

# THE CAROL WOODS NEWS

is published each month except July and August. It is distributed to residents, members of the priority list, and other interested persons.

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Chapel Hill, North Carolina

November 2009

## INTRODUCING...



Christophe Arnaud,\* our new Food Services Director, came rushing in to our interview fifteen minutes late, bursting with apologies. He had been in a meeting that ran late. I urged him to sit down and catch his breath—this gave me a good chance to look him over. And a pleasant sight it was: a young man in his late thirties, light brown hair and eyes, and a ready smile. He’s good on the ear, too, with his musical French overtones.

Facts first: Christophe’s mother hails from Spokane, his father from Paris. Our man was born and educated in Paris. He makes his home in Durham with his daughters Daphne, five, enrolled in pre-kindergarten, and Victoria, three. Christophe’s wife died two years ago; he admits that, between his work and his girls, he doesn’t have time for much else.

I know some of us think his responsibilities at Carol Woods will include being a super-chef. No indeed. He smiles. “My job here is management of the entire Food Services program: keeping an eye on the budget, negotiating suppliers’ contracts, hiring the staff, interfacing with Chef Steve Playne, the nutritionists and the residents.” If you’ve met Christophe at dinner as he comes to your table to get acquainted, you’ve found him a good listener with an extra measure of charm—basic recipe for an effective leader.

His best-ever meal? “Oh, my goodness... there were so many...” he muses. “First, my mother and my grand-mere were *superbes* cooks.” He reminisces silently. “I know! It was at the home of a 93-year-old gentleman who raises all his own food. *Lapin à la moutarde* we had that night. I think I like French country cooking best of all the cuisines.”

For Carol Woods, two objectives are preserving and procuring additional sources of local fruits and vegetables. He is already at work upgrading the polish of our eager young wait staff.

I forgot to ask him if French lessons were included.

*Jane Berryman*

\*Arnaud = ar as in ar-gyle : naud = no as in no.



## BAROMETERS AND THE WEATHER: MORE MAGIC

Jane Berryman's June article on barometers directed us to their magic and the weather variations they foretell. The many effects elicited are important to all of us – after all, what is our #1 conversation subject?

I am a faithful member of what I like to call the GOBTA society – “The Great Order of Barometer Tappers of America.” If you have an ordinary garden variety wall-mounted barometer, there is probably a bit of friction in the indicator needle. Give the glass a tap to free it up, and you will probably see a slight needle jump. Jumping up of course tells you that higher pressure and dry, clear, cooler weather is on the way. A down jump means the opposite; and no movement at all means you either own an expensive barometer with negligible friction, or that God is happy with the present state of your atmosphere.

Believe me, I do tap my barometer (also my porch dial thermometer!) to judge conditions for a morning walk or croquet, or whatever.

Now, many barometers (including the one pictured in the June article) also have a second, narrower hand settable “memory needle” to match the main needle and record the existing reading. Mine has not been moved since Hurricane “Fran” in the late ‘90’s. Fran’s eye passed directly over Chapel Hill about 2 am and I set the memory needle at the lowest pressure reading observed – 28.88 in Hg. To this day pressure has not been lower, thank God. That morning’s daylight revealed two downed Loblolly pines in my back yard in Heritage Hills. The yard and fence were a mess, but the house was spared. Adjacent neighbors were less fortunate, with a shattered corner bedroom. Had you noticed, all the downed Loblollies in the area fell toward the southwest? I even counted three in the woods west of Harkness Circle.

Happy Weather Conversation!

*Art Wilde*

## WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS



**Patricia (Pat) Williams** (Apt. 2117) was born and grew up in Myrtle Beach, SC. After marriage, for thirty years she taught in the Primary School in Southern Pines, NC, where her husband was Athletic Director and Coach.

Pat has three sons and seven grandchildren. John, the oldest, lives in Chapel Hill and is married to Peggy, daughter of Carol Woods resident Marge Gulley. Peggy is a physician at UNC Hospitals and John a physician at Duke Hospital. Pat’s middle son Mike is with Education Corporation of America in Birmingham, AL. Her youngest son, Mark, is an attorney in Wilmington, NC.

Pat came here from Myrtle Beach, where she returned after her husband’s death in order to care for relatives.

Pat has begun volunteering at the Children’s Center in Carol Woods. She enjoys her hobby of collecting dolls, and she is an avid reader.

Pat’s cat Belle came from South Carolina with her mistress. Both Pat and Belle are very happy here at Carol Woods.

*Nita Donaldson*



**Martha Hamilton and Collins Kilburn**, Cottage 247, began the Carol Woods chapter of their lives in June, when they moved from their nearby home in Chapel Hill.

Martha grew up in Sarasota, FL, attended Emory and Stetson Universities, and received advanced degrees in sociology and psychology at UNC-CH. Professional work has been in the Wake and Cumberland School System, training teachers on Exceptional Children issues and, later, in private practice as a psychologist with Human Resource Consultants in Chapel Hill, Raleigh, and Fayetteville.

Collins grew up in Memphis, TN, attended Memphis State College, then earned an M.Div degree at Duke University. He served as an associate pastor in Washington, DC, before coming to Raleigh as minister of the Community United Church of Christ. In 1969, he began work with the

## WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS (CONTINUED)

North Carolina Council of Churches and became Executive Director there, remaining until retirement in 2000. He continues his concerns with issues of religion and public life.

Together Martha and Collins have four children and delight in their nine grandchildren, all of whom reside in Raleigh, making visits easier. They all enjoy being in their family home/retreat in the Blue Ridge area of southern Virginia.

