

# On the Prom

Fall Edition

Promenade Towers Quarterly

October 2015

## Summer Fun at Promenade Towers



Dave Ritter, Bryan Beck and Nancy & Glenn Griffin

What a summer! We enjoyed days at the pool, grilling by the picnic table and games on the lawn, including Sunday afternoon croquet and something new. Have you ever played night time bocce ball? That was an activity organized by Howard Lowell. It was fun not only for those playing the game at night, but also for spectators. Though we couldn't see the players, we cheered them on as we watched the glowing colorful balls from our windows.

Our condo library was the gathering place for members of the popular book club and bridge club. "This has made my summer so much more enjoyable," said Judy Hill. Judy and her husband, Fred, come here from Texas in the summer.

Those who are only here for the summer, year-round residents and newcomers attended our 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Lawn Party on July 21. Photos on this page show some of the more than sixty residents who shared laughs, food and drinks. "This is a great party!" said Amber Hobbs. She and her husband, Ty, had just moved in. "Everyone is incredibly friendly," said Ty.



Jerry & Barbara Donahue and Don Lewin



Amber and Ty Hobbs

Promenade Towers was also the place to be on the 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Some of us watched the city's fireworks show from our property; others walked down the Eastern Prom and joined thousands from the area for the *Stars and Stripes Spectacular*, with music by the Portland Symphony Orchestra and Melissa Manchester.

## Meet Our Property Manager



David deBree, R & E Associates

Have you met David deBree, our new property manager? Dave is in our office on Tuesday mornings from 8:00 to 12:00 and Friday afternoons from 12:00 to 4:00 and attends our monthly Board meetings. He also manages other condos and twelve apartment complexes for R & E Associates, Inc., our property management company. He says, "I like the challenges of each individual building and working with people." You can email him at [David@r-eassociates.com](mailto:David@r-eassociates.com).

Dave and his wife, Kerry, recently bought a house in Portland where they live with their four year-old son, Colin.

## Quarterly Profile



**Peter & Mariposa O'Connor #238**

Perugia, Italy. That's where a boy from Augusta, Maine and a girl from Willemstad, Curaçao found each other. They both came to Perugia to study at the university, and a year later they were married. Since then, Peter and Mariposa O'Connor have traveled and lived all over the world. Their son, Paul, was born in Milan, Italy, and their son, Patrick, was born in The Hague, The Netherlands.

Peter, who retired in April, said his work in international insurance took him and Mari to Milan, The Hague, Rome, Brussels, New York, Paris, Tokyo and Beijing. That's a lot of places. But wait! There's more! Before she met Peter, Mari had lived in Venezuela, Suriname, Holland, Chile and Switzerland. She speaks Dutch, English, French, Italian and Spanish.

Now that Peter has retired, most of their travel is between Maine and Savannah, Georgia where they own a house. They also own a house on the mountain at Sugarloaf and a bed & breakfast called Nestlewood Inn in Carrabassett Valley, as well as their condo at Promenade Towers.

Portland has changed since Mari first visited many years ago and since Peter was growing up in Maine. "There was not much going on in those days," he said. Among the things they like about Portland now are the restaurants. Two of their favorites are Lolita and Blue Spoon here on Munjoy Hill. They appreciated the restaurants and good food in all the countries where they've lived, and they enjoy good food at home, too. "Mari is a great cook," said Peter, "especially Italian food." Mari said, "We like pasta, and I cook mostly Italian, but Lebanese and French food, too."

Unlike many who own a second home at Promenade Towers and are only here in the summer, Peter and Mari come often in the winter. They spend time here and at Sugarloaf where Peter likes to ski. He says, "I'm from Maine. I love the cold." Mari doesn't ski; she plays golf. She doesn't like the cold much and says, "I like looking at the snow from inside." (Me, too!) They've been here in December for our Holiday Party, and they came to the Lawn Party this summer. "The parties were so much fun," said Mari. "It's a very diverse group."

Peter says he uses the pool and the fitness room and they like to walk on the Prom and enjoy the view from Fort Allen Park. He said, "We looked at properties in Portland and found this to be the most updated, best managed and best location on the Eastern Prom. It makes a very good impression when you first come in."

Traveling the world and living in so many countries; those years must have been pretty exciting. I asked Peter and Mari, "Do you miss that life?" They answered, "Not anymore."

### Here's Our New Bench!



Did you wonder what happened to the park bench that was by the front entrance driveway for years? It was a casualty of the brutal winter, buried under a mountain of snow and destroyed by snow removal equipment. Here's our new sturdier concrete bench.

### "Castle in the Sky" is in the News

A photo on the front page of the local section of the Portland Press Herald on July 16 showed our building rising out of the fog on the Eastern Prom. The caption said it looked like a castle in the sky.

### Hello to New Neighbors

Welcome to new residents: Bill Ossenfort; Salwa Alharbi; and Dick & Carol Joyal