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Celebrating 20 Years on the Top

The Club Moves to a New Home Next Door

By Richard L. Eastline, CD '73

The work of the site selection was done. The search was over for locating space that The Cliff Dwellers would adopt as the replacement for their almost 90-year-old clubhouse atop the building that housed the Chicago Symphony Orchestra. There were slim pickings for finding a new site after being informed in 1995 that the club's lease would not be renewed. Available office space was abundant in the downtown area but finding a facility that offered a large, open area for dining and socializing plus a functioning kitchen—well, that was something else.

Having to move was more than a physical challenge. Close to a century of history was filled with the memories of events and personalities, much of which could be (and was) lost in any relocation. Efforts were made to find a replacement that would, by its character, mitigate what could be abrupt disconnections with the past. Of the few options that were deemed to be geographically and aesthetically available, space in the venerable Fine Arts building south of Van Buren Street on Michigan Avenue became the prime prospect.

That imposing stone edifice has been the home to a vast number of music, dance, and fine arts teaching studios and related businesses. An occasionally-used concert hall on an upper floor offered an impressive area adaptable to a functional meeting room (our Kiva) with windows facing Michigan Avenue. Its period architectural details were in need of restoration and its utilities would require updating. But a key deterrent was the

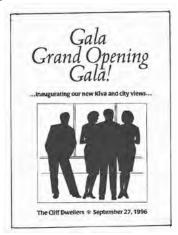
absence of an operating kitchen. Allocating space for the required facilities and the installation of a mandatory smoke stack attached to the building would involve a substantial cost investment—an expense to be added to the re-purposing of the hall itself. Factor in other concerns as well as disappointments, such as no balcony, an antiquated elevator system, and the added distance from popular destinations such as the Art Institute and the theater district. The point score was below what would be considered an enthusiastic approval. Yet, what else was there at that moment?

Call it great timing, or good luck, or a small miracle, but the Borg-Warner Corporation was in the process of reducing its presence in its name-sake high-rise next door to the building housing the Club. One of the spaces to be jettisoned was the penthouse added above the 21st floor, which served as the executive suite. Handsomely furnished in modern style, it had a kitchen that could be outfitted with equipment suited for large-scale dining along with other allocated space transformable to offices or specialty rooms. And, perhaps most convincing of all, was the spectacular view from picture windows that constituted the outer walls facing in three directions. If that weren't enough, there was this deck, or terrace, that wrapped around the north and east facade, presenting an outdoor extension massively larger in area than the narrow balcony that served The Cliff Dwellers at its existing clubhouse. Yes, it was available for leasing and as

an adaptable space separate from whatever other Borg-Warner space being offered. Would there be need for any further searching? We snapped it up almost immediately.

That all happened during the first half of 1996. Of course there was the elaborate and glorious farewell celebration at what was already called the "old" club space on April 19. So, what then followed were months of remodeling and upgrading to establish a sense of the clubhouse that had been vacated. Member architect Larry Booth, CD'66, carried out plans that included installing a coved ceiling and replacing the carpeted flooring with darkly-stained wood in the Kiva. The old spindle chairs and plain-wood tables were retrieved along with a few of the quaint floor lamps to augment recollections of the past. The fireplace and adjacent oak paneling also survived the journey from next door. And, likewise the collection of southwestern Native American pottery for display in the newlycreated Sullivan Room, meant for private dining and meetings. Somehow it all came together and the new clubhouse was ready for its baptism.

