

TOWER NEWS

A monthly publication for the residents of Brooks Tower
1020 15th Street, Denver, CO
303-629-7200



OCTOBER 2019

2020 BUDGET

The Finance Committee developed and recommended the 2020 budget to the Board of Directors. We owe the committee members thanks for their careful work. With facts and figures provided by KP Jordahl, Controller, the committee reviews the history and status of accounts to determine the new budget. Remember that the budget is an educated, best guess for the next year. Events such as a warmer than usual winter affect the actual expenses.

The budget is not approved until voted on and ratified by the owners at the Annual Meeting.

Here are some highlights of the 2020 budget. Please review the full budget before voting.

1. There is a proposed 3% increase in monthly assessments for 2020.
2. Income
2020 is \$3,701,695.
2019 was \$3,586,808.
3. Net Income 2019 as of August 31 is \$147,292.
4. Cash Reserve Accounts
\$1,779,120 plus \$6,488,938.

To give you an idea of specific budget expenses anticipated for 2020, here are three examples.

- The utility expenses, one of the largest in the bud-

get, are \$999,250 for 2020; they were \$943,274 for 2019.

- Maintenance expenses are \$142,800 for 2020; they were \$173,600 for 2019.

- Salary/Payroll is \$1,044,806 for 2020. They were \$996,044 for 2019.

Please carefully review the full budget when you receive it, and contact the Management Office if you have questions.

For more budget info, see p.9 of this *Newsletter*.

SAVE THE DATE
Annual Homeowners' Meeting
Monday, November 4, 2019, 6pm
Denver Center for the Performing Arts
Seawell Ballroom

Meeting materials, including the 2020 budget and a Notice of Election Directed Proxy, will be sent to all homeowners through US mail by October 10. **BE SURE THE MANAGEMENT OFFICE HAS YOUR CURRENT MAILING ADDRESS.**

VOTE!

Colorado State-Wide Election
Tuesday, November 5!

Proposition CC: "Retain Government Revenue"

Proposition DD: "Legalization and Taxation of Sports Betting to Fund Water Projects and Obligations."

Read the propositions carefully! They are in the *2019 State Ballot Information Booklet* that you should have received in US Mail before September 21.

ANNUAL MEETING INFORMATION

The agenda, proposed 2020 budget, Board candidates' statements, Proxy forms, etc., will be mailed by USPS to all owners around Thursday, October 10, 2019. If you are not sure or wish to verify that the Management Office has your current address, please contact Ian Schroeder (ians@brookstower.net) or call 303-629-7200 immediately. Please attend the Annual Meeting on Monday, November 4, 6pm in the Seawell Ballroom of the Denver Center for the Performing Arts.



MAINTENANCE TIP

Michael Gadbury, Operations Manager, provides monthly tips.

What Goes Down...May Not Go All The Way

From time to time, I have talked about what should and should not go down the garbage disposal.

Also, residents need to watch what goes down any kitchen or bathroom drain.

For example, once a kitchen drain was backed up on a lower floor. When my staff and I checked it out, we found that there was a clog in the pipes. We used the snake to clear it and found that the clog was potting soil. When anything goes down the drain, it ends up in a pipe on the lower floors as it tries to make its way to the main drain and out of the building. That potting soil could have come from any unit in that group of units in the "stack." When the soil got to the lower floor, it came to a juncture where it had to make from one to three 90 degree turns to get to the main drain. Waste like soil or kitty litter collects in those elbow turns and flow stops. Then ugly clogs and back-ups happen.

The lesson is: do not rinse flower pots or kitty litter boxes in the bathroom, kitchen sinks, or bath tub. Also, do not dump them in the toilet. Wipe the pot or litter box out well, leaving no particles. Then

you can rinse them without sending a potential clog down to your neighbors. Of course, dispose of paper towels you may have used to wipe out the pot or litter box and do not flush them down the toilet. That is another set of ugly circumstances. As with so much in this vertical community, be aware that your behavior, attitude, and debris affect others. Good habits make good neighbors.

