

# Wedgwood Pool News

Volume 42.2

Pool Opens May 21!!!

May 2005

## New Members' Meeting May 21 at 2:00 pm

**Pool scheduled to open May 21<sup>st</sup> at noon.**

### From the Manager

Yes, rain or shine, the pool is scheduled to open at noon on Saturday, May 21<sup>st</sup>! A lot has happened since September.

This season we start with new water in the pool after some substantial leakage (the top 4 feet!) last fall through the expansion joint running down the center of the pool. Getting this repair completed was a bit interesting, as several dry days above 50 degrees were needed. About a month ago the repair was finally finished and the pool was refilled. We were leaking about 1,000 gallons of water a day last summer. Now that the joint has been repaired that number is right around 75 gallons a day, a substantial reduction. Total cost for the leak repair \$2500 without the water.

The chemical delivery system and heat exchanger have been upgraded. These are no frills things that are vital and needed replacement. It was clear at the end of last season that the chemical system we were using had served its useful life. Parts were difficult to find and quite expensive. For about 40% of the old system original cost, we were able to get something that should allow us to keep the pool chemistry closer to target set points, and actually will payback its cost in reduced chemical usage over its lifespan. Total cost for the new system was about \$3,800.

The heat exchanger, while still working, had been in place for nearly 25 years. Were it to fail during the swim season the pool would have need to be closed for several days-- possibly up to a week-- for repairs. Deferring its replacement for another year really didn't make sense considering its age. The new exchanger installation is just finishing up; this one is more efficient in it's design so we will likely see a drop in the cost for heating the pool. Cost of the new heat exchanger, about \$7000 – knowing that it won't fail during the season, priceless!

Finding ways to make things pay for themselves is one of the aspects of the job as manager I really enjoy. Perhaps it's knowing that some year soon I'll be a member. It's really common sense though, a no brainer if you will. Take the pool covers purchased in 2002. They paid for themselves in about 1.75 seasons. At the end of this season they will have brought in a net savings of around \$20,000! While this is a major example, there are little things we can all do when at the pool though that can help. Read on...!

I mentioned before that the pool needed to be refilled after the expansion joint repair. That was about 210,000 gallons. .. a lot of water! Imagine using four to five pools full of water, a typical summer's worth for just the showers and bathrooms at the club. Fixing the leak is a good start in reducing our overall water usage and expense, but how can we save more? The Health Department still requires a shower before entering the pool, but please limit the amount of time

you spend taking a shower, particularly after swimming. If you have kids, please help monitor the time they spend in the shower, especially after practice and lessons. You might find the water bills interesting, so I'll post them on the bulletin board.

What else can we do to cut costs? The Seattle Public Utilities campaign for getting the paper out of the garbage and into the recycle is beginning. Next season we will be required to comply, so this year we get to figure out how to do it. Our efforts over past seasons have had limited success, so I'm hopeful that we will do better this season. We will again have mixed recycling containers on site and, in addition, you will be able to recycle your empty pizza boxes. Please take a second when you are throwing things away. Make sure you put things in the correct container. If it's a pizza box you have to recycle – remember it's just the box, nothing else. By the way the lifeguards can help you with emptying any pizza out of boxes!

On that note, I better get back to work. I've listed the major pool rules in this newsletter, but please take the time on your first visit to the club to review the complete pool and diving rules. These are also available online at: [wwpool.org](http://wwpool.org) Also be sure to check out the "5 B's" again! They will also be posted at the pool. In addition to the rules in this newsletter you will also find a calendar for the pool through the end of June. Any necessary updates will be posted at the pool and on the pool web site: [wwpool.org](http://wwpool.org) . The pool will be open in no time! Things are shaping up. I'm looking forward to people replacing the ducks.

**-Raab**

### *Pool Rules – the short list*

- ALL SWIMMERS MUST TAKE A CLEANSING SHOWER BEFORE ENTERING THE POOL.
- Pool areas both inside and out can be slippery, please remember to walk.
- Glass containers are not allowed.
- The use of alcohol is not permitted at the club.
- Smoking is not permitted on club property.
- To prevent head and neck injuries, diving is only permitted in the "deep end"
- The lifeguard has full authority at all times.