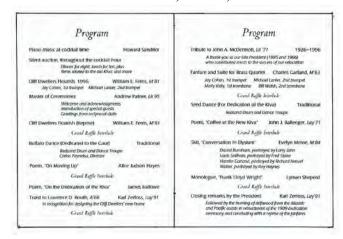
On the evening of September 27, once again Cliff Dwellers gathered for a celebration. This time it was for a gala introduction to a new address, a new space, and a new lease. Like the farewell event five months earlier, there just had to be a potpourri of program offerings. You would be hard-pressed to match the variety of contributions that were sought



for the gathering. When the evening's festive mood settled somewhat, a pair of trumpeters played the Cliff Dwellers Flourish, composed for the occasion by composer-conductor William Ferris, CD'81, after which ,master-of-ceremonies Andrew Patner, CD'95, read greetings from reciprocal clubs and also introduced special guests. Then came a traditional buffalo dance performed by members of the Redsand Drum and Dance Troupe. What was scheduled to follow ranged from several original poems for the occasion to a skit performed by members that involved an imaginary conversation among architects Daniel Burnham and Louis Sullivan joined by author and club founder Hamlin Garland plus a Cliff Dwellers waiter. There was even an ongoing raffle during the entire evening. President Karl Zerfoss, CD'91, was in attendance to offer the closing remarks. But before that there was more—perhaps a bit too much.

The allotted time, alas, disappeared like the champagne. No one who attended is likely to recall exactly which acts were presented and which were skipped. All in all, while the event wasn't quite so buoyant (raucous?) as the farewell celebration at the old Kiva, there definitely were more smiles than tears. Members were heard to express feelings that truly seemed heartfelt and pleased: "You know, we could really get used to this place" was the common theme.

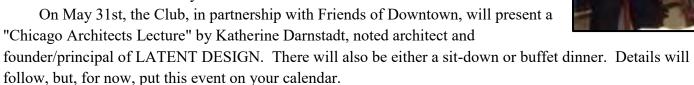
And, indeed, we have.



The President Reports

After weeks of waiting, the Building ownership finally signed the Second Lease Amendment, which will, among other things, give us badly needed additional storage space and allow our employees to change clothes in the Building employees' locker room (both in an adjacent part of the 22nd floor). The latter will allow us to remove the black curtain and free-up more space in the coat room.

Make reservations now for our May 13th celebration of "20 Years on the Top" of the 200 S. Michigan Avenue Building. Many of your fellow Club members will perform a variety of songs, readings, skits, poems, limericks, and more. Chef Victor will prepare a fabulous variety of hors d'oeuvres, which will be available during cocktails as well as the performances. Bill Bowe (CD '97) will handle the duties of MC in his own inimitable way.



The Alliance with the Union League Club is off to a good start. We expect ULC members to make more use of The Cliff Dwellers facilities as the weather warms up. Spring is also a good time for our own members to once again have lunch, cocktails and dinner on the deck. Share the unique experience with your friends and business acquaintances. While you're here, remember that 3-month trial membership forms are on the little desk just inside the Kiva. Don't be embarrassed to mention membership possibilities to your guests – and other acquaintances.

As always, I stress the need for you to use the Club facilities more often and recruit more new members.

David S. Chernoff CD'09 President

Twenty Years on the Top

1996--2016

The Cliff Dwellers is having a party on May 13 to celebrate its Twenty Years on the 22nd floor of 200 South Michigan with our deck and spectacular views of the lake, park, and the city. This special evening is only for members and their spouses, partner and significant others.

The evening will begin at 5:30. We will enjoy drinks from the bar and Chef Victor's appetizer buffet. As we eat, drink and talk, Arnie Lanza will be playing the piano in the Kiva while Victoria Martin will be reading palms by the fireplace. Hamlin Garland no doubt will not be amused.

The evening entertainment featuring performances by members will begin at 7:00 with Bill Bowe as our Master of Ceremonies. Performances will be given by Walker & Carolyn Johnson, George Gabauer, Allan Alongi, Raquel Garcia Lauritzen, Richard Reeder, Jack Zimmerman, Todd Tarbox & Larry Lund, and Trisha Ricketts & Peter Hurley. There will be surprises. The evening will end with the singing of Zivio!

Lunch with.....William "Bill" Bowe (April 6, 2016)

By Eve Moran CD'10

Introductory Note: Bill is a past president of The Cliff Dwellers (2006-07) and a familiar face at the Member's table. A lawyer by profession, he recently retired as Executive Vice President, General Counsel and Secretary at Encyclopaedia Britannica.

How long have you been a "Cliffie?" Since 1997.