As always, call the Management Office if you have questions. Happy Halloween!

HALLOWEEN COFFEE & DONUTS SATURDAY, OCTOBER 26 9AM, LOBBY



KEEP IN TOUCH

Riser Project Updates/Questions

To receive updates on the riser project, please send your email address to Ian Schroeder at ians@brookstower.net if he does not already have it. Everyone whose email is on file in the Management Office will receive the monthly *Newsletter*. Anyone who does not want the *Newsletter* should contact Ian.

Send questions about the riser project to nbrock@brookstower.net

Contact Information

Be sure your contact information is current. If there is an emergency in the building, seconds count. Also verify your mailing address so you will receive materials for the Annual Meeting. To update your info, call or email the Management Office or stop by the Front Desk. This is important so it is repeated.



FRONT DESK TIP Construction, Cleaning Work Authorization

When you schedule construction, carpet cleaning, general cleaning, or other work in your unit, the companies or individuals must be on your “Authorization Form” on file at the Front Desk. They must be on your list to get access to your unit. If you want a company or individual to have a key to your unit, ask them to visit the Management Office, 8am-5pm, Monday through Friday.

A contractor must show proof of liability insurance before work starts. Be sure to have a completed “Construction Packet” on file in the Management Office. Without it, no work can be done.

Brooks Tower carefully monitors these rules. Don’t take a chance that work will be stopped or not allowed to begin. If you have questions about construction, make an appointment with Mike Gadbury, Operations Manager. He will walk through your unit to tell you the best way to get the work done. Do this before the work is scheduled. It will save time in the long run. May even save you money!

If you have questions, please call the Management Office, 303-629-7200.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

We are heading into the holiday season, kicking off with Halloween. As usual the Social Committee is planning some great events, starting with the Halloween Coffee and Donuts on Saturday, October 26, 9am in the lobby. Later, there will be the traditional Thanksgiving celebration, the tree trimming, and the Holiday Party. The dates and times will be pub-

lished in the *Newsletter* and posted in the Information Centers and in the elevators. I hope you will join all of us to celebrate.

My Job

My point of view as Property Manager is that my staff and I are aware that this is your home and we are here to respect your rights and those of all residents. This means that we are always alert for ways to improve the Brooks lifestyle. For example, deliveries and furniture must go through the basement loading zone and onto the Freight Elevator. The Freight Elevator can and should be reserved ahead of time through the Management Office to help us accommodate sageWater and others who need it. Please think ahead and make a reservation so that you can move furniture, take deliveries or allow your contractor to bring materials into your unit as quickly as possible.

The holiday season is very busy, a time when all of us have even more things to do and to think about. To spread good cheer and to respect others, I ask all residents to respect and to be courteous to the Front Desk staff, the Garage attendants, the staff in the Management Office, the Maintenance crew and the Housekeeping staff.

The Front Desk staff’s job is to be kind and friendly. They take their duties seriously. Be respectful too.

I hope to see many of you at our events.



RESTAURANT CHECK, PLEASE!



The last couple of years have been challenging for the downtown dining scene – and the closings continue. To date, old time favorites that have closed include:

- April 2018 – 9th Door
- April 2018 – Milk + Honey
- May 2018 – Tom’s Urban Diner
- September 2018 – Paramount Café
- November 2018 – Govn’r’s Park
Restaurant & Tavern
- December 2018 – Marlowe’s
- January 2019 – Lark Burger
- March 2019 – Low Country Kitchen

May 2019 – Mila (Kevin Taylor)
May 2019 – 1515 Restaurant
August 2019 – Bayou Bob’s
August 2019 – Grimaldi’s Pizzeria

And, while this is not strictly a downtown restaurant, it is worth mentioning that the venerable Campus Lounge on University has closed three times in the last two years, with the most recent closing being in July, 2019.

