



Here at Dunham Woods Riding Club, we pride ourselves on the high quality of our club, the striking country views and outstanding services offered to our valued members and guests. We have worked hard over the years to become a vital part of the community, and in the process, we have earned recognition as one of the premier private clubs in the region.

We invite you

and your family to

explore all that

Dunham Woods Riding Club

has to offer.

We are a unique, private club of 215 members located in Wayne, Illinois, which is approximately 40 miles west of Chicago in the heart of the Fox River Valley. The Club is known for its fine and casual dining, recreation amenities, and beautiful 43 secluded acres that create a relaxing ‘getaway’ environment for its members. Our Historic Clubhouse includes multiple dining rooms, a banquet size room, an ‘English Style’ Pub Bar, overnight rooms, and our Tennis Pro Shop.

On the grounds surrounding the Clubhouse are our pool, five clay tennis courts, a children’s playground, outside patio dining area, and two paddle tennis courts with a clubhouse. Currently, the Club leases property to the Wayne Equestrian Center. Although not included in the Dunham Woods Riding Club membership, there are special rates for our members for riding lessons and the boarding of horses.

Dunham Woods lives up to its historic past, while meeting the needs of today’s members and their families. The main clubhouse as well as all of the buildings on the property are consistently maintained and upgraded while adhering to historic preservation standards. The newer amenities, such as Corky’s, the lodge built in 2014, and the new Hunt kennel built in 2015 were both reviewed by the internal aesthetics committee and the Wayne Historic Sites Commission during the initial planning stages.

The club’s Board of Governors and the Strategic Planning Committee have developed long range plans with input from our annual members surveys, external consultants, and our various committees. Reconstruction of the front portico and a remodel of the entrance foyer were recently completed, and areas now under review are the expansion and upgrades to the pool area and the possible addition of a new members lounge. The board and members are dedicated to continuing traditions while updating the club with amenities that make Dunham Woods Riding Club truly unique.



Dunham Woods
RIDING CLUB

We warmly welcome you...

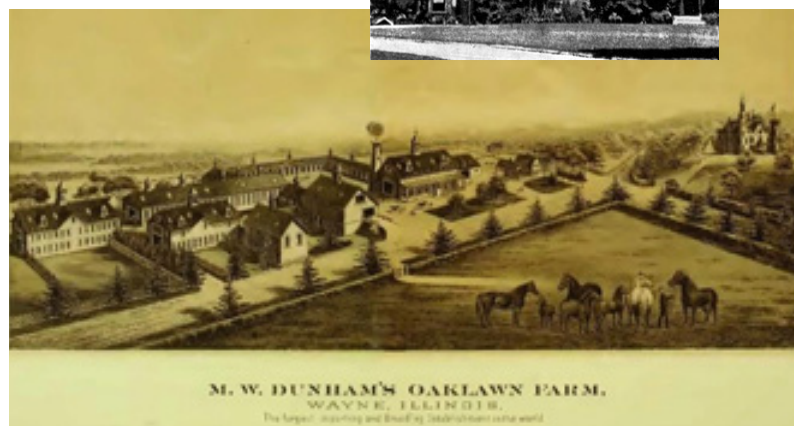
to the 'Dunham Woods Experience'—a beautifully unique historic location and clubhouse blend with excellent dining, social and recreational activities, and an environment that encourages the enjoyment of members, their families, and guests...creating life's lovely memories and enduring friendships.

Club History

Established in 1934, the Dunham Woods Riding Club has an interesting history that contributes to making it a truly special place in the Chicago suburbs.

The Beginnings: 1836 - 1934

Our building was constructed in 1836 by Solomon Dunham, who with his wife and six children, drove in a covered wagon from New York to find a home in the newly opened lands of Illinois. Known then as 'Oaklawn Farm' the original three hundred acres grew to nearly two thousand and the Dunhams became internationally known as an importer and breeder of French coach and Percheron horses, as many as five hundred being stabled here at one time. With the coming of the farm tractor, the importation and breeding of Percheron horses became a business of the past. In 1932 the old red brick house was restored and redecorated. The stables, stately woods and farmlands lent themselves to the increased interest in riding and in 1934 a group of Wayne and Geneva residents formed the Dunham Woods Riding Club, leasing the original Dunham home.