Where did you grow up? I was born in Chicago in 1942 and lived in an apartment building on Elm Street on the Near North Side.

What is your favorite childhood memory? Riding my bicycle to Lincoln Park.

What were some of your early interests? I enjoyed playing football, basketball, and baseball during my high school years. Fencing in college.

Why did you pursue the study of law? My father (William) and uncle (Augustine) were law partners in Bowe and Bowe. At the early age of 14, I decided that practicing law would be an interesting way to spend my working life.



Who was a hero in your early career? My uncle, Augustine J. Bowe (1892 -1966) was a man of great integrity and served as my role model. He was president of the Chicago Bar Association (1955 -1956) and elected chief justice of the Chicago Municipal Court in 1960. Earlier he'd been the first Chairman of the Chicago Human Relations Commission and the first Chairman of the Chicago Architectural Landmarks Commission. He was also a poet. More notably, Augustine and his wife Julia put Harriet Monroe's *Poetry Magazine* on a solid financial footing after her death in 1936. They financed *Poetry* by organizing the Modern Poetry Association in the early 1940s. And they continued to be active in raising money for *Poetry* over several decades before the Lilly gift finally secured its future.

What was a high point in your career? Helping transition Encyclopaedia Britannica from over 200 years of print publishing for the consumer market to multilingual Internet distribution to schools and libraries all over the world.

What is your favorite book? While I'm not sure it's my real favorite, as I've gotten older, I've found myself glancing more and more at one of the Encyclopaedia Britannica volumes in my home office. The spine notes its C to D articles: "Chicago-Death."

Who is your favorite author? Elmore Leonard

What book are you currently reading? I'm finishing the latest book in The Clifton Chronicles, a series by Jeffrey Archer. I'm not sure I'd have started reading these if I'd known known beforehand that this English author had been sent to prison for perjury and manufacturing false evidence in a libel trial.

What is your favorite song/music piece? "Hotel California" by the Eagles

What is your favorite color? Blue

Do you have a favorite artist? Stanley Freborg - a member of my family (note the bias here) and a lesser abstract expressionist.

What building in the city do you think is most closely identified with Chicago? The Inland Steel Building

What is your favorite "Club" memory? It was the evening of October 24, 2006, and Tim Samuelson, Chicago's Cultural Historian (Hon'03), spoke at The Cliff Dwellers about Louis Sullivan's work and the tragedy of losing architectural treasures such as The Stock Exchange. As he was talking, Samuelson could add The Dexter Building (designed by Sullivan and his partner, Dankmar Adler), to this list. Indeed, at about 3 p.m. that very day, a multiple alarm fire broke out and severely damaged this historic structure (built 1887), at 630 South Wabash Avenue. See photo. (At this event, Samuelson also played a recording, made years earlier, of an



interview with an early manager of the Club who talked about Sullivan's life as a Cliff Dweller back in the day).

What are your hobbies/interests? Photography and reading.

What type of Club activities do you most enjoy? Conversation at the Member's Table

What person (living or dead) would you most like to invite to the Member's Table? Abraham Lincoln. I've always had a strong affinity for Lincoln. I remember, as a schoolboy, memorizing his Hattiesburg Address, 'Four score and many moons ago, when the Vikings first settled in Newfoundland...' Quite frankly, I can't now remember the rest of it. When I matured, I drew even closer to Lincoln. As I've told some Cliff Dwellers before, my Rail Splitter guy grew up in Illinois. I grew up in Illinois. He became a lawyer. I became a lawyer. He was tall and thin. I'm, well..uh...a shorter person. He married a girl from Springfield. I married a girl from Springfield. His wife, Mary Todd Lincoln, was a complete nutcase. My wife Cathy is otherwise as it turns out. She's down to earth, practical, and quick to correct me when I go around the bend.