Of all of these locations, only the former Marlowe’s has been leased to reopen as a restaurant. The unlikely name “West of Surrender” has hired Executive Chef Scott Burnham. There are few details about the restaurant as yet, but apparently this will be a western-themed venue, serving smoked bacon flatbread, steak au poivre, and other items that “nod to Colorado’s culinary heritage”. The bar will concentrate on beer and whiskey.

KEEP ‘EM COMIN’

Welcome tourists and visitors! Wish them a fine time and reap the benefits. Here are some facts about tourism in Denver and Colorado. (Source: Dean Runyan Associates, “The Economic Impact of Travel on Colorado,” Colorado Travel Reports 2000-2018, June 2019.)

- 50% of all overnight travel spending occurs in the Denver Metro area.
- Colorado travel industry generated \$1.4 billion in local and state tax revenue in the 2018 calendar year—\$806 per household in Colorado.
- Travel spending increased 6.7% from 2017-2018.
- Total direct spending in Colorado during 2018 was over \$22.3 billion.
- Since 2009, travel spending (inflation adjusted) has increased 4.4% per year.
- Air travel to Colorado destinations on domestic flights is up 6.3% from 2017.

2019 Great American Beer Festival
Brewers Association
Thursday, October 3 – Saturday, October 5
Attendance: 62,000

Pastforward 2019
National Trust for Historic Preservation
Wednesday, October 9 – Saturday, October 12
Attendance: 1200

American Association for Laboratory Animal
Science (AALAS)
2019 AALAS National Conference
Sunday, October 13 – Thursday, October 17
Attendance: 4300

CHAMPS 2019 Trade Show
A Counter-Culture Trade Show
Sunday, October 13 – Tuesday, October 15
Attendance: 5800

Teradata Universe 2019
Data Analytics Conference
Sunday, October 20 – Thursday, October 24
Attendance: 5,000.

BOOKWORMS

Wednesday, October 9, 2019
1pm
Residents’ Room



Title: *Kingdom of the Blind*
Author: Louise Penny
Discussion Leader: Pam McClune

Kingdom of the Blind sets out the latest adventures of Chief Inspector Gamache of the *Surete du Quebec*. When a peculiar letter arrives inviting Gamache to an abandoned farmhouse, he discovers that a complete stranger has named him and two others to be executors of her will.

The will is odd and includes bequests that are so wildly unlikely that Gamache and the others suspect the woman must have been delusional. But what if, Gamache begins to ask himself, she was perfectly sane?

When a body is found, the terms of the bizarre will suddenly seem less peculiar and far more menacing and somehow linked to an earlier case involving a huge opioids investigation that has resulted in

Gamache's suspension from the police force.

Gamache races against time to solve this mystery before thousands die from the release of a missing cache of fentanyl- laced opioids.

All Brooks Tower community is invited to participate. You are welcome!

CAMPAIGNING

If you decide to do some campaigning for your favorite Board candidate or for/against an issue on the Annual Meeting agenda, be aware!

First and foremost, use common sense and respect others as you campaign. Be civil. Good will be your reward and, on the practical side, you will avoid fines for violating HOA rules.

Campaigning face-to face is not allowed in public areas, such as lobbies or other common areas.

Send materials through US mail, at your expense, of course.

Do not slip materials under unit doors. Taping notices in or around elevators is not allowed.

Contact the Management Office if you have questions. Be sure to vote!



PRESIDENT'S CORNER Testing. One. Two. Three.

Here's a question for you to consider:

Bill Clarke

What do you think about the DirecTV service we get here at Brooks Tower?

I'm not asking out of idle curiosity but because we need definitive answers from you early next year. Our contract with CenturyLink for DirecTV service will need either to be renewed or it will expire. For some Residents, the loss of our satellite-based video and music services would be an occasion to celebrate. After all, there are plenty of suitable alternate sources on the Internet. And more on the way, it seems, every few months!

