

THE CAROL WOODS NEWS

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HAPPY NEW YEAR! RESIDENTS CELEBRATE FEE INCREASES!

Since when are fee increases cause for celebration? Answer: when the increases are less than anticipated, and when they continue a long and remarkable track record. As in previous years, residents who attended one of two forums hosted by Carol Woods' Vice President of Finance outlining the 2006 budgetary plans were treated to a series of graphs depicting Carol Woods' track record for fee increases over the past ten years. Among the more noteworthy trends:

Since 1995 (twelve years), the baseline annual increase in resident monthly service fees has not been greater than 3%, while the national health care index has been more than double that rate.

Over the last ten years, the per diem charged to Carol Woods residents for a private room in the *skilled nursing facility* increased a total of \$20/day, or an average annual increase of \$2/day (\$60/month). This was contrasted to local market comparisons where recent increases in per diem charges have averaged closer to \$10/day (\$300/month) each year.

Over the last ten years, the per diem charged to Carol Woods residents for a private room in the *assisted living facility* increased a total of \$8/day, or an average annual increase of \$0.80/day (\$24/month). This was contrasted to local market comparisons where recent increases in per diem charges have averaged closer to \$6/day (\$180/month) each year.

Although history cannot guarantee the future, these trends are indicative of: a) Carol Woods' strong

financial condition (since the modest increases were done each year only to the extent that they **did not erode** Carol Woods' strong long-term, actuarial position), b) its desire to remain affordable to as broad a group as possible, and c) its goal to shelter residents financially over time, particularly those who are most frail and experiencing the need for the higher cost of long-term care. It is for these reasons that Carol Woods' residents celebrate.

Ken Reeb

VP Finance & Planning

CONCERTS AND LECTURES

Wednesday Concerts

January 18 – Magnolia Klezma Band

January 25 – Mia Cabeza, Piano

February 1 – Virginia Hudson, Clarinet

February 15 – Laura Thomas & Others

Thursday Lectures

January 19 – No Program

January 26 – William R. Rogers – Religion and Politics

February 2 – Sarah Madry – The Parc Monceau in Paris: English Garden

February 9 – Paul Frellick: Deep Dish Theater

February 16 – Sara Lowman: Ukraine

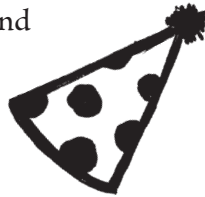
February 23 – Grimsley Hobbs – Restoration of Fort Macon

ANNUAL EMPLOYEE GIFTS

A long-standing policy at Carol Woods is that residents are to refrain from giving tips or other gifts to employees. Almost 25 years ago, residents established an Employee Appreciation Fund to provide a way to recognize the work of the staff. A method to determine the individual employee gift was designed, keyed to the number of hours worked during the previous year.

This year, the cumulative total hours worked by all staff members was 380,588. The total received in contributions to the Fund from residents was \$147,631 thus resulting in a value of \$0.3879 for each hour worked. Each employee's total hours for the year were then multiplied by that hourly rate to arrive at the individual gift amount. For **2005**, an employee who worked full-time for the full year received a gift of **\$713.74**. It is important to note that the employee's work title has no bearing on the amount received. Senior or other staff persons who are seen frequently are given the same consideration as those who work behind the scenes and seldom come in contact with residents and yet whose work is essential to the well being of the entire community.

Charles Paddock
Chair, Employee Appreciation Fund



NEW CAROL WOODS BOARD MEMBERS

Judith Wegner, has been a member of the UNC Chapel Hill law faculty since 1981. She was Dean of the School of Law 1989-1999 and is currently Chair of the Faculty. She served as President of the Association of American Law Schools and was a Senior Scholar of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. **Dean Smith** is former Head Coach at UNC Chapel Hill and was voted ACC Coach of the year eight times. He was also named Sportsman of the Year by Sports Illustrated and Honorary Coach of the Year by the U.S. Olympic Committee.

New in the Carol Woods Library: A new state of the art reading machine that converts printed material to oral speech. In addition, the text is displayed in magnified form while it is being spoken... A wonderful long list of **new books** including Parker's *Cold Service*, Reynolds Price' *The Good Priest's Son*, Amy Tan's *Saving Fish from Drowning*, Richard Dawkins' *The Ancestor's Tale*, Joan Didion's *Year of Magical Thinking*, Frank McCourt's *Teacher Man*.

