

THE CAROL WOODS NEWS

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VOLUNTEERING—A WAY OF LIFE

Every day hundreds of cars traverse Weaver Dairy Road alongside the spreading oaks and rolling lawns of our retirement community. Often drivers must pause for the traffic light that allows residents egress. While they wait, do they wonder what really goes on behind the split rail fences?

During summer months residents work at the fences, tending the pink climbing roses. What else happens in there? Bridge? Woodworking?

Well, yes, but in fact, during 2008 Carol Woods residents estimated they contributed almost 43,000 hours of volunteer service within the community itself, in the local area, or in state, national, or international efforts.

Previous articles in the *Carol Woods News* have detailed the numbers of residents who regularly work in the public schools or who tutor individuals, but efforts are not confined to education. Many residents were heavily involved in the 2008 election campaign, even managing campaign offices. Others serve at the Ronald McDonald House and the State Employees Credit Union House, while still others rock and cradle the tiniest newborns in hospital nurseries.

Did you know that every wounded veteran receives a hand-crafted quilt both as a symbol of a nation's gratitude and as a source of comfort? Volunteers all over the country, including at Carol Woods, cut and piece squares that are put together and end up in veterans' hospitals and clinics nationwide.

Come Sunday morning, one resident heads to UNC Hospitals where he mans the television camera enabling patients to tune in to chapel services. Other residents, by virtue of their experience or particular expertise, serve on Boards or evaluate potential donations to libraries, museums, and other institutions.

Volunteers knit blankets for the Linus Project, visit prisoners, serve with the Dispute Settlement Center, and judge school competitions. Many continue decades-long voluntary involvement in Scouts, Meals on Wheels, Amnesty International, Interfaith Council, Planned Parenthood, or Habitat for Humanity. They play in musical or drama groups that entertain at senior centers, adult care centers, and at Carol Woods. Members of the Companion Corps escort residents who need help to attend special programs and events. Handy person volunteers assist with small repairs and maintenance matters. Others give their time to the Child Care Center—they develop art projects, read, or help with lunch and snacks.

Carol Woods residents, like people everywhere, find that doing something for someone else without expecting payback offers rich dividends in personal joy and satisfaction.

Louise Baker



Toymakers (L to R) Marge Gulley, Janet Campbell, Evelyn Sims

CHILDREN'S CENTER DOG SHOW A DOG'S EYE VIEW

Not all of us Carol Woods dogs *sit* on command; *Lie down and roll over* is too cute for most of our age and experience. Nevertheless we are show dogs. Seven of us, hand picked of course, put on a show at the Children's Center demonstrating our varieties of size, shape and spirit. After a quick rehearsal directed by **Marcy Congdon**, we learned to parade, starting off with the terriers who had been romping, sniffing and acting feisty as terriers should. I was the smallest, probably the star, followed closely by *Zac*, **Art Southard's*** Cairn Terrier, Marcy's Norfolk Terrier, *Devin*, and the **Grosses'** Scotty, *Cayley*. It was not surprising that *Pastor*, **Bob Seymour's** pious and handsome Sheltie, was friendly to all and knew he was supposed to be as dignified as **Diane Ellis's** *Angie*, a Standard Poodle, who performed like a hall monitor. Last came the biggest, the **Textorises'** Great Dane, *Roebuck*. When she wandered about the circle of thirty 3-year-old humans their eyes were giant saucers. *Roebuck's* paws were as big as some of their hands but they did want to touch his coat, although *Pastor's* coat was fluffier. Children are almost as wise as dogs, you know. Some asked to feed us treats. **Dan Textoris** helped two more experienced children to understand how to approach a dog of *Roebuck's* size and to shake paws.

When the 3-year olds left, we did another parade for the 4's, a more sophisticated audience. No prizes were awarded but we knew who earned recognition. The children laughed when our ball player, *Zac*, performed with tennis balls. *Devin* and *Cayley* reflected their ardor and zeal in tails that never stop wagging. *Pastor* and *Angie* were winners in Grooming. **Roebuck** won for size, performance and her ability to drool. I think she had the best time of all, but she is a modest gal. I would say we were about as interesting and diverse as the humans of Carol Woods.

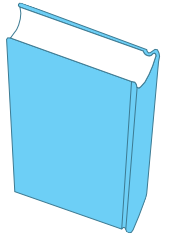


Sadie

Written by Peggy,
the other end of Sadie
Griffenhagen's leash.

* Staff Member

BOOK CORNER



Birds Without Wings by Louis de Bernieres is the most entrancing novel I've read recently. The reader becomes intimately involved with the people of a tiny village in Anatolia. They call themselves Ottomans, speak Turkish, and worship in Orthodox Christian churches or Muslim mosques, or adhere to astonishing beliefs and practices which are neither.

The people are rooted in their natural surroundings. Most houses have a caged bird by the front door and their music greets the dawn. A woman thinks of an ingenious way to have moving lighted candles surround a feast she has prepared for her lover. On the other hand, when the Iman's wife feels exploited, she puts pepper in her husband's supper.

The people here thought of all Europeans as Franks, but nationalism and a war invade their peaceful life and they learn that some Franks are British and some are German. Little boys grow up and some of them endure terrible trench warfare in Gallipoli.

We are grieved when a faraway character (Ataturk) decrees that all Christians must go to Greece and Muslims to Turkey. The village is no longer whole, but we are eternally grateful to have known the people before this tragic event.