For other Residents, the loss of channels like HBO and ESPN, TCM and the Food Network, CNN, MSNBC and Fox would mean losing a valuable source of news and entertainment. You might not miss the infomercial channels or many of those paid religious channels with their constant appeals for money. Ah, but wait! Infomercials and religious programs also subsidize the other programming. They actually PAY to be on the satellite!

Virtually every other programming service you see on DirecTV **charges** DirecTV for the right to carry their programs. When the suppliers and carriers like DirecTV disagree over the "fair price" of carrying a channel, you see channels dropped from the line-up. Remember when local Channels 4 and 9 were temporarily dropped? Right now DirecTV (along with DISH Network and Comcast) has put Denver's Altitude (Avs and Nuggets games) in limbo by dropping it.

If we drop DirecTV altogether, essentially, what we'd all be left with is off-the-air (OTA) programming of local television stations and the expanding universe of programming delivered by internet services like Netflix, Amazon Prime, and Hulu. But the internet channels are sold a la carte, which means you pay a monthly fee for every one you use. And those costs can add up!

One analyst put the median cost for viewers who want only specific programs at upwards of fifty dollars a month. By contrast, the "bundle" of channels we get here at Brooks Tower gives us a bigger bang for the buck.

Why not buy only the cable/satellite channels you want and forget the others? That's just not possible. It's not our choice but the choice of programmers and carriers like DirecTV. By bundling the channels you DO want with some other junk you never watch and wish would go away, the monthly charge becomes a mix of profitable (e.g., religion and infomercials), not-at-all profitable (the ESPN bundle costs more than nine dollars per month per subscriber whether you watch or not; the Tennis Channel costs fourteen cents), and in-between (everything from local channels to HBO and Showtime).

Do you really need to know all this “behind-the-scenes” stuff? Maybe not, but by early next year we’ll need your input on whether to renew the current DirecTV deal that gets a far more limited number of channels (with not much dollar savings) or drop cable/satellite service altogether and let every Owner fend for him or herself.

Added into the equation is a mid-October *The Wall Street Journal* report that AT&T, which now owns DirecTV, may be exploring the option of unloading it. Since buying into the satellite carrier five years ago, AT&T has lost three million viewers. If your choice is to drop DirecTV altogether, we’ll have to consider whether the internet service providers coming into the building are robust enough to handle lots of simultaneous video downloads. But that’s another issue entirely. If you’re interested in helping with that project, please contact the Management Office. The staff will connect you to the people handling internet options.

JAYSEN BALDWIN PROJECT MAN- AGER Bergeman Group



Jaysen Baldwin agreed to talk to the Newsletter about his experiences in the first six months of the repiping project at Brooks.

The first question was: “Why do we need the Bergeman Group?” Jaysen was clear:

- To protect the interests of the HOA;
- To help increase property values by a successful repiping project;
- To monitor sageWater’s work throughout the three-year project;
- To raise red flags if anything seems to be going awry;
- To keep expenses within the budget;
- To oversee mediation of an issue between the HOA and sageWater if an issue is not resolved in other

ways;

- To mitigate risk.

Jaysen has 20 years’ in construction. He has experience as a pipe-fitter, plumber and welder. That he understands the profession is clear almost immediately in talking with him. He has worked on breweries, a cement plant, homes, and a plant that manufactures computer chips. Work has taken him to Texas, New York and Colorado. He has vacationed in Ireland, St. Lucia, Mexico, Norway, and 39 of the 50 states. He came to Bergeman Group from RK Mechanical in Aurora. He liked Bergeman Group and the project, so here he is.

Jaysen explained that the repiping project is best described as “on schedule.” Right now, it is ahead but later there will be times when it will move slower. He stressed that the building drawings are not always correct, causing the schedule to change.

