



# THE CAROL WOODS NEWS

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## A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CAROL WOODSIAN

*We started out planning to write an article about a typical day of a typical resident and then realized that there is no such thing. What exists is a plethora of marvelous options and opportunities. Following are snippets of the daily journals of a number of fictitious residents, based totally on fact!*

... a great day but exhausting! A group of us checked out the new mall down the interstate. Huge — but we found some great “grand opening” bargains. Good to go on the Carol Woods bus instead of fighting the traffic. Caught up on my library volunteer work before the shopping trip. How organized the library is with so many different people doing so many portions of the work to keep it functioning so well. Where else can you go to a library any hour of the day or night? We had a relaxing bridge game at the table in the Social Lounge before dinner. Terrible cards but good fun with friends. How many years have we played together as a foursome?

...glad I had long johns to put on this a.m. before heading out on a preview for the Christmas Bird Count. Meeting at the front entrance, we went across Harkness behind Apts. 103, 104 to catch the cardinals and chipping sparrows on their first forays into the brush there. Saw a white-throated sparrow toward the taller bush. As we headed toward the pond, our red-shouldered hawk called out from one of the oaks. What happened to the hatchlings we had this summer on that nest behind building 2? ... mallards on the pond but the great blue heron has headed south. Canada geese must be at the golf course today. On up to the woods near 185-190, we count on picking up some rufous-sided towhees scuffling in the leaves and the ruby crowned kinglets, and one golden crowned, came out along with chickadees and tufted titmice. .. one birder pointed out a flock of ring-billed gulls overhead, on their way to a landfill? A few goldfinches were twittering in the tree tops and robins were catching some rays up there too. It was time to head for coffee in the Social Lounge.

... with an early tee time, we got wet feet, but what a day! Golf was second rate but competing within a foursome is fun. Back home, I saw all those weeds in the garden and fifteen minutes of that industry was enough to satisfy me and my back and some of the flowers. ... and the dog had to be walked around Harkness, cleverly planned to be exactly one mile. Rain cancelled other outdoor activity. In spite of dinner, wine, and the pleasures of the day I did not fall asleep in this evening's lecture on the mideast.

...after breakfast, I practiced. We meet in two weeks to read Haydn, Opus 77, no.1, the Once-in-a-While quartet. We've been together for ten years. Sometimes I wish I had taken up the viola instead of the cello. Heavier to hold when playing, but easier to schlepp. Went for a swim in the afternoon, twenty laps... not bad for a Methuselah. E and I with D and J in the Magnolia Room for dinner. Conversation devoted to the role of gossip in academic life...which led to a discussion of a book J had been reading, a learned treatise on footnotes. Went to a concert here, a fine performance of Tartini's Devil's Trill sonata.

...up early to walk the circle at dawn, birds waking up, glorious sunrise! Back to the apartment for a time of reading and meditation, appreciating the beauty of the woods around our enclosed porch. Attended and enjoyed the selections in the poetry reading group. A short nap before attending the spirituality session and then on to Tai Chi, enrichment for soul and body. Meditation group after dinner left enough time for a good hour of reading and surfing to find an old movie, “Grand Hotel”, on cable TV. Stepped outdoors for a few minutes before bed to delight in the beauty and music of the Carolina night.

...slept later than usual, too late to catch a good breakfast in the dining room and almost late for the 10a.m. Residents Association meeting, monthly update of my immediate world. Reports and announcements moved

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## WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

**Jane Berryman** (Apt. 1302) is a native of Philadelphia but has lived in Chapel Hill since 1987. She attended Swarthmore College before the wartime culmination of a long-standing romance took precedence. She and her husband raised 4 children and lived in many locations, with residences in Vermont, Massachusetts, Louisiana, Wisconsin and New Jersey.

Jane's career was varied with radio copy and program writing. She led a radio program of commentary in Appleton, WI. She spent twenty-five years in retail advertising working for Gimbel Brothers and Strawbridges.

When she and her husband were seeking a place to retire, they visited Chapel Hill and Jane's love of Thomas Wolfe had some influence. Here, Jane has worked with Head Start, Reading Recovery, and is currently conducting a course in Examination of the Short Story for Peer Learning. She says that she plays sing-along piano with the residents of Wynwood Assisted Living.