Neither Martha nor Collins is ever idle. They are very involved with Binkley Church activities, and at home they tend a prodigious garden and read in a wide array of subjects. Martha enjoys needlework and Collins intends to polish up his tennis game. Both want to read more and travel, AND, they plan to enjoy those grandchildren.

*Allan & Carol Parrent*



**Bill and Sarah Proffit** (Apt. 229) were both born in the only hospital then existing in Harnett County, NC (in Erwin). Sarah's father ran the drugstore in

Erwin; Bill's parents were both educators. Sarah's father sent her to Campbell College as a high school senior to improve her chemistry background. Bill, then a freshman at Campbell, was an assistant in the chemistry lab and discovered that Sarah needed a lot of help. Both attended UNC the next year. They married as undergraduates and had two children by the time Bill finished in dentistry in 1959.

Bill joined the faculty at the University of Kentucky in 1965 and spent eight years there, followed by two years at the University of Florida, before returning to UNC in 1975 as Professor and Chairman of the Dental School's Department of Orthodontics. He served as the department chair from 1975 to 2001, retired as Kenan Professor in 2005, but is still a 40% part-time faculty member. Sarah devoted much effort to Chapel Hill's Inter-Faith Council well into the 1990s, with a particular focus on helping the working poor.

At this point the family includes three children who live in Kentucky, Ohio and west Texas, eight grandchildren and five great-grandchildren. They are delighted with the opportunity to become part of the Carol Woods extended family.

*Marian Stephenson*



For **Margaret Sirvis** (Apt. 2204), who grew up in Chapel Hill, moving to Carol Woods was a true homecoming.

Graduating from UNC in 1944 she took a job as group social worker at the Bridgeport, CT, YWCA. There she met her future husband Genrik Sirvis, a mechanical engineer. After marriage they were lured to California by the budding computer industry.

Margaret worked as a Girl Scout professional and then as a "stay at home Mom." The Presbyterian Church, volunteer work in mental health and Girl Scouts, and seaside gardening also occupied her time.

In 1969 her husband began a computer business in San Diego and Margaret by necessity became the treasurer and bookkeeper. The company prospered and Margaret recalls, "We survived being together twenty four hours a day!"

Although Margaret's husband passed away some time ago, their one child, daughter Barbara, is on the Carol Woods ten-year priority list. Margaret's plans for the future include pursuing her interests in reading, stitching and birding and "living here at Carol Woods, whatever that involves!"

*Eileen Mine*

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## CAROL WOODS NEWS — STAFF

Carol Woods News: Anne Wright, Chair

Editors/writers: Louise Baker, Jane Berryman, Janet F. Campbell, Ginger Davis, Betty Hughes, Nancy Martin, Lucia Pap, Burkhard Seubert, Sally Slack

Proof Readers: Pat Bartell, Catherine Clark

Circulation: Eva Lynch, coordinator, Barbara Allen, Janet Campbell, Hans Krusa, Beth Jukes, Jessie Lutz, Stella Lyons, Jan Paddock, Jack Reed

Pictures: Don Campbell and David Hughes

## RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING

We were happy to hear from Pat Sprigg at the Residents Association meeting on October 13 that the “Country Fair” celebrating Carol Woods’ 30th anniversary was a huge success—so much so that people are asking “When can we do this again?” Our staffers and residents really knocked themselves out to do it up right, and lots of well-deserved kudos were passed out. A very good time was had by all!

Eleven new residents officially joined our ranks at the meeting and there are likely to be more next month as well. A Visitors Day for the Priority List was held on October 16, giving potential new residents a good look at who we are and what this wonderful place is all about. One indicator of the esteem with which we residents regard our terrific staff will be shown by our cash gifts to this year’s Employee Appreciation Fund, which got under way immediately following our meeting.

**Judy Smallwood** vividly invited residents to the October 30 Hallowe’en Party, **Diane Brown** announced the upcoming election forums at Carol Woods, **Bill Wright** reported on the work of the Finance Committee, **Jeanne Madigan** urged us to join the Companion Corps, and **Lew Woodham** talked to us about recycling and conservation.

*Dick Wood*

## COMING EVENTS

### Lectures – Thursday evenings – 7:30 pm

- Nov. 12 – Fred Brooks, PhD – Is There Any Virtue in Virtual Reality?
- Nov. 19 – Jack Behrman, CW resident: Arab Culture
- Nov. 26 – Thanksgiving, No Program
- Dec. 3 – Terry & Joe Graedon, the People’s Pharmacy: Issues of interest to older adults
- Dec. 10 – Henry Greenside, PhD, Duke: A Physicist Looks at Birdsong

### Concerts – Wednesday evenings – 7:30pm

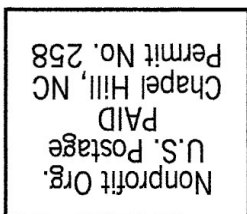
- Nov. 18 – Jazz combo
- Nov. 25 – No concert
- Dec. 2 – Magnolia Kletzmer Band
- Dec. 9 – Richard Clark Trio
- Dec. 16 – Len Gettes Quintet

### Special Programs

- Sun. Nov. 15, 1:00 pm – Recital, piano students of Misako Toda
- Sat. Nov. 21, 3:00 pm – Emerson-Waldorf School drama, “Can’t Take It With You.”
- Sat. Dec. 12, 2:00 pm – Recital, piano students of Randy Shepherd
- Sat. Dec. 19, 2:00 pm – Recital, piano students of Connie Yee

### Art Exhibits

- Nov. 6 – Dec. 4 – Fred Good, watercolors, and Alamance Artisans Guild, Three-dimensional works



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Chapel Hill, NC 27514-1438  
P.O. Box 2121

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