In the time Jaysen has been here, there have been some surprises, some pleasant and some not so pleasant. Here is a short list:

- As above, the drawings are not always accurate, bringing surprises when walls are opened.
- In 1968, plumbing was installed differently. For example, there was no thought of maintenance as there is now. Since we are replacing “like for like” pipes, the latest standards do not apply. However, the work and materials are both quality. Using 21st century plumbing design standards would cost much more than the \$29.5 million we are investing.
- The amount of violations of electrical codes found when walls are opened.
- The fire and smoke stopping materials are being installed in what is called the “demising wall”. This is the wall that separates two units vertically. Current building codes require that the material contain fire/smoke for at least two hours. This is a significant improvement.

- The seven large pumps in the current HVAC system will be replaced by two pumps. More savings! Residents may see these pumps going down in the elevators. Work will be done by Trotman and Shreve, sub-contracted by sageWater.
- Seriously consider replacing the fan coil units that are part of the HVAC in every unit. Pricing will be available soon and owners will be asked to sign-up for the new fan coils. Using old equipment with the new pipes with increased pressure is not a good idea. Owners are responsible for failures in fan coil units. Be safe with a totally new system.

The nice people and the great conversations are plusses in Jaysen's daily routine. He encourages resident participation. Contact him! The more communication, the better for everyone. "We will only get out of this what we put into it," said Jaysen. "My door is open."

SECOND HAND SMOKE INFO SESSION Tuesday, September 24, 2019

About 25 owners attended in person and approximately six on Zoom.

Teddy Montoya and Peggy Sarcomo from Denver Public Health presented, with their attorney Phyllis Roestenberg, Esq, who joined the discussion on Skype. The information below represents their conclusions based on research. Copies of the PowerPoint presentation are available. Ask in the Management Office.

A Powerpoint presentation guided the discussion. The info below summarizes some points from the presentation.

Health Impacts

1. What is in a cigarette?

A cigarette contains over 7000 chemicals.

At least 250 are known to be harmful.

At least 69 chemicals cause cancer. The entire body from hair to toe and organs, like the liver and colorectal areas are affected by smoking.

2. Second hand smoke

- a. Since 1964, approximately 2,500,000 nonsmokers have died from health problems caused by exposure to secondhand smoke.
- b. There is no risk-free level of secondhand smoke exposure, even short exposure can be harmful to health.

3. Third hand Smoke

Toxins can stay on surfaces indefinitely and become more toxic over time.

4. Impacts on Property Values

National and local research consistently shows that demand for smoke-free housing is rising. Realtors have said that "88% of prospective condo owners are less interested in a development if they smell tobacco smoke."

5. Legal Claims

- a. Smoke free policies reduce the likelihood of legal claims from a tenant who develops illness or suffers harm because of exposure to secondhand smoke.
- b. Attorney Roestenberg said that the courts have been deferential to HOA decisions as long as the rules are clear and the process has been followed. She cautioned that the OA must work closely with our attorney in drafting policies. Colorado law tends to smoke free but is not definitive.

6. Enforcement

There was a discussion of the problems with enforcement. This depends on the HOA and its policies. It must be worked out by the HOA. Again, it is important that the HOA work with its attorney.

OF NOTE

Annual Meeting (A Monday evening meeting.)

Monday, November 4, 2019

6pm

Denver Center for the Performing Arts

Note: the voting process has changed. See meeting materials for details.

Halloween Coffee & Donuts

Saturday, October 26, 9am, lobby. Costumes welcomed, not required.

Parking Rates Change, October 1, 2019

24 hour parking goes from \$15 to \$30. Hourly rate from \$1.50-\$3.00. This brings our rates more in line with parking rates in lots nearby. Revenue goes to Operating budget.

Al Fresco--Patios for Open Fall

Seven of Denver's patios stay open during the fall: Acova; FIRE at Art Hotel; LOW Country Kitchen's Balcon Bar; Tamayo; Halcyon Hotel in Cherry Creek; Denver Milk Market; 54Thirty at Le Meridien Hotel. Check these nearby spots to extend outside sipping and dining during the glorious fall weather.

Service Volunteers Needed

50 or older? Want to share your passions, experience and energy in community service? Info session evening Tuesday, October 8, morning Monday, October 21.