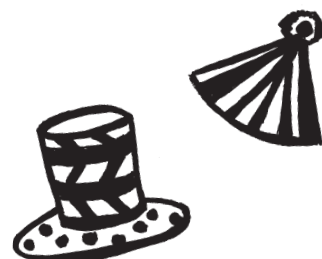
WINTER IN THE GREENHOUSE

A peek inside the resident's greenhouse this time of year reveals a lush jungle in contrast with the bare trees and browning grass outside. Here and there blooms of impatiens, geraniums, begonias, cacti and various exotic plants provide bursts of color amid the ferns and other greenery. This is the winter home for the plants residents enjoy on each other's porches, decks and balconies throughout the warmer months. Few of those who gratefully use the greenhouse question its origins. Attached comfortably to the covered walkway between the main building and Building 2, it looks like it has been a part of the campus from the beginning.

A chance meeting with **Margaret Garvin** produced a different perspective. This is but one of the many stories of the ways in which residents have improved the campus by dint of their perspiration as well as their inspiration. According to Margaret, one of the first residents, **Carey Bostian**, was an avid gardener. He wintered over his African violets and other plants under lights in the basement of the Main Building for several years before deciding that he and the many other gardeners on campus needed a greenhouse. Carey Bostian recruited Margaret's husband, Dave, to help him design and build a greenhouse. Once their plan was approved by the Residents Council and the Board, four or five other men joined in the construction. David Garvin ordered a fan from Florida to complete this all volunteer project. The date of its completion is unclear but it was probably 1985 or 1986.

So, the next time we tuck our precious plants away for their winter rest in the greenhouse or we see a beautiful plant that a resident has tenderly nurtured there before placing it in the social lounge for us all to enjoy, we should give a mental note of thanks to Carey Bostian, David Garvin, and all those who helped them create this legacy we enjoy today.

NM



WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

Eleanor Dunn, (Apt. 1308) moved to Carol Woods from the Timberlyne area. She grew up in Pittsburgh. She went to work at United Steel Corp. and there met Robert Dunn from Springfield, Illinois. They married and Eleanor became a full-time housewife and mother. She was a member of the Women's Club and volunteered in the Public Library in Pittsburgh. After Robert retired in 1988, they moved to Chapel Hill. She has three daughters in Virginia, a son in California and 2 grandchildren. In Chapel Hill she is a volunteer at the hospital and at the Church of the Holy Family. Her principal interest is reading. She is looking forward to the social and activity opportunities at Carol Woods.

Glenna Chapin

Angus and Kay Cameron (Apt. 189) moved here from near Siler City, where they had lived for fourteen years. Angus was born in Vass, NC, did undergraduate work at Duke, later graduated from Garrett Theological Seminary, followed by further study at Union Theological in New York City. Kay was born on a dairy farm in Smyrna, NY, graduated from Keuka College and earned her master's degree from Union Theological. They met later in Brooklyn, NY, where they were working in churches. After moving back to North Carolina, Angus served for 40 years as a Methodist minister in the eastern part of the state, including Mattamuskeet, while Kay worked with children, youth and women of the churches as librarian and teacher.

One exciting episode in Angus' life was in 1946, accompanying boatloads of cattle to Poland and Italy in the early days of the Heifer Project. They have both been especially active in environmental issues and politics, enjoying birding and walking. Angus likes growing vegetables, while Kay likes reading, writing, particularly poetry, and family reminiscences. Their oldest son lives in Durham with his wife and two children. Their second son is in Vermont.

Rod and Nancy Gorham

Julian and Frances Davis (2104) moved from Durham. Fran is a native of Atlanta but grew up in Macon, Georgia. She was educated at Mercer University and UNC-Greensboro. In Florida, she worked as a counselor in vocational rehabilitation, family and children's services. In North Carolina she was been a mental health counselor. Her hobbies include reading, music, socializing, entertaining and shopping. Julian is a native of Macon, Georgia. He earned his bachelor degree in electrical engineering from Georgia Tech and was also certified as a CPA in Atlanta. Later he completed a doctorate in education from the University of Florida, Gainesville. The greater part of his working life was spend in educational administration: Comptroller at the University of Florida, Chief Financial Officer at St. Andrews Presbyterian College and V.P. for finance and administration at Oklahoma City University. His hobbies include physical fitness, sports, and handy man repair work. They enjoy visiting with their four daughters and nine grandchildren.

