

Autumn Is Here Again....

How beautifully leaves grow old. How full of light and color are their last days. ~John Burroughs



Ready for the Anniversary Waltz.... It's tradition

FROM OUR PRESIDENT...

What a great way to start the season! The September dinner dance was so much fun getting to see each other after three months off.

This month we will be treated to Phil Anthony and his musical merry makers.

Fall has arrived so we must make plans for the holiday season. Our Thanksgiving and Christmas dances should be a load of fun.

We will also, of course, have

another excellent dinner prepared by the Long Beach Petroleum Club. We hope to see all of you there.

*Larry Isham
President*

Larry Isham



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

The October 21st dance will be at the Petroleum Club and will feature the Phil Anthony Band!

Check the write-up on Howard Clossen on page four.

The cost is \$78/couple (includes tax/tip).

No-host cocktail time is at 6 p.m and the great dance music until 10 p.m.

Dress code is semi-formal.

TOPPERS DINNER MENU

Swiss Steak or filet of halibut or Vegetarian served with Green Salad with Ranch and Italian Dressing on the tables.

Potatoes Au Gratin, Fresh Vegetables, Warm Bread & Butter

Ice Cream for dessert.

Specify your choice on the tear-off strip and include with your check.



Lori and Dean Fronk are the new Secretary and Vice-President respectively

October's poplars are flaming torches lighting the way to winter. ~Nova Bair

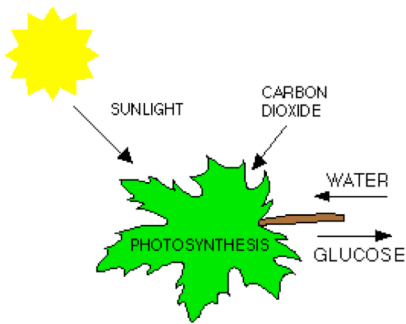
PREPARE TO BE GREETED



Cathy & Tom Berg

Be prepared to be welcomed with a big smile by Cathy and Tom Berg.

Did You Know? Leaves are nature's food factories. Plants take water from the ground through their roots. They take a gas called carbon dioxide from the air.



Plants use sunlight to turn water and carbon dioxide into oxygen and glucose. Oxygen is a gas in the air that we need to breathe. Glucose is a kind of sugar. Plants use glucose as food for energy and as a building block for growing.

The way plants turn water and carbon dioxide into oxygen and sugar is called photosynthesis. That means "putting together with light."

A chemical called chlorophyll helps make photosynthesis happen. Chlorophyll is what gives plants their green color.

As summer ends and autumn comes, the days get shorter and shorter. This is how the trees "know" to begin getting ready for winter.

During winter, there is not enough light or water for photosynthesis. The trees will rest, and live off the food they stored during the summer. They begin to shut down their food-making factories.

The green chlorophyll disappears from the leaves. As the bright green fades away, we begin to see yellow and orange colors. Small amounts of these colors have been in the leaves all along. We just can't see them in the summer, because they are covered up by the green chlorophyll.

The bright reds and purples we see in leaves are made mostly in the fall. In some trees, like maples, glucose is trapped in the leaves after photosynthesis stops. Sunlight and the cool nights of autumn cause the leaves turn this glucose into a red color. The brown color of trees like oaks is made from wastes left in the leaves.



It is the combination of all these things that make the beautiful fall foliage colors we enjoy each year. reaping, and *autumn*, as well as *fall*, began to replace it as a reference to the season.

YOUR BOARD

President	Larry/Gigi Isham
Vice President	Dean Fronk
Past President	Jerry Ellis
Secretary	Lori Fronk
Treasurer	Bill Morgan
Hospitality	Neil/Nita Woolston
Membership	Bob Potthast
Roster	Joyce Rothrock
Newsletter	Paul & Sue Liles

The Executive Board meets at 5:30 p.m. before each dance. Need a Toppers name badge? Call Earl Eakle at 310-375-8134.

UPCOMING DANCE SCHEDULE

- 10/21/2011 - Phil Anthony
- 11/18/2011 – Tony Carinio
- 12/16/2011 – (TBD)
- 1/20/2012 – Howard Solomon
- 2/17/2012 – San Conti
- 3/16/2012 – Phil Anthony
- 4/20/2012 – Tony Carinio
- 5/18/2012 – Howard Solomon
- 9/21/2012 – Sam Conti
- 10/19/2012 – Phil Anthony
- 11/16/2012 – Tony Carinio

OUR GUESTS



Laura & "AJ" Saam

SPOTLIGHT ON A TOPPER

Clark & Donnis Weygandt

Submitted to Vicky Kuhn by Donis Weygaandt

Clark Weygandt was born in Marshallville, Ohio on June 16, 1933, and spent his childhood with his brother and sister on a dairy farm. Clark developed his love of gardening and music from his mother and his propensity for hard work from his father.

Clark worked a year before attending the College of Wooster in Ohio where he met Donnis, a student from New Jersey. After graduating with a B. A. degree in Economics, Clark married Donnis on September 29th, 1956.

They knew it would be a long time before they would have an opportunity to do any extensive travel once they started working, so they decided to take the money they had saved and drive across the country. Neither had been west of Michigan nor had made an employment commitment, so they decided to find a place they liked and wanted to live and then find a job.

