

BIRTH IN BOGOTÁ

“To deliver a baby” is beautifully expressed in Spanish: *dar luz*, literally translated “to give light.” Our son, Zac Elkins, was born in Bogotá, Colombia.

The system in Bogotá was for the expectant mother to go to the hospital for advance registration. When I did so, I was faced with the question, “Do you want a room or an apartment?” I chose a room, wondering what in the world I would do with a whole apartment.

That mystery was solved soon after Zac was born. I learned that in Bogotá new mothers are not routinely considered ill. They occupy a wing of the hospital separate from other patients. I had the pleasure of witnessing that an apartment is to be occupied by the mother/baby’s family. Birth calls for celebration! The extended family comes in to participate.

We were able to do just the right amount of celebrating in the room to which I was assigned. In it was a couch, convertible to a bed, which was offered to my husband for the night. He probably would have occupied it—after all, it was his birthday too. (During my labor, shortly before midnight, he queried the obstetrician, “The baby will not come until after midnight, right?” The doctor gave assurance that son would be born on father’s birthday!) Hank did not sleep at the hospital because nineteen-month-old Brent was waiting for him in the care of our good friend Alicia.

Support of family was further in evidence the next morning when the person who came to take my meal order asked how many would be eating. What a brilliant idea! I announced that my husband and son would be dining with us.

There are few things more important than the manner in which a new baby is presented to the older sibling. We began, almost from the moment of birth, eating together as a family (a practice we maintained). From the time of his birth, Zac occupied a little wicker bed right beside mine. At the outset I was able to begin breastfeeding him commensurate with our mutual needs. Giving birth (giving light) itself was a joyous, natural occasion. Physician and mother were able to engage in normal conversation. At one point the doctor announced, “Mrs. Elkins, you are going to have

a blond baby!” I have since reflected that this was likely a rare experience for him.

By coming to the hospital for meals, Brent got to know and love his baby brother. He was absolutely fascinated. This fascination became mutual, endured, strengthened, and continues today.

This all contrasted sharply with our previous experience in the sterility of a university hospital in the United States. There, baby and mother were separated except for scheduled feedings. Father was allowed to visit at only two prescribed periods each day. The baby was never allowed to be in the mother’s room when “visitors” were present.

When it was time for Zac and me to leave the hospital, Hank and Brent came for us in a taxi (we lived without a car in Bogotá). The four of us rode home together as a family in the back seat of the cab. Together we took the newest member into our home and settled him into the nest.

Nancy Elkins

Our Baby

Name ZACHARY STEPHEN
(ZAC)

Born at BOGOTA, COLOMBIA

On FEBRUARY 13 Time 1:00 A.M.

Weight 6 lbs. 9 Ozs.

Parents

Hank

Nancy

WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS



Dave and Nancy Jones (Apt. T-115) In 1971 Dave and Nancy moved from Evanston, IL to Rocky Mount. Dave's one-year appointment at NC Wesleyan College expanded to many years of teaching courses in American history and in religion. He led the Convocation Series and shepherded an accreditation review. Sometimes his typed comments for student papers were longer than the papers!

In that first year Nancy painted the house inside and out and was certified to teach. Her practice teaching was at one of the poorest schools in NC. Within three months, her 25 6th, 7th, and 8th graders gained a year and a half in language skills. For two years she was an insurance agent, and once was "Man of the Month." Then she taught English and Latin at Rocky Mount Senior High and led the AFS Foreign Student Club.

Vital Statistics: Dave grew up in Indiana; attended Oberlin, Union Theological Seminary (NY), Northwestern; was ordained in the United Church of Christ. Nancy grew up in Atlanta; attended Randolph-Macon Woman's College, Duke, Union (where they met), Northwestern. Children: Margie, Brooks, Rachel; three grandchildren.

Two summer gatherings have marked their calendars for 25 years: The Society for Values in Higher Education, and The Thomas Hardy Society in the UK.

Dave's book on his own adoption, *My Father's House*, presents adoption as a prism through which to see much that matters in life. Nancy's involvement in the Presbytery of New Hope sent her to the General Assembly last summer.

They love Duke basketball but would rather eat dinner with Dean Smith!

Nancy and Dave Jones

FAIRGOERS DISCOVER WHAT'S UP

Balloons marking information booths, handouts, door prizes, refreshments, surveys, and scheduled entertainments—all the trappings of a trade fair or convention—but on November 16 this was "What's Up, Carol Woods?" Set up in both the Assembly Hall and Social Lounge, the fair was designed to showcase to residents old and new the more than 50 committees and interest groups that advise our administration, organize cultural activities, plan trips, run Cash & Carry, promote fitness, volunteer services on campus and in the larger community, and more. Committee members answered questions and recruited members as interests coincided.

Strolling by booths slowed as more than 40 preschoolers from the Children's Center joined residents to ooh and ah over the juggling feats of Duane Deardorff, a UNC physics professor. The children called out "higher, higher" until one of his Indian clubs came close to the rafters. He showed the secret of donning stilts and juggled while walking on them. Finally, the children exited between his stilts before he and they returned to their classes. Other entertainment included two of our home-grown favorites: tap dancing routines by the Taptations and a performance by the Carol Woods English Country Dancers.

Drawings for 20+ door prizes occurred as the fair progressed. Some happy winners will soon be heading to the movies, buying groceries or gifts, eating out, getting a car washed, or even receiving kennel services, thanks to the generosity of local businesses.

At the fair's conclusion, residents pitched in for cleanup; the balloons found their way to the Children's Center. Many thanks to **Nancy Gustaveson** and the Community Relations Committee for their inspiration and hard work in creating an event that clearly demonstrated what's up at Carol Woods.

Nancy Martin



Ivan Lakos and Lew Woodham examine a globe in the Travel Network booth

COMING EVENTS

Concerts – Wednesday Evenings – 7:30 p.m.

- Dec. 15 – Magnolia Klezmer Band
- Jan. 5 – Nick Luby, piano
- Jan. 12 – Jonathan Bagg, viola
- Jan. 19 – Ellye Walsh, flute
- Feb. 2 – Richard Luby, violin
- Feb. 9 – Hsiao Mei Ku, violin; Leonard Zilper, cello

Lectures – Thursday Evenings – 7:30 p.m.

- Dec. 9 – Anne Yoder, Duke Lemur Center, “Lemurs”
- Dec. 16, 23 and 30 – No programs due to holidays
- Jan. 6 – Martin Eakes, Self Help Credit Union/Center for Responsible Lending
- Jan. 20 – David Warren & Reg Hildebrand, North Carolina Freedom Monument

Special Programs – Assembly Hall

- Sat. Dec. 11 – 1 p.m. – piano students of Randy Shepherd
- Sat. Dec. 18 – 2 p.m. – piano students of Connie Yee
- Tues. Jan. 4 – 4 p.m. – Act One Act Now student drama group

Winter Fest – Assembly Hall – 7:30 p.m.

- Dec. 20 – Tuba Quartet
- Dec. 21 – Triangle Youth Ballet
- Dec. 22 – Aaron Fried, cello
- Dec. 23 – Peter White and Friends: Folk Music
- Dec. 24 – Christmas Carol Sing-along
- Dec. 27 – The Kremer Quartet
- Dec. 28 – Merry Minstrels
- Dec. 29 – Andrew Tyson, piano
- Dec. 30 – James Dargan and Allan Parrent, vocal duo
- Dec. 31- Opera: *Die Fledermaus*



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