Margaret Heyboer

However could the article in last month's CWN have omitted kudos to you for your pivotal role as emcee in the *Follies of Friday the Thirteenth*? Well, here they are, Jeanne! You were great!



Jeanne Madigan

WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS



Mary Louise (Mary Lou) and Paul Meyer (Cottage 134) retired to Chapel Hill 20 years ago following professional lives in

Princeton NJ. Mary Lou was the Director of the Public Library of Hamilton Township near Princeton for many years. Paul was a faculty member of the Princeton Theological Seminary, where he taught courses in New Testament and Biblical Greek.

Mary Lou was born and raised in Columbus OH. She graduated from Wellesley and attended Union Theological Seminary in New York City where she met Paul. She later obtained a library degree at Peabody College of Vanderbilt.

Paul was born and educated in India, where his parents were American missionaries. After graduating from an American high school in southern India, Paul and three classmates boarded an American passenger freighter bound for New York City. The year was 1940 and the Suez Canal was closed due to World War II, resulting in a five-week voyage around the Cape of Good Hope. He attended Elmhurst College in Elmhurst IL. After military service, he did graduate work at Union Theological Seminary.

The Meyers have two daughters: Katherine, a Presbyterian minister in Dublin, Ireland, and Elizabeth, an artist who works as a cartographer for the Department of Transportation in St. Paul, MN.

Mary Lou has been a member of the Chapel Hill Community Chorus for nineteen years. She is also an enthusiastic backyard birder. Paul continues his interest in writing, as well as translations from German to English. They both sing in the University Presbyterian Church choir.

Marge Richter



Bob Hellwig and Gordon Whitaker (Cottage 166) moved to Carol Woods from Durham where they lived for 35 years. Both Midwesterners, Bob is from Iowa, Gordon from Indiana. They both graduated from Cornell College in Mt. Vernon, Iowa, where

they met. Bob earned his MS at Iowa State and his PhD at Duke, both in botany. Gordon earned his PhD in political science at Indiana University. Bob has retired from teaching biology and environmental science at Durham's Jordan High School. Gordon is still teaching, consulting, and writing as a professor at the School of Government at UNC-CH. He directed UNC's Masters of Public Administration Program and chaired the national accreditation commission for professional master's degrees in public policy and administration. Among his books is *Local Government in North Carolina*, which is widely used in NC public schools. He also helped organize the NC Civic Education Consortium to encourage students to become good citizens.

Both are active members of Watts Street Baptist Church in Durham and are deeply engaged in the life and work of that congregation. Bob is a church clerk, Gordon a deacon. Following retirement Bob began taking courses at the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Duke, of which he is president elect. He also likes reading for pleasure now that he no longer has to grade papers. Gordon enjoys reading for pleasure, too, especially mysteries. He likes to cook and bakes bread nearly every week. Both Bob and Gordon are avid gardeners—and very nice people!

Burkhard Seubert



Gail Seybolt (Cottage 147) is a North Carolinian, stretching from her early youth in Belmont to a majority of years in Chapel Hill, with intervals of time outside the state in Washington DC and Los Alamos NM. At UNC-CH she earned the degree of Master of Science in Nursing, devoting her studies to Psychiatric Nursing. In

addition to clinical, administrative and teaching positions, Gail has spent over 30 years in a private counseling practice, which she currently continues on a part-time basis. She has one daughter, Elizabeth, who lives in Mount Pleasant, SC. A lifelong reader and gardener, she is looking forward to expanding interests and activities in a new phase of life.

Annie and Ivan Lakos

APRIL RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING

At the Residents Association meeting on April 14, nominees for our 2009-2010 Council were announced by **Audrey Booth**, chair of the five-person Nominating Committee. Elections will take place during the next Residents Association meeting on May 12; those elected will take office in September.

Treasurer **Lois Frost** said that modest expenditures by committees this year should provide a large carryover of funds for next year's expenses. (Too bad other revenue sources can't do the same!) Lois also reminded us that the Cash & Carry/Bid Sale enterprise in the basement of the main building is a fun place to visit. You'll find all kinds of interesting things there you might buy for very reasonable prices—and all income goes to the tax-deductible Resident Life Fund - which also funds our committees!

Pat Sprigg told us that Art Ernteman (Director of Dining services), who is heading to India for two years, would be saying his final farewells to us at the May meeting with a reception in the Social Lounge following the meeting. Pat will be attending a state award ceremony in Asheville for "the other Art" (Art Southard, Director of Security, Communications, and Transportation for Carol Woods) who will receive an award for exemplary service to residents from the North Carolina Association of Homes & Services for the Aging. Too bad we can't all be there for both these very fine staffers!

Dick Wood

COMING EVENTS

Lectures

- May 21 Jenny Bryan - Women's Center of Chapel Hill
- May 22 Jaki Shelton Green - poetry

Concerts

- May 20 John Pittman, piano
- May 27 Mark Furth, viola and Laura Byrne, harp

Special Events

- May 16 Piano students of Randy Shepherd, 1:00pm

Summer Festival

- June 3-August 28 Music, Lectures and other entertainment every Wednesday, Thursday and Friday at 7:30 pm
- Programs to be announced



CAROL WOODS NEWS – Staff

Anne Wright, Chair; Louise Baker, Jane Berryman, Janet F. Campbell, Ginger Davis, Betsy Hewitt, Betty Hughes, Nancy Martin, Lucia Pap, Burkhard Seubert, Sally Slack and Ruth Zalph. Pat Bartell and Catherine Clark, proof readers.

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