What a different economic time the 50's were than now! While visiting a college friend in Charlotte, NC, on the last lap of their three month road trip, Donnis and Clark fell in love with Charlotte. Clark was offered his first job by his friend and accepted it. They loved Charlotte with its mild winters and beautiful dogwood and magnolia trees.

Little did they know when moving to Charlotte, that that decision would begin 16 years of living in the southeast. Clark's employers transferred him frequently in the early years. Their son Jon was born in Knoxville, TN, and daughter Leslie in

Atlanta, GA. Other southern cities where they lived were Louisville and Lexington, KY.

When Clark, Donnis and their children moved to Carmel, IN, in 1973 Donnis went back to work. Previously she had stayed at home raising their children when they were young. She worked first at Statesman Insurance Company and then as an editor at Pictorial Publishers, Inc. writing training materials for the property-casualty market.

Most of Clark's career was spent helping families plan for and protect their future with insurance and financial services. He earned his certification as a CLU (Chartered Life Underwriter) and ChFC (Chartered Financial Consultant).

In 1988, Donnis was offered a job in Newport Beach, CA as an insurance and litigation consultant at Coopers & Lybrand (now known as PricewaterhouseCoopers since their merger). Clark encouraged her to accept it and once again they moved.

After five years in Irvine, Clark and Donnis bought a condo on the top of the hill in Signal Hill. They have enjoyed the view of the ocean and downtown Long Beach. In the winter, there are spectacular sunsets out their windows. Clark served many years as president of their condominium association. He retired from the California Department of Insurance in 1999.

Clark and Donnis traveled to Ohio often visiting his sister and brother and their families. When his relatives visited, Clark enjoyed taking them to the Getty museum, the Marine Mammal Center in San Pedro, the beach, desert and the redwood forests.

When the four grandchildren would visit, Clark would look for new adventures - taking them to the beach, whale watching, Disneyland, Legoland and the Los Angeles Zoo. One of the most enjoyable tours was taking them back in time to La Brea Tar Pits.

In 2004 as Clark and Donnis prepared to return to the College of Wooster for a class reunion in June and they realized there would be an opportunity for dancing. Although they had always loved ballroom dancing in college and the early years of their marriage, they had not danced in many years.

They realized they needed to get out on the dance floor and practice before June. What better place to go than to the Queen Mary where they learned there was dancing to a big band every month in a casual daytime environment. They had a chance to go several times before that arrangement was terminated and other locations were found.

While dancing on the Queen Mary, Clark and Donnis met Darwin and Norma Mayfield. The Mayfields introduced the Weygandts to Lynn Brandt and Vince Caruso who invited the Weygandts to come to the Toppers Dance Club as their guests. One evening of socializing and dancing at the Toppers convinced Donnis and Clark that they wanted to join the dance group.

What a good decision that was! Clark and Donnis have been members of Toppers since 2004 and have enjoyed it immensely. They made many friends and have enjoyed having such a wonderful place to dance. They extended their dancing days to include those at the Eldorado Senior Center in Long Beach.

Clark and Donnis always encouraged each other to stay active. In addition to dancing, they joined L.A. Fitness in Long Beach and made it a point to go three times a week. They also loved to travel and enjoyed several cruises.

Clark left us on June 17, 2011. He would not want us to grieve for long. He felt well loved by his family and his many friends. We best remember Clark by doing those things he enjoyed most.

It Is With Sadness That We Lost Barbara Schultz



Barbara Schultz

We received a note from Barbara's daughter that she had passed away in September of a stroke. We will certainly miss her smile.

OUR SEPTEMBER DANCE WAS FUN!



Doubling checking the lists



My invitation was eaten by the dog



Guess who is getting married???



Polka time at Topper's

GOING BACK IN TIME

In September several of the Topper's took the "Lane Victory WWII Freighter Adventure" to Santa Catalina. We were entertained by a great dance band and a re-creation of the Andrews Sisters. If you have interest for next year, please contact Sue or Paul Liles.

On this years trip we had Ed & Kathy Roberts, Vicky & Del Kuhn, Paul & Sue Liles, and Herb Silverstein & Irene Kosmetatos, You can see the adventure unfold at the following website: <http://lilesnet.com/lanevictory/2011/index.htm>.

A LITTLE DANCE HUMOR

There is a bit of insanity in dancing that does everybody a great deal of good. ~Edwin Denby

ON THE WEB FROM ANYWHERE

You are on the web! Try this URL:

<http://tinyurl.com/5tz4juu> for pictures from the September 2011 dance!

The previous newsletters are also available on our website should you be missing a copy.

MEET HOWARD CROSSEN

Howard Crossen turned pro at the age of fifteen with a local band led by Hal Brown. He joined the Marines and joined the Marine Corps Band.

After his discharge Howard played with various bands and traveled the country with Glenn Henry, Chuck Cabot, Skinney Qines, Oren Tucker.

Howard played the Nevada circuit playing at the Stardust, El Cortez, Showboat, Fremont, Harrahs, The Golden, Harold's Club, Riverside, Wagon Wheel, etc.. Backed such people as: Johnny Desmond, Rusty Draper, Billy Eckstine, Freddy Morgan, Bell Sisters, Billy Daniels, Mary Mayo, etc.

He worked club dates in the 70's, 80's, 90's, and a lot of casuals into the 2000's. When not performing, Howard enjoys being on his sailboat.

