronics. The job took his family to Cedar Rapids, Iowa for six months, followed by Newport Beach, California, where he helped set up a microchip factory.

"I was also doing research, because they were setting up MOS technology that was way ahead of its time," he says.

After working for Collins for over a year, Sunil felt the urge to pursue other opportunities. When the University of Michigan reached out to him to set up labs for students, where they could fabricate semiconductor devices and small chips, Sunil knew he had to jump in. As an assistant professor, he successfully established two labs and two courses for students to learn about recent developments in microchip technology.

"Students were lining up for registration, because who gets a chance at the university level to see the fabrication of microchips?" he says.

### Working in Silicon Valley

Again, Sunil realized that the real cutting-edge of technology was elsewhere, not in universities but in Silicon Valley.

He wanted to get involved with the early stage of the computer revolution. Sunil got a job in Silicon Valley, and he and his family made the move in 1973.

"I was basically chasing where the high technology was," he says. "That was my main focus."

Sunil spent more than 30 years working for several companies in Silicon Valley, including innovative startups. In that time, he witnessed many technological advancements.

"Before the microchips came, computers occupied the whole room," he says. "Now we have laptops!"

Silicon Valley fostered a community of constant innovation. This allowed Sunil to research the new phenomena of the shrinking size of transistors.

He attended international conferences at the Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers and published 10 papers on the hot electron effect alone. One of those papers, "Hot Electron-Induced Snapback Effect in MOS Transistors," aimed to design protection for the microchips from electrostatic discharge. Even today, this idea is being used in current

products. He was also awarded six patents on alpha particle damage to chips in space.

"A lot of strange phenomenon happen when you shrink a transistor," Sunil says. "We had to suppress harmful ones."

To do so, he had to design innovative transistor structures within silicon.

During his time in Silicon Valley, Sunil worked on six generations of technology and transferred them to manufacturing. Over the course of his career, the number of transistors on a chip went from hundreds to several billion, while computer speed reached unprecedented gigahertz (GHz) range. This period saw the advent of internet, as well.

Today, Sunil feels proud to have participated in the microchip revolution from the beginning, a revolution which has propelled the United States to the forefront of this technology.

### Life at The Clare

Sunil and his wife continued to live in California after their retirement in the 2000s. They raised two daughters, who are now in the prime of their careers. True to his academic urges, Sunil developed and taught courses in devices for industrial engineers, and he went on to write a biography about his father and his extensive research.

Through it all, Sunil says that he wouldn't have excelled were it not for his wife by his side.

"She supported me in all of those moves," he says. "She said, 'I'll go where your passion takes you.' And after the kids grew up, she pursued her own career at Hewlett Packard as a computer software engineer."

When his wife passed, Sunil's daughters found The Clare and knew it would be perfect for him. Living here allows him to be closer to his daughters and grants freedom to pursue a newfound passion.

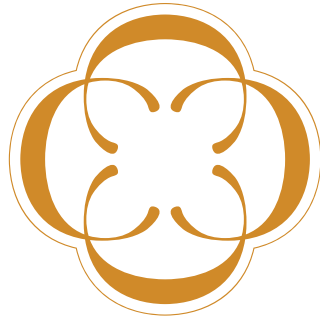
"I'm looking at the metaphysics side of philosophy," he says. "I want to explore what's beyond this world."

As he reflects on his journey to the U.S. and the longevity of his career, Sunil knows it wasn't easy.

"It was a struggle in the beginning, but it was very satisfying," he says. ☺



*Dr. Sunil Shabde as a child with his family in India.*



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