An Ode to OAKtober

October is oak awareness month in Illinois

(Sung to the tune of "Row, Row, Row Your Boat.")

Know, know, know your oaks
This is how they grow
Red Oak
White Oak
Bur Oak
Pin Oak
And acorns down below.

RED

One of the largest oaks, it can rise 125 feet tall!

WHITE

Pale bark gives it its name; rounded lobes identify its leaf.

1,041
= number of oak trees at the Chicago Botanic Garden

49
= number of oak species here

100+
= age of oldest oak at the Garden

We can't tell exactly how old the trees are without chopping them down and counting the rings; however, we are giving the oldest honor to a white oak *(Quercus alba)* in McDonald Woods near the Lake Cook Road entrance.

BUR

I.D. the acorn by its shaggy, deep cap.

PIN

Branches are cluttered with "pins" (twigs).

CHICAGO BOTANIC GARDEN