Sign-up at BoomersLeadingChange.org. Questions to Lynette Reiling at lreiling@BoomersLeadingChange.org.

Bones Found

Remains of a Native American man were found in Aurora at a construction site in February 2019. Bones may be up to 1000 years old. The state archaeologist has responsibility for the bones and the site. *The Denver Post*, Friday, February 15, 2019, p. 7A.

Thanksgiving Pies

Order pies from Project Angel Heart's annual "Pie in the Sky" from Tuesday, October 1 to Monday, November 21. PieInTheSkyColorado.org

Mile High Musts

Denver7 and 5280 magazine sponsor #MileHighMusts: a video series exploring the best sights, sips, and bites in Denver. 5280.com/milehighmusts

My Express

Recent activity in MyExpress may be a preview to a re-opening. Stay tuned.

DID YOU KNOW?

Frequently Asked Question—Smoking

This is just one of the questions owners are asking about the proposed smoking ban. More questions and answers will be posted in the Info Centers, elevators, and lobby, and included in the Annual Meeting materials. Below is a short answer focusing on the main idea of the answer.

Do I have a constitutional right to smoke?

- No. No federal or state law prohibits private property owners and associations from adopting smoke-free policies for all parts of their property, including individual residential units. Smokers are not a protected class under federal law and smoking is not a protected right or activity.

SUMMARY OF ACTIONS

Brooks Tower Board of Directors' Meeting Thursday, September 19, 2019

This is a very brief summary of the meeting and is not a substitute for the full minutes. Minutes are available in the Information Centers near the elevators, on the Brooks Tower website or in the Management Office.

The Board recognized the extraordinary contributions of Mike Gadbury and Gary Thomas.

1. Committee Reports are available in the Management Office and on the Brooks Tower website. See below for highlights.

2. Re-piping (riser) Project

a. Progress

Work on "B" and "C" stacks is on the 25th floor.

Put-back in “L” and “M” units continues.

If sageWater has to move objects in a unit to do work, the owner will be charged.

Maintenance staff is walking through units to identify where previous work may have violated Denver building codes. Owners will be contacted to correct problems before City inspectors arrive. Building-wide water shut-offs are coming. Check your emails.

Do not flush toilets during water shut-offs. Owners can be fined for doing this.

b. Project News/Walkthroughs

It is important to attend info sessions and walk-throughs. Also, please talk to your neighbors in the building and encourage them to attend. Good cooperation saves money and time.

Check the sageWater website for current info. (<https://site.sagewater.com/brooks/>)

c. Custom Tile and Finishes

If you have custom tile or finishes that will be replaced, order the materials now.

Gary Thomas is coordinating the tile replacement for owners. Samples of tile closest to original Brooks tile are in the Management Office.

3. Management Report

a. Be sure to fill out the Fire Department form. Management will send it out again. Since there is a fire extinguisher on each floor, individual units do not need one. This answers one question on the form.

b. Pads to protect the garage elevators are in place.

c. Two replacement skylights have been ordered. Cost \$1600.

d. Xcel equipment drop and power outage is Sunday, September 22, 8-10am. Elevators will be out and streets blocked. Garage doors will be open.

d. Commodes

Mike Gadbury and crew are installing new commodes in “C” units.

4. Finance Committee

a. As of August 31, 2019, net income: \$147,292.

b. Cash working balance: \$640,273.

c. Riser balance: \$6,488,938.

Budget in general is on target.

d. The Board will discuss the 2020 budget later in this meeting. It calls for a 3% increase in monthly assessments. See front page of this *Newsletter* for specifics. The 2020 budget goes to the owners for a

vote at the Annual Meeting.

5. Rules and Regulations

a. Non-Smoking Initiative

1. Info sessions by Denver Department of Public Health are scheduled for Tuesday, September 24 and Thursday, October 30, 6-7pm in the Residents’ Room.