*(Glenna Chapin)*

**Barry and Janie Freeman** (Apt. 1218) came here from Hillsborough, NC where they lived for 15 years. Barry has an engineering degree from Stevens Institute and Masters from Columbia School of Education and Boston University School of Social Work. Janie received her undergraduate degree in sociology from Maryville College in Tennessee and her Masters in Social Work from Bryn Mawr College in PA. They were both social workers in Philadelphia. Barry was director of a Settlement House and later worked for the Philadelphia School District. Janie worked for a small community based organization formed to promote quality, integrated public education. After moving to Hillsborough, she worked for Orange County Schools as school social worker for seven years. They have four children. Janie and Barry have an avid interest in social justice and have attended delegations with Witness for Peace in Cuba and Central America.

Barry would like to pursue his interest in Orange County and NC politics as well as gardening and bocce. Janie hopes to throw pots in the new crafts building, to play tennis and swim. Both will continue their work with Witness for Peace and with other social justice issues.

*(Jean Gregory)*

**Shirley Wilton** (Apt. 1207) came to Carol Woods from Toms River, NJ, where she had a 30 year career teaching Western Civilization, Children's Literature, and Women in Society at Ocean County College. She was born and spent most of her life in New Jersey.

She received her BA degree from Connecticut College and then spent a year at St. Andrews in Scotland. She went to the University of Michigan for her MA degree. She met her husband while she lived in California and they returned to New Jersey where their three sons were born and where Shirley began her teaching career.

Because she wanted to find a warmer climate and had a niece on the UNC faculty, she explored Carol Woods as a Try-It-You'll-Like-It guest.

Shirley has served as a volunteer in Toms River Historical Society and Hospice. Her interests include reading, bridge, art history, and learning more about computers.

*(Arlein Freund)*

**Bill and Anne Wright** (Apt.113) moved to Chapel Hill in 1968 when Bill entered the UNC computer science program. Raised in Greensboro, he earned degrees in engineering and mathematics from Duke and Harvard. Anne, daughter of Congregational missionaries, was born in Beirut, Lebanon and grew up in Syria, Lebanon, and Turkey. She came to America to enter Oberlin College.

They met and married in Cambridge, MA. Their first child was born in Amsterdam where Bill was on a Fulbright fellowship. Bill joined IBM in Poughkeepsie, NY and transferred to the Research Triangle on completion of his PhD from UNC. They have lived in Chapel Hill since except for four years when Bill was on assignment in Winchester, England. He joined UNC full time in 1990.

Anne has served in many roles with the Girl Scouts, taught CPR for the Red Cross, and is currently volunteering at UNC Hospitals emergency room. She is a deacon at United Church where both sing in the choir. Bill plays cello with several local groups. Although retired, he is still active in research at UNC. Their travels include visiting their three children, touring, and hiking.

*(Bob Gwyn)*

## THE PEOPLE AT CAROL WOODS

### Denah Alston-Taylor

Our Director of Housekeeping, **Denah Alston-Taylor**, is a long-time and “Star” Carol Woods employee who came here in 1985. She began work as a “floater” as do all new housekeeping employees today, and moved upward through many jobs until her present position in 2002. There are now 28 employees in her department and two supervisors, **Tomilyn Miller** and **Veronica Watts**, who report to her. Staff meets monthly and training sessions are given to all new employees with regular evaluations.

The Residents’ Housekeeping Committee, an advisory committee, works in liaison with the staff and Denah. Seven resident representatives report to the committee on any problems; these are dealt with by Denah communicating with staff or by a member of the committee communicating with the concerned resident. Although the problems are largely minor, they need attention and understanding from someone they know who also has an apartment and a housekeeper. No two people work at the same rate of speed or with the same thoroughness. There are sometimes language difficulties since many of the staff come from other countries. Special needs and adjustments sometimes arise which involve the expertise of Denah, Tomilyn, or Veronica.

Denah tries to meet all resident requests within department guidelines. Housekeeping procedures follow not only Carol Woods policies; they must also comply with the many labor laws of federal and state governments. On housekeeping days, some residents may be interested in how the work is done and relate freely with their housekeeper, while others fly out the door.

Denah is an important person to residents, meeting and taking an interest in them. She says that she is a shy person but enjoys interacting with residents and staff. Reading, especially history, is an interest which leads to her pleasure in hearing of the backgrounds and travels of residents. At home, she has a daughter 15, and a stepson, 16; through her 32 year old son, she is a grandmother of 2, all of whom serve to keep her on such an even keel.

*(Denise Johnson, Chair of Housekeeping Committee)*

## *Continued from page 1* A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A CAROL WOODSIAN

along well and were topped, as usual, by CEO Pat Sprigg’s lively report. Went to the Interfaith Council in Chapel Hill to serve lunch. Back at CW, I had time to stop in the Computer Room to check my e-mail before the French conversation group. I grabbed my basket because this was a good night to pick up dinner and catch the news on TV before Bingo at 7:15.

