

## October / November 2009 What's Happy-ning?

From Your President

The "ohs" are almost over—twenty-oh-nine is the last year in the era of the "ohs." Remembering back to your childhood (or that of your children or grandchildren), it was momentous to leave the "ohs," knowing that the teens would soon arrive. This message is the last from the club to appear in a newsletter in the era of the "ohs" and also marks the mid-point of the club's fiscal year so is a good time to look back and look ahead.

The first half year of the club has had many high-points; the sumptuous welcome reception, the memorable visit with Sylvia McNair, the taste-tempting spread created by Steve Mangan, and the entertaining and enlightening luncheon programs and other events and activities have made us exclaim "OH!" On the other hand, the downturn in room rentals, the disappointing attendance at many events, the slow rate of membership renewal, and premature launch of "Happy-nings" forced us to say, "Oh-my." But, we can look forward to the time after the "ohs" as we experience some of the excitement that accompanies the journey toward the teens.

As the club is preparing for the second half of the year:

- The array of exciting holiday season events prompted the distribution of a special postcard alert.
- The list of activities planned for the coming months includes traditional favorites as well as special and new programs and events that will be detailed in future newsletters.
- The positive responses by members when asked to fill traditional committee and leadership roles and to undertake new challenges of boosting membership or providing greater visibility to the club have been encouraging; a full list of the new membership team and new publicity initiatives will be in the next newsletter.
- Planning for the January 14 resumption of Thursday evening "Happy-nings" includes many exciting opportunities to introduce new members to the club and for current members to enjoy a relaxed fellowship period.

These plans deserve an anticipatory "OH!" So this second half of the club's year fulfills expectations, every club member can help by:

- Being sure your dues are paid; the count of members is important to retention of the university's support and making the club attractive to potential sponsors as well as providing the money to pay the club's basic operating expenses.
- Volunteering your time and talent to the many committee, supportive, and leadership roles that allow you to work with others, forming new friendships and making you part of the club's success.
- Introducing the club to friends, co-workers, and associates so they too can enjoy the many activities offered by the club.
- Using the club as the venue for your personal celebrations and those of your university department, club, organization, or business.

Knowing that you have been an integral part of the club's success will allow you to feel an "oh" of satisfaction.

*Ronald Kouener*

President of the University Club