The Arts Foundation Brings Contemporary Theater to the Club

By Trish VanderBeke CD'96

As its final program of the Spring Session on Tuesday, May 17 The Cliff Dwellers Arts Foundation will be welcoming Physical Festival: an annual contemporary, visual and physical theater festival that strives to bring to Chicago new forms of theater that are being performed around the world. The Festival seeks to program work that uses cuttingedge, on-the-pulse theatrical forms that are responding to the **contemporary** moment using contemporary notions of theater. The Festival seeks to offer work that elevates the visual aspects of its stories, theater which is occupied with the creation of **visual** atmospheres and images as much as verbal text. The Festival seeks to present work that pursues storytelling through primarily **physical** means, whose aim is to create original stories which start and end with the body as the foundational textual source.

May-June 2016

Physical Festival by co-founders Marc Frost and Alice da Cunha will present an introduction to the festival followed by a preview of the work of Rough House, festival participants this year. Rough House uses puppetry, music, and human performance to tell stories that are intimate, strange, and sincere. "We create theater that captures the heart through the eye," noted one member of the troupe. "We aim to invigorate audiences and inspire fellow artists towards new modes of creative expression, through work that is rigorous, adventurous, and jubilantly weird."

A part of the continuing Third Tuesday series of presentations, this event is free and open to the public. Members and non-members, alike, are encouraged to stay afterwards for good food and conversation. The bar will be available at 5:30. The program will run from 6:15-7:00. To reserve a table for dinner contact Vivian Gutierrez at 312 922-8080 or reservations@cliff-chicago.org.

Summer Arrives: Scheduled Programs & More

The Movie Series, Book Club, and the monthly tours by CAF will remain active during the summer months. Special programs will be noted in the weekly CD Blasts. Take advantage of them.

Continue to make your way to the Club to enjoy the view, good friendship, and the delight of food and fun with other Cliff Dwellers.

Art Openings	Saturday at the Movies	Arts Foundation's 3 rd Tuesdays	CD Book Club
Art Exhibition Opening Reception every other First Wednesday. Artists and Sculptors in attendance. A cash bar and dinner buffet are available.	Films are shown Saturday in the Sullivan Room at 10:30 and discussions continue over lunch. Unless alternate dates are noted.	Evening programs in the Kiva. A cash bar and dinner service are available. Reservations requested. reservations@cliff- chicago.org.	Discussions take place on the 4 th Saturday beginning at 11:00 and continue over lunch.
5/6 Whole House Show of Works by Preston Jackson continues.	5/7 Goldstein Co-directed by Philip Kaufman & Benjamin Manaster	5/17 Physical Festival Featuring festival participants "Rough House"	5/28 <i>Boss</i> By Mike Royko
6/8 Art Exhibition Opening for June/Julysculpture display. 6/14 Ragdale Artists Exhibition Opening celebrating Ragdale's 40 th Anniversary.	6/4 Persona Directed by Ingmar Bergman	The Arts Foundation is on Summer Recess.	6/25 Where Must I Go By Angela Jackson The author has been invited to attend.

WE NEED YOUR INPUT!

MEMBERS WISHING TO CONTRIBUTE TO ON AND OFF THE CLIFF

CAN SUBMIT STORIES, REFLECTIONS, ARTICLES, POEMS, PHOTOS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS IN THE ARTS TO NEWSLETTER EDITOR MIKE DEINES by e--mail mijdeines@yahoo.com

Share Current, Past, and Future Stories about The Cliff Dwellers.

Two Recent Events on the Cliff









A remarkable Art Opening occurred at The Cliff Dwellers April 6 when Preston Jackson unveiled his "whole house" exhibition. His one-man presentation featured bronze abstract figurative pieces as well as two-dimensional paintings.

A prolific artist, Jackson's artwork is varied, wide-ranging, and narrative in nature. Much of his work deals with the subject of our history, depicting individuals whose lives, though unfamiliar to us, are part of our history that he wants us to learn. Their faces are intriguing, colorful, filled with personality. They talk to each other and become the centering element in each work. The surprise of the evening occurred when Richard Hunt unexpectedly arrived from Benton Harbor to honor his long-time friend and fellow artist. Two elite Midwest sculptors met again, reminisced, and shared a grand art opening on the Cliff. Preston Jackson's art will be on display at the Club through May.





