



THE CAROL WOODS NEWS

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FUN, FUND-RAISING, AND FARM

For one day in November our Social Lounge became a bazaar. At one end arts and crafts enticed early Christmas shoppers or those who just wished to indulge themselves—everything from homemade canned and baked goods to hand-sewn table linens, crocheted coverlets, jewelry, and fine pottery; also tickets for events or for services such as car washing or dog walking.

The other end featured a 94-item silent auction. The options ranged from intangibles, such as a week in a vacation home, to goods such as sculptures, fabrics from foreign shores, fine china, locally made quilts and wall hangings. We had our own country fair minus the tummy-turning rides.

All items had been donated by residents. After a day of chatting with neighbors, browsing and buying, satisfied customers went home with their treasures. For example, **Kitty Bergel** wore a new jacket, handmade by **Otty Snyder**,



Kitty Bergel models her Silent Auction acquisition.

and **Jackie Sices** carried away a length of lovely Chinese silk. Staff members also took advantage of the day's offerings. **Art Southard** placed the winning bid for a February week of sun in Bermuda; **Heather Altman** for a week in Maine by Lake Sebago, near a camp she attended as a child. She was also happy to win a picture painted and

contributed by **Chrys Churas** of our nursing staff.

And the fair kept giving. Two weeks later two dozen people redeemed their tickets for a tour of Tooth Acres, the nearby farm owned by **Phyllis** and **Lee Sockwell** (three guesses as to Lee's profession). During a hayride past the garden, barn, and a children's playhouse, and through green fields dotted with black cattle, Lee entertained his visitors with tales of the family's life on the farm and even



Farmer Sockwell took the group on a hayride with his red tractor. Featured on the tour were beautiful black cattle, horses, ponds, fences, gardens . . .

demonstrated splitting fence rails. Lunch was ready and waiting back at the house: Phyllis' Brunswick stew and persimmon pudding, supplemented by **Barbara Rowan's** cornbread and **Roz McGee's** salad! The cows were not the only ones contented at Tooth Acres.

The Craft Fair and Silent

Auction raised more than \$15,000 for the Campus Enhancement Campaign and supported our sense of community. The committees and their chairs, **SuSu Vause** and **Roz McGee**, deserve a round of applause.

Nancy Martin



November 12 dawned bright and crisp—just right to show off brilliant fall colors and to whet appetites. Brunswick stew and persimmon pudding hit the spot.

BRIGADOON—A CAT FOR ALL SEASONS

About three weeks before Halloween a black cat showed up in my front yard. It was lying on its side with its legs sticking straight out, belly bloated. I was afraid to get close enough to check it out because I thought, “Rabies?” Instead, I sent an email to **Mary Ann Wit**, general secretary to everyone at Carol Woods. I wrote, “Mary Ann, there’s a bloated black cat lying in my front yard. Will you please send Security over to remove it? Thank you.”

I left the house to attend a meeting. When I returned the cat had been propped up against the crape myrtle tree; it was actually a Halloween cat! Lying on its side, it had looked so real.

Shortly thereafter, there was a knock on my door. I found **Robin Holmes**, our private duty gardener, standing on the porch laughing so hard she was crying. She told me how one of the groundskeepers had come with a shovel to remove the cat and poked it to see if it still had any life left. It seems that when he poked, the cat moved about a foot and scared him to death. He went back to the maintenance shop and told the story on himself . . . had them all laughing out loud.

So, I left the cat in the yard leaning on the crape myrtle for Halloween. A few days later a bowl appeared in front of the cat. Some people even came by and took a picture. Since this was becoming an attraction, I thought I’d look through my earrings to see if I could find something appropriate for the cat to wear. Lo and behold, there was a pair of “fish” earrings someone had given me several years ago. I thought, “How fitting, since cats are said to love fish.” Ta-Da! I placed an earring on each cat ear. People took more pictures. As the wind occasionally blew the cat over on its side, people would set it back up. Someone put a note in my mailbox: “I’m going to report you to the Animal Protection Society for feeding your cat only rainwater and leaves.”

One morning as I started over to the dining room, I noticed someone had placed two crocheted mice in the cat’s bowl. Then a few days after Halloween, as I returned home from dinner, I found a note stuck in my door, which said, “Brigadoon Cat has been taken away. If you wish to have the cat returned, simply put the word out on the street and maybe she will come

back.” I made a poster and hung it on the crape myrtle saying, “Come Back, Cat!”



A couple of days later a note appeared in my mailbox: “Look above the mailboxes for a package with your name on it.” *It was the cat!*

That cat has become the source of much amusement hereabouts. I

have yet to find out who put it in my yard originally, though I have my suspicions. You never know how little it takes to amuse old folks.

One day Brigadoon Cat may re-appear “out of the mist” under the crape myrtle tree. Who knows? We must wait and see!

SuSu Vause



Nick Principe, manager of the Carol Woods salon, is retiring. Since 1987 Nick has been with us, cutting our hair, shaping our fingernails, making us beautiful. Nick is also an RN, with an understanding of our health needs. Thank you, Nick, for all you have done.

AMW



Margaret Taylor poses with Nick Principe.

COMING EVENTS

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

- Jan. 11 – Eric Pritchard and colleagues (trio)
- Jan. 18 – Allan Parrent, tenor; Sam Hammond, piano
- Jan. 25 – Brent Wissick, cello
- Feb. 1 – Magnolia Klezmer Band

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

- Jan. 19 – Russell Harris, MD, “Less Can Be More: Controversy on the US Preventive Services Task Force”
- Feb. 2 – David S. Ferreiro, Archivist of the US, “Presidential Libraries”
- Feb. 9 – Claire Lorch, NC Botanical Garden, “Carolina Campus Community Garden”

Special Programs – Assembly Hall

- Fri. Jan. 13, 7:15 p.m., Paul Newell, “Mark Twain”
- Sun. Jan. 29, 1:00 p.m., Piano students of Meg O’Brien



A true flower “bed” at the Sockwells’ Tooth-Acre Ranch!

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