### **In addition, remember common pool etiquette:**

- No food or chewing gum past the roped off area.
- No shoes past the roped off area.
- Do not use the pool if you have an open wound. *No Band-Aids or bandages allowed.*

**And please, CHECK YOUR VALUABLES!**

## Upcoming Highlights

- June 6: Early Morning Lap Swim starts. 6-7AM.
- Thursday, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 3-6pm: Member Registration for the first lesson session.
- Saturday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, Swim Team Overnighter
- Beginning June 27<sup>th</sup>: Family Swim will return. From 5:30-7:00pm on weekdays, swimmers under 16 years of age must be accompanied by an adult family member.
- Also on June 27<sup>th</sup>: Teen swim returns. Teens may bring one guest to the pool for a buck from 7-9pm. These guests don't count against the normal guest allotment.
- And finally on June 27<sup>th</sup>, Adult Swim Team! The adult team will practice Monday and Wednesday evenings from 8-9pm. The deep end of the pool will be closed during this time.
- We're hoping that potluck dinners will return on Wednesdays after school is out. Look for signs.
- Debbie Grace is planning doing water aerobics again – look for a similar schedule as last year with a likely start date in late June. Check at the pool and or the web for updates.
- July 4: There will be no early morning lap swim, swim team or swimming lessons.

## Why Swim Team is So Important to the Pool

“Gimme a W!”

“Gimme an E!”

“Gimme a D!” etc. etc.

Those of us who have had youngsters in Swim Team over the years know what it means to hear that chant—and so many others. It means it's time for Wedgwood Swim Team, an activity that plays a truly important role in our kids' growing up AND in the lives of their parents (and grandparents) too.

Some new members and their children are reticent about joining Swim Team because they fear that it might be too competitive, or that the kids who have participated for years have an edge, or that it might simply be too much work.

But do they ever fear that it might be too much fun? ...Nope. But that's the probably the biggest thing to worry about. Wedgwood Swim Team is—more than anything else—fun. The youngsters love the team spirit. They like the coaches. They enjoy improving their skills and their times. And they enjoy making new friends.

Summer swim teams are quite different from year-round teams or high school teams, which are noticeably more competitive and involve considerably more hard work. That's not to say that our Wedgwood swimmers don't work hard—they do. But on a

summer swim team the focus is on the fun, the friendships and the excitement of the meets.

Two of my daughters are high school seniors and 2005 will be their last summer, their ninth on the Team. They have talked about how much they will miss the fun of the meets and the opportunity to be members of a group of young people with a common goal. They enjoyed the support of the older swimmers and their favorite coaches when they were small, and they enjoy helping the little ones today.

One of the odd things is that when our youngest daughter leaves the team, we parents will miss the excitement (as well as the often slow and positively relaxing pace) of the meets. We'll also miss volunteering. One of the best kept secrets is that the adults who volunteer to make the Swim Team work enjoy the camaraderie of timing, cooking, running or distributing ribbons just about as much as the youngsters like the swimming.

Swim Team is in many respects the heart of the Pool. That doesn't mean that members can't have a wonderful time simply coming by for a swim, a barbeque or a lazy afternoon. But the team is the core of the Pool community because it brings together so many people of so many ages who wouldn't otherwise come to know, enjoy and respect each other.

So if a new member family has concerns about getting involved in the Team, all I can say is: Just don't worry. Give it a try. There are so many ways that Swim Team can be rewarding that the odds are that one of those ways will be right for you. Remember...there's adult swim team too, which is just plain fun for the group of people with a VAST range of skills, all of whom enjoy a couple of workouts a week at a pace that's appropriate to them (plus a laid back meet at the end).

Finally, if your kids have graduated, you can continue (for the rest of your life if you choose) to volunteer at the meets and continue to be part of the community and the fun.

*-Hugh Spitzer, Board President*

## Hello fellow WW Swim Team Families!

The Swim Team Committee has been preparing for the season ahead. There are a few open committee positions and we need your help to fill them. The following positions need of a lead person:

End of Season Celebration  
Ribbons  
Heat Sheet Sales

If you would be willing to take on one of the above positions, please contact Martha Layzer at 523-7390 or [mmlayzer@earthlink.net](mailto:mmlayzer@earthlink.net). Co-Chairs would be great, too, so think of a friend you could share the job with! \*\*Please note: If you no longer want to be a part of the swim team mailing list, or you have an email change/update, please contact Martha Layzer.