Program Committee Chair Virginia Harding and Margery Chalabi following a remarkable tale of archeological discovery in the Middle East. Rumors are spreading regarding a possible movie--"Indiana al Chalabi."

Twelve Thousand Years in Turkey

Cliff Dweller Margery al Chalabi shared the story of her visit to the 12,000-year old archeological site, Göbekli Tepe, in Southern Turkey, amid the protests and demonstrations of summer 2013. Göbekli Tepe is considered, by many, as "the world's oldest temple," a "monumental sanctuary" pre-dating civilization. The 2013 demonstrations – initially regarding the take-over of a park in Istanbul – erupted into a fierce national argument for personal liberty, both secular and sectarian. Earlier this year Turkey's Doğuş Group in partnership with National Geographic committed \$15 million to restoration of this unique site.



Looking for "Urbs in Horto"

By Mike Deines CD'03



The March full moon aligned in perfect conjunction with Jupiter, the moon Titan, and the former planet Pluto promised by George Gabauer CD'94 remained hidden from view—obscured by Chicago's first miserable Spring storm of 2016. It was a classic. Rain spattered the windows of the Club, then they became sleet-slathered, and, ultimately, our gathering of 30-some hearty souls found ourselves staring through snow-threatened glass at a perfectly moonless Chicago night. 22 Stories up, the world outside was amazing.

Inside the Club, however, the weather was warm and cordial. Chef Victor had prepared a modest wild game feast featuring roasted quail with wild rice and asparagus...delicious. Prior to George presenting a selection of his photography,

his guest Cynthia Moreno, the Cook County Forest Preserves' Director of Conservation and Experiential Programing, reminded us of the long-standing commitment our urban community has made and maintained with the natural world surrounding us. Established over 100 years ago our parks and forest preserves have provided generations of individuals and families opportunities to get outside and connect with the quietness of nature. Ms. Moreno noted, "Chicago's motto *Urbs in Horto* affirms the principle of being a 'City in a Garden.'" Certainly, every time we Cliff Dwellers turn to the lake and our view of the parks below, we appreciate that when Montgomery Ward gifted Grant Park to the city of Chicago he insisted upon a provision that the lakefront should remain "forever open, clear, and free" for all the people of Chicago.

For his part of the evening, George spoke about favorite sites such as the River Trail Nature Center near his home, Millenium Park, the deck at The Cliff Dwellers, and the Quetico Provincial Park in Canada. His photographs revealed how well and widely he has developed his appreciation for the natural environment. Technically he has enjoyed utilizing Photoshop to digitally enhance some images and quite often to unleash his sense of humor. George turned a moonless night at the Cliff into a thoughtful reflection of Nature, creativity, and personal art.













For Bob Guinan By Eve Moran CD'10

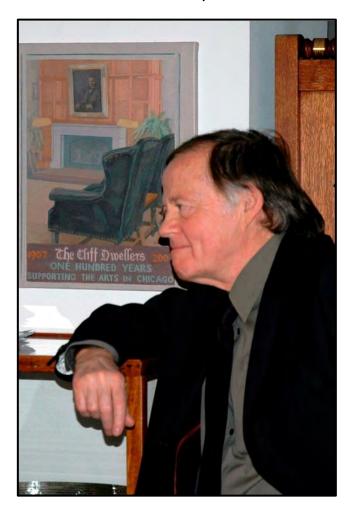
Tell to me, Bob, the tales that well-charmed at the members table. A table so knowing that it hangs to remind of things that might be.

Sing to me, Bob, those Irish songs with richly melodic verses that plead for your voice intelligent and witty, now sadly silenced.

Paint for me, Bob, the thinking faces of the lost and the weary, the jazzed-up scenes that tear past their frames and blow into the night.

Sweet bluesy notes that echo still - and evermore.

Know this, Bob, as you walk away I'm not yet ready to let you go.