*(The Carol Woods News Editors)*

### Wednesday Evening Programs

- 10/8 The Raleigh Flute Choir
- 10/15 Hsiao-mei, violin and Jane Hawkins, piano
- 10/22 A Trio from Meredith College
- 10/29 Richard Luby, violin and Claudia Corona, piano
- 11/5 Jonathan Bagg and family
- 11/12 Evan Drachman, cello
- 11/19 Trio from Duke led by Hsiao-mei
- 12/10 The Fourmost

### Thursday Evening Programs

- 10/3 A Cultural Center in the UNC Tradition (Friday)
- 10/9 Present and Imminent Challenges of Orange County
- 10/16 You Get Healthy; They Get Wealthy - Prescription Drugs Pricing
- 10/23 The Transformation of our North Carolina Symphony
- 10/30 Russian Foreign Policy
- 11/6 Access to Rural Health Care in North Carolina
- 11/13 God and Education
- 11/21 What’s New at the Planetarium (Friday)
- 12/4 40th Anniversary, Projecting the Future of IFC
- 12/11 Lying
- 12/18 Athletics in the University



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## SHORT NOTES...

'Tis the season to prepare for upcoming elections and we do! There were 3 forums (fora for you purists?) — Bond Issue, Town Council Candidate, and School Board Candidate, all of which had the usual good attendance and prepared us for November 4.

The October art exhibit showed the 2 and 3-dimensional works of Susan Leeb and Renee Piechocki both in the art corridor and in the dining room shelves.

**Hans Krusa** reviewed *Benjamin Franklin: An American Life* by Walter Isaacson which showed the many sides, talents, qualities, and personalities that Franklin possessed.

The Greenhouse opened for residents' use and quickly assumed a brighter look than it had all summer.

The display cases featured a theme of birds, water, and beach, works created by **Lu Zadrozny** plus that of others he has collected.

Oktoberfest was celebrated with a selection of appropriate food and bock beer and followed by a sing-along led by the Woodsmen who were in good voice and introduced us to the bouncing **Glenn Snyder** at the piano.

For Halloween, we decorated pumpkins for the party on October 31 which included a parade of costumes, judging of both the art work and the creative dress, prizes and treats without tricks.

Our fine group of volunteers has deadheaded the last pink Rhonda rose at the Carol Woods entrance for 2003 but what a beautiful season we have had. Looking about the campus, chrysanthemums and pansies provide colorful splashes and the woods are filled with lovely pastels.

The new Carol Woods Herb Garden has had an elegant first year. Those who pick up meals by car, those perceptive walkers, and those who are seated in the back of the Carolina Room for dinner have enjoyed this bright spot. If you haven't, go — and if you have, extend your discovery to the boulder garden with herbs, flowers for drying, and even a tiny bay tree down the hill from the raised garden.

## THE ASSOCIATION OF CAROL WOODS RESIDENTS, INC.

### Summary of the Meeting of October 14, 2003

**Glenna Chapin** introduced new residents **Jane Berryman, Janie and Barry Freeman, Betty Grant, Ann and John Sanders,** and **Shirley Wilton.**

Vice-President **Bob Brashear** summarized topics and actions taken by the Council at two meetings. Council member **Thelma Perkins** reported on the re-opening of the Cash and Carry Store and Sealed Bid Sale and thanked past and present committee chairs for their work. **Margaret Moore** explained the work of the Research Committee. **Lew and Ann Woodham** reminded residents of the rules and state laws about recycling materials. **Jean Parish** announced the upcoming annual exhibition of resident and staff art. Any 2 or 3 dimensional art which has not been shown before at Carol Woods is welcomed.

President **Diane Henderson** brought attention to two policy matters. Discussion of the policy on the uses of in-house mailboxes was vigorous and the membership voted to table further discussion and voting. The policy prohibiting yard signs was adopted unanimously.

**Pat Sprigg** announced with delight that Carol Woods has recently received two additional awards: the 2003 Chapel Hill Chamber of Commerce Family Friendly Employer Award, and the Orange County Disability Awareness Employer of the Year Award.

*(The Carol Woods News Editors)*

**STAFF:** Peggy Griffenhagen, Chair; Pat Bartell, Janet Campbell, Ray Griffenhagen, Bob Metzger, and Ann Woodham. Circulation: Anne Ramsay, Eleanor George, Helen Knight, Rachael Long, Stella Lyons, and Eleanor Street. Artist: Jean Spalding.

#### CAROL WOODS

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