Dunham Woods Riding Club on the National Register of Historic Places

Dunham 'Castle' across the road built by Mark Dunham

'Oaklawn Farm,' original three hundred acres

1836	1881	1934	1961	1979	2014
The history of Dunham Woods Riding Club began when our building was constructed in 1836 by Solomon Dunham, who with his wife and six children, drove in a covered wagon from New York to find a home in the newly opened lands of Illinois.	The French chateaux styled Dunham 'Castle' across the road was built by Mark Dunham who was intentionally known as an importer and breeder of French coach and Percheron horses. The size of his farm was 2,000 acres with visits from guests such as Cyrus McCormick, George Pullman, Daniel Burnham and Marshall Fields.	The Club was founded in 1934 by a group of residents of both Wayne and Geneva, Illinois who leased the original Dunham brick home known as the 'Inn.' Joy Morton, of Morton Salt fame, was one of the early presidents of Dunham Woods Riding Club.	The Wayne-DuPage Hunt purchased additional land, kennels, and upper barn in the name of Dunham Woods Riding Club. This purchase increased the size of the club to 43 acres, and remains this large today.	The four corners comprising the intersection of Army Trail Road and Dunham Road, including the 'Castle' and Dunham Woods Riding Club, were accepted and placed on the National Register of Historic Places.	In honor of our club's 20th president, Corwith Hamil, a newly constructed multi-purpose building was named 'Corky's.' This beautiful lodge-styled space serves our paddle courts and is a new special events amenity for our members.

The Story Continues: 1950-1979

In 1950 the club purchased the residence, lower barn, swimming pool, tennis courts and land. A bond issue was sold to the members in 1957 for the purpose of adding the Grey Room, Dining Room and constructing a new kitchen. All the bonds were subsequently paid off prior to maturity. In 1961 the Wayne-DuPage Hunt was instrumental in purchasing more land from Dunham, Inc., including the kennels and upper barn. The purchase was made in the name of Dunham Woods Riding Club. Even more acreage was purchased in 1975. These later acquisitions, with the barns, riding rings, indoor ring, outside course, tenant house and the new pole barn are leased by the Wayne-DuPage Hunt. In 1979 the Dunham Woods Riding Club, including the four corners at the intersection of Army Trail and Dunham Roads, together with the Castle and outbuildings, was mentioned for and accepted into the National Register of Historic Places.

SPORTS & RECREATION

THE CLUBHOUSE

JUNIOR PROGRAMS

BEYOND THE COURTS

**Dunham Woods**
RIDING CLUB

Culture and Interest Clubs

EPICUREAN

For our bon vivant members, Dunham Woods Riding Club offers its members many opportunities to expand their palettes and cellars through our commitment to gourmet food, garden to table ingredients, evolving menus, and regularly-scheduled wine tastings throughout the year. The Club has been graced with visits from renowned wineries such as Miner, Grgich Hills, and Flanagan. Members benefit from opportunities to order in quantity with special wholesale pricing. Wine-centered dining opportunities include the spectacular **Gourmet Wine Dinner** held each November. More than a fine meal, it is truly a culinary experience—with multiple courses and wine pairings presented by a special guest vintner. On the casual side, there is also the **First Friday Wine Dinners** held throughout the year: created by members, for members, this is a fun group that gathers monthly to share and sample each other's wines. Dinner is served, bottles are passed, and friendships forged!

LITERARY & THE ARTS

Weddings & Events



Historical



Stables



Tennis

Sports & Recreation



Arts & Culture



Golf

Wine & Dine



Racquet Sports



club:



Swimming