*-Shelly Hurley, Martha Layzer and Carolyn D'Albora  
Swim Team Committee*

## **Koach's Korner**

Much like the past three coaches, I grew up at this pool and on this swim team. As a member from birth, I have spent many early morning hours at practice and endless nights jumping off the diving board or playing hoops. I have always found it fascinating that Wedgwood brings back ex-swimmers to coach the current ones. In my mind, that speaks volumes to the family atmosphere that Wedgwood provides, the bonds that it can facilitate, and the alluring draw that it releases with memories of wonderful summers passed.

There is something about Wedgwood that sticks with children at heart whose ages begin to reach into the 20s, 30s, 40s, 50s, and 60s. You see it on a sunny day when a 40-year-old dad does a gainer off of the diving board and gets a warning from the lifeguard who is a third his age. You see it in the eyes of the mom who sees her son or daughter pass the swim test for the first time. It's as if they are taken back to the magical days of their youth. Those memories, along with the life long friendships that are made inside those fences, are what bring people back when they are adults. They are also what bring these coaches back to supply new generations with the teamwork, sportsmanship, technique, and sense of history that was instilled in them at an early age.

It is no different for me. Since I hold the unofficial record for most consecutive days at Wedgwood Pool (which I'm sure carried over several summers), I have learned many lessons in the pool and on its decks. I learned from my coaches, but also from the pool staff, the parents of fellow swimmers, and the older kids on the team. As the current coach, I am going to make teamwork and sportsmanship two of our main focuses. I want to work on broadening the scope of 15-18 / 8 & under buddies. I also will be working to create more swim team activities that will provide a solid foundation for an overarching theme of team unity. Although swimming can be seen as an individual sport, here at Wedgwood it should never appear that way. We are a team that will work together, win together, lose together, and have a great time together. Katie, Rob and I hope to pass that mentality onto the current members of this team so that one day they will be able to write an article like this for my kids.

I look forward to seeing all of you very soon.

*-Matt*

## **Adult Swim Team**

What is low carb, high energy and lots of fun? The adult swim team!! Swimmers ages 19-99 of all abilities are welcome to join us Monday and Wednesday evenings from 8-9 beginning June 22nd.

Whether you want stroke advice, a good workout or just want to hang with some awesome people, this is the place to be on a summer evening. Coaches Fosberg and Lippold return to provide poolside advice. The season will end with an optional adult swim meet on Saturday morning, July 30th at Sheridan Beach.

Questions? Call Karin Fosberg 524-2941  
[majeau@hotmail.com](mailto:majeau@hotmail.com) or Mary  
Lippold 365-8805 [lippold@earthlink.net](mailto:lippold@earthlink.net).

## **More Swim Team**

Keep those registration forms coming in and thank you to those who have already sent them in. Remember that your registration forms must be completed and team dues paid prior to participation in workouts. The registration forms are on the pool website if you have misplaced yours.

**The parent/swimmer meeting is Monday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> at the pool at 7:00 p.m.**

One last reminder: Please be courteous when parking for any event at Wedgwood Pool, particularly swim meets. Let's respect our pool neighbors and be careful not to park in driveways.

Questions? Call Martha Layzer at 523-7390 or email at [mmlayzer@earthlink.net](mailto:mmlayzer@earthlink.net).

## **Swim Team Suit Fitting**

The swim team suit fitting will take place Monday May 23 at the pool, prior to the annual Parent Meeting.

Sylvia's will be selling from 5:30-8:00 pm. The suit chosen this year is the Speedo Sublime in blue. The prices at the team fitting are:

Female Youth (22-30)	\$49.60
Female Adult (32-40)	52.70
Male Youth Jammer (22-28)	28.70
Male Adult (30-38)	30.20
Male Youth brief	25.60
Male Adult Brief	26.40

This price does not include 8.8% WA sales tax.

To get this special team discount you must purchase the suit at the fitting. Hope to see you all there! If you have questions, please call or email me.