Robert Guinan CD'84 1934-2016

Thoughts shared in remembrance of Bob Guinan at The Cliff Dwellers April 8, 2016 "May his memory be a blessing..."

Bob

"...coaxed lines and images out of the paper"

"...painted people with love and respectful admiration for each person"

"...one of the most accomplished artists you will ever see"

"...a creator of great beauty—It's maddening to look at the effortless beauty of his work---so connected---so..."
"...I'm a Bob Guinan groupie"

"...he told me, 'you'll never meet anyone sitting in your living room."

"...last Saturday—he had paint stains on his fingers..."

"It's not easy to love an artist. But, goddammit, somebody's got to do it."

Guinan link to NPR: https://www.wbez.org/shows/morning-shift/remembering-the-life-and-work-of-chicago-artist-robert-quinan/376305b1-8fc4-4660-bcb2-882ed64c0aef

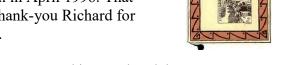
Guinan link to WTTW: http://chicagotonight.wttw.com/2016/04/05/chicago-painter-robert-guinan-dead-82

Cliff Notes-

- Since our last publication 3 individuals interested in the arts have become members of The Cliff Dwellers.

 Scott Elliott, William Baine Rydin, and Gary Weitman

 We welcome them and look forward to their active participation in Club activities and events.
- "The Night We Closed the Club (Another Nostalgic Recollection)" by Richard L. Eastline, CD '73 captured The Cliff Dwellers' departure from Orchestra Hall in April 1996. That article appeared last spring in *On and Off the Cliff* 2015-3. Thank-you Richard for giving us "bookends" for our 20 Years on the Top celebration.



- Friday, April 29 Club closes after lunch due to the NFL Draft's Return to Chicago. The Club re-opens on Monday, May 2.
- Thursday, May 5, starting at 6 p.m., Don Evans CD'11 will lead a panel discussion on Chicago's greatest books. This program, called *The Chicago Canon: Our City's Greatest Books From Then Until Now*, includes Ed Roberson, Nambi E. Kelley, Christine Sneed, Michael Raleigh and Toni Nealie. This is part of the Evanston Literary Festival and takes place at Bookends & Beginnings in Evanston.
- Friday, May 6 Live Jazz at Cliff Dwellers presented in partnership with the Jazz Institute of Chicago featuring a trio led by Michael Nearpass on trombone, with Dan Pierson on piano and Michael Harmon on bass. Bar opens at 5:30. First set 6 p.m. to 7:15. Second: 7:45 to 9 p.m.
 \$10 cover charge \$15 dinner buffet will be served advance reservations encouraged. Cover charge, drinks from bar and buffet dinner must be paid with debit/credit card. Members may charge these items to their house account.
- Sunday, May 8 Mother's Day Brunch at Union League Club. This opportunity is open to all Cliff Dweller who have established House Accounts at Union League Club. Reservations MUST be made through the Club Services Department. Club services can be reached by calling 800-443-0578. If reservations are cancelled after 5:00 pm on May 5, accounts will be charged in full for the reservation.
- Tuesday, May 10 Society of Midland Authors Awards Banquet in the Kiva. Club members and their guests will be served in the Sullivan Room.
- Monday, May 30 Club is closed for Memorial Day.
- Tuesday, May 31 Projects by Chicago Architects Lecture Series Program: Presentation by Architect
 Katherine Darnstadt founder and principal of LATENT DESIGN provided in partnership with: Friends of
 Downtown, CAF and AIA Chicago.
- On June 1-The Cliff Dwellers will be hosting an opening reception/dinner for the Alliance for Historic Landscape Preservation, a small organization made up of academics and practitioners devoted to protecting and preserving historic landscapes throughout the US and Canada. Julia S. Bachrach, Historian for the Chicago Park District, will be speaking to this year's conference theme: *Urbs in Horto City in a Garden*. For additional information about the conference go to http://ahlp.org/annual-meetings/annual-meeting-2016/
- Thursday, June 16-Bloomsday Celebration at the Club—readings from Joyce's Ulysses.