Gilda Varrati

RESIDENT WINTER ART SHOW

"This year's staff and resident exhibit is the best one ever," said **Jean Parish**, an artist who designed fabrics, wall coverings and other furnishings as well as architectural details in New York for 22 years, later teaching at Drake U. and New York State College at Oneonta. **Jean** initiated the art program when she observed that, though we had musical and educational programs here, we had no art programs. She was encouraged to get something started by the Resident Council and Pat Sprigg. Now, seven years later, in a defined carpeted wall area, the art space exhibits the works of outside artists from all over North Carolina in five shows in addition to the two that feature Carol Woods' residents and staff.

This year there was a push to get as many different media entered as possible, bringing forth entries of photography, acrylics, pastels and fabrics. Many marveled at the originality and quality of this exhibit, jurored by Sara Schroth, curator at Duke's new Nasher Art Museum. The winners are **Eleanor Broadus**, pieced fabric coat; **Muriel Easterling**, 'Starry Path', mirrored quilt; **Janie Freeman**, covered pot, pottery; **Ann Kendall**, 'It's the Berries', watercolor; **Barbara Koch**, Christmas ornament, Inkleware; and **Irene Reichert** 'Magic Garden Hybrid' oil painting.

The show leaves Carol Woods January 6, opening at the Chapel Hill Senior Center January 9th.

Marian Stephenson

WHAT'S GOING ON HERE

An excellent Holiday Party filled the decorated Social Lounge on December 16. The chief elf that planned the event was **Kip Lester**. It was complete with a series of delightful skits in which mendicants begged for gifts from Santa as well as a piñata that often escaped the blows from blindfolded residents wielding canes. Plenty of egnog too!...In the Health Center there was the annual delivery of gifts **carefully purchased by the staff** for each individual resident... A Holiday Celebration Feast began on Christmas Eve and continues through the holidays. These after-dinner treasures included **Holy Lands and Sacred Places**, narrated by Ben Kingsley, **Weapons of the Spirit**, a documentary by Pierre Sauvage about Le Chambon-sur-Lignon, Janacek's **The Cunning Little Vixen**, Astaire and Rogers, **Shall We Dance, Amadeus, Turandot** at the Met, the San Francisco Ballet's **Cinderella, Lehar's The Merry Widow** on New Year's Eve, and concluding with live music from Carol Woods own Jazz Quartet...**Harold Grunewald, Edith Welch, and Margery Schwartz** have completed a 5,000 piece puzzle that they've worked on every day for weeks. It is especially difficult because all the pieces are the same shape!

Cello Competition Winner

Carol Woods wants to congratulate Alan Toda-Amberas, a fourteen year old ninth grader at East Chapel Hill High school who was a recent performer in our Wednesday night concert series. He has won the *Prix de Meilleur Espoir* at the 2005 Rostropovich International Cello Competition in Paris. The great Russian cellist was one of the judges. Alan was the youngest of 77 competitors.

Among the works he performed at the competition was the Prokofiev *Symphonia Concertant for Cello and Orchestra*, one of the most difficult works in the cello repertoire. We take pride in his having presented the work here just before his departure for Paris. He played here in a special Saturday afternoon recital with his mother Misako Toda. We also congratulate his parents, Misako Toda and David Amberas and his teacher Leonid Zilper and hope to have them all back at Carol Woods soon.

Bob Metzger

NOVEMBER AND DECEMBER RESIDENT ASSOCIATION MEETINGS

At our **November** meeting, Dave Wilkerson described the recent Open House as an "Amazing Success". He congratulated the staff and thanked the residents. Dave reported that Standard and Poor's has again ratified our "A" credit rating.

In **December** we received a report from **Bob Dunham**, Chairman of the Carol Woods Board of Directors. He described the past year as a very productive, even in the face of new competition in the Chapel Hill area, citing a number of accomplishments, among them our new flexible meal plan, the maintenance of our policy on smoking, and our generous grant to the Red Cross to help with the Katrina disaster. The Executive Committee evaluated our CEO and he stated that the Board considered that keeping **Pat Sprigg** was a key achievement.

Pat Sprigg reported that the Department of Facilities Services has, for the fourth consecutive year, found our nursing program deficiency-free.

Ray Mack

STAFF: Natalie Fiess, Chair; Jane Berryman, Russell Graves, Ray Mack, Nancy Martin, and Mary Scroggs. Ann Kendall, drawing. **Circulation:** Barbara Allen, Janet Campbell, Helen Hawley, Beth Jukes, Eva Lynch, Jessie Lutz, Stella Lyons and Lang Prouty.

CAROL WOODS

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