*-Cheryl Behrens*

## **Pool Closing Early for Swim Meets:**

The pool will be closing early at 4pm for swim meets on:

June 21<sup>st</sup>, June 23<sup>rd</sup>, June 30<sup>th</sup>, July 12<sup>th</sup> and closed all day on July 28<sup>th</sup> for Northern Divisions.

## **Guests?**

Prepaid guest fees not used last year will be carried over for this season. Guest fees are \$3 each for the first 20, additional guests are \$5.00 each.

Member's children cared for by a "babysitter" must register their sitter at the office. Sitter is allowed to use the pool only when supervising those children.

Houseguests must be from out of town and living at member's home. Register at the office with beginning and ending dates of stay. One time fee during stay: \$3/person or \$5/family. Senior Members should contact the office to register those individuals other than themselves who might be using their swims.

### **Parties and Rentals?**

Parties for groups of up to twelve people can be held during regular pool hours. Parties need to be pre-arranged with the office and are discouraged on weekends. The cost is \$3 per person, and does not count against the 20. If prior arrangements are not made, party goers will be counted as regular pool guests.

The pool is also available for rent when not regularly open. We can accommodate groups up to 75 people. Rates and times vary, so contact the office if you are interested in finding out more.

### **New Member Meeting!!**

You've finally made it through that wait list, so it's time to get started right....Get all your questions answered by the people who really know! The new member meeting will be held at the pool at 2PM on Saturday, May 21st!

Representatives from the Swim Team Committee, our President (Hugh Spitzer) and our Pool Manager (Raab Parker), will be present to give information and answer questions.

### **Past time to Pay the Piper!**

Reminder: 2005 dues must be paid prior to pool use.

All payments received after May 2 are subject to a \$35 late fee. If you have any questions, please email Cindy Loudon @ [c.loudon@comcast.net](mailto:c.loudon@comcast.net) or call 206-221-4930 (work phone 9-5PM).

[rcbehrens@comcast.net](mailto:rcbehrens@comcast.net) 526-0493

### **Lifeguard Training**

Wedgwood Swim Pool will once again offer the American Red Cross Lifeguard Training course. Participants must be 15 years of age by the last day of class (July 22nd) and pass a swim pre-test on the first day of class. The cost of the class is \$130.00 (payable to Wedgwood Swim Pool). Participants must purchase a course manual and pocket mask from the American Red Cross. Sign up today at Pool. Course dates: July 6th (12:30-5pm), July 8th, 11th, 13th, & 15th (1-4pm), July 16th (9am-4pm), July 18th & 20th (1-4:30pm), and July 22nd (1-5pm).

Dates and Time subject to change

### **Certifications**

- Lifeguard Training (including First Aid): valid for 3 years
- CPR/AED for the Professional Rescuer: valid for 1 year

Instructor: Chris Matsumoto

If you would like to be put on an interest list for the class, please contact Chris Matsumoto at Wedgwood Swim Pool after May 21st. (206) 523-8211

### **Directory Cover Contest**

Kids! Enter the 14th Annual Directory Cover Design Contest! Winning designs will appear on the 2005 Wedgwood Membership Directory front and back covers.

- Members age 5-18 may enter.
- Entries must be drawn in black ink on white paper. Fold an 8 1/2 by 11" sheet of paper in half, draw on one side. (Look at last year's directory or wait until pool opens and see the sample there.)
- Design should include words "Wedgwood Swim Pool Directory" and year "2005". Print your name and age on the back of your entry.
- Turn in your entries to the pool office by Sunday, June 12.

Questions? Call Pat Hegarty at 206-524-8903 or email him at [pat.hegarty@mac.com](mailto:pat.hegarty@mac.com).

### **Swimming Lessons this Season**

Session Dates

- 1 - June 27th - July 8th
- 2 - July 11th - July 22nd
- 3 - July 25th - Aug 5th
- 4 - Aug 8th - Aug 19th
- 5 - Aug 22nd - Sept 2nd

Member registration is on the Thursday preceding the start of the session. For example, session 1 registration for members will be Thursday, June 23rd. Details about lessons can be found on the club website.

Wedgwood Swim Pool Incorporated  
7727 28<sup>th</sup> Avenue Northeast  
P.O. Box 15104  
Seattle, Washington 98115

(206) 523-8211

Visit Wedgwood Pool  
on the web  
at  
<http://www.wwpool.org>

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