2. FAQs will be posted in the *Newsletter*, on the website and in Info Centers.

B. Hard Surface Flooring

Testing of engineered hardwood and LVT (Luxury Vinyl Tile) will be tested side-by-side. The schedule will be coming soon.

6. Newsletter Committee

See website for report. Suggestions are always welcome.

7. Operations Committee

a. The committee will present recommendations to improve computer security to the Board during the week of September 24.

b. An updated list of general contractors, abatement and tile companies will be presented at the October Board meeting.

8. Social Committee

Plan for Halloween Coffee & Donuts, Tree Trimming, Thanksgiving Dinner, Holiday Party. Annual holiday festivities are coming!

Business Section

A. Lawsuit Update

Motions have been filed and we are waiting for the Judge to rule. Depositions may occur soon to prepare for a trial in late October or early November if the Judge does not rule soon.

B. Motions Approved

1. Accept August financial statements.

2. Send the proposed 2020 budget for owner vote.

3. Vote of owners on the following amendments at the Annual Meeting:

a. Dog policy

b. Non-smoking policy

c. Committee Membership policy

d. Miscellaneous changes to Rules and Regulations to update language.

4. On-line voting (“Simply Voting” proposal) approved: \$2343 for set-up, reporting, mailing, and up to 10 surveys during the year. A big savings!

5. 2019 Annual Meeting set for Monday, Novem-

ber 4, 6pm at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts. This is a change from Sunday. **Please Note!**

6. Replace garage Exit Gate and related equipment: \$4709.62.

Next meeting is Wednesday, October 16, 6pm in the Residents' Room.

HALLOWEEN

19th Annual Denver Zombie Crawl

16th St Mall, Saturday, October 5, 11am-4pm

Fake or replica prop weapon of any kind are prohibited.

Denverzombiecrawl.com

Halloween Bar Crawl

Friday, October 25-Sunday, October 27
Place TBA

Evenbrite.com for tickets.

Corn Maze—Seven Acres

Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays through Sunday, October 20

Denver Botanic Gardens, Chatfield Farms, C-470 & Wadsworth Blvd

Tickets and full details at

Denverbotanicgardens.org

So Where Does Halloween Come From?

Halloween and many of the customs come from Samhain, an ancient Celtic festival that is Gaelic for “summer’s end,” a day to say good-bye to warmth and light. Celts also believed that the veil between the worlds of the living and the dead was thinnest during Samhain.

Why Do We Bob for Apples?—For Love

The Roman festival for Pomona, the goddess of fruit and orchards, was celebrated around November 1. Romans believed that the first person to catch a bobbing apple with his or her teeth would be the first to marry in the new year.

They also believed that apple peels held the secret to true love. The lovelorn would peel an apple in

one long unbroken piece and throw it over his or her shoulder while being spun around. The shape of the peel on the ground represented the first initial of the peeler’s first love.

Halloween traditions quoted from: The Old Farmer’s Almanac fall and winter 2019, p.15.

HAUNTED HOUSES (See web for lots more.)

Dark Side of Denver Ghost Tours

1700 Wynkoop (flagpole in front of Union Station)

Darksideofdenver.com 720-346-3529

World’s Scariest Haunted House

10500 W. Bowles Ave., Littleton

720-333-4543.

BIG CHANGE

Annual Meeting-- Monday not Sunday! In the evening not the morning!

The Annual Homeowners’ Meeting will be on Monday, November 4, at 6pm at the Denver Center for the Performing Arts.

AMENDMENTS TO BYLAWS/DECLARATIONS Owners Vote in November

Check out these amendments before you vote. You will also receive them via US mail with Annual Meeting materials.

These three documents are on the Brooks Tower website. They can be located as follows:

MINUTES, AGENDAS, SCHEDULE
Annual Meeting Minutes

2019 Bylaw Amendment – Committees
2019 Declaration Amendment – Animals
2019 Declaration Amendment – No Smoking

If you need a password for the Brooks website, call Ian in the Management Office, 303-629-7200.

PLAN AHEAD

October and Beyond

Plan ahead, get a group together and attend. The Denver Metro area offers a huge variety of activities for all age groups. Below is a short list.

DENVER'S BEST FLEA MARKET, Saturday, October 5-Sunday, October 6. Bronco Stadium, horseshomarket.com

THE DENVER POST ONE DAY UNIVERSITY: A DAY OF GENIUS, Sunday, October 27, 9:30am-1:15pm. Denver Center Seawell Ballroom. *Topics: Einstein, Curie, Shakespeare. Register: onedayu.com or 800-300-3438.*

THEATRE

Denver Center for the Performing Arts

Indecent: Friday, August 30-Sunday, October 6.

A Doll's House and Doll's House, Part 2: Friday, Sept. 6-Sunday, Nov. 24.

Call the Box Office at 303-893-4100 and mention that you live at Brooks Tower for info on discounted tickets and all performances. Denvercenter.org

The Improvised Shakespeare: Tuesday, October 15-Sunday, March 22, 2020.

Blue Man Group: Speechless New Tour: Sunday, October 22, Friday, October 27.

The Phantom of the Opera: Wednesday 6-Sunday, November 17.

MUSIC

Denver Symphony: See website for full season schedule. www.colorado-symphony.org

OPERA COLORADO, 2019-2020 SEASON

All productions are in the Ellie Caulkins Opera House.

Barber of Seville, November 2, 5, 8, 10.

Pagliacci, February 27, 29, March 1, 2020.

Tosca, May 2,5,8,10, 2020.

Tickets: operacolorado.org 303-468-2030.

Box office for in-person purchases: 4121 S. Navajo St, Suite 100, Englewood, Monday through Friday, 10am-5pm.

DENVER ART MUSEUM

Untitled: Final Fridays, 6-10pm. *Details at denverartmuseum.org/untitled*

Each month a different program highlights exhibitions, collections and handmades by Denver creative artists.

Lauri Lynnxe Murphy: Friday, October 25.

Natural Forces: Winslow Homer and Frederic Remington, March 15-June 7, 2020.

Mi Tierra: Contemporary Artists Explore Space, Continuing.

Treasures of British Art, through January 5, 2020.

Eyes On: Erika Harrsch, "Under the Same Sky... We Dream" through November 17.

Eyes On: Jonathan Saiz, "What is Utopia," through November 17. *See 10,000 tiny drawings on a column.*

Drawings will be given away after the end of the exhibition.

The Incubation Effect, through September 9. *See a "larger-than-life 'insect nursery' "*

Let There Be Light, The Light Show, continuing. *See an array of art works: 250 sculptures, paintings, videos photos, contemporary installations etc., all related to light, either physical or symbolic.*

See website for events, classes, lectures, etc., Denverartmuseum.org

MUSEUM OF NATURE AND SCIENCE— dmns.org--On-Going

Discovery Zone, *Children learn about science with hands-on activities.*

North American Indian Cultures

Prehistoric Journey

Egyptian Mummies.

Virtual Reality Arcade: *Individual bays with a variety of games and levels. 10 years old and up. Special ticket required. Must be able to wear a tethered head-set and have good balance. 10am-5pm.*

HISTORY COLORADO MUSEUM

Zoom In: The Centennial State in 100 Objects—
Permanent.

140 Years of History Colorado: Mon. October
21, 1&7pm. *Lecturer: Michael Vincent.*

What's Your Story? Opens Saturday,
October 19. *"Through multimedia
experiences you and your friends can tell
the world what is important to you."*

HISTORIC DENVER, RE(garding) Denver,
*Community conversations and forum series "tack-
ling most pressing concerns related to the past,
present and future of Denver's built environment."*
See Historicdenver.org for list of events July-No-
vember.

DENVER BOTANIC GARDENS

Music, activities, lectures, exhibits:
botanicgardens.org

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