

# THE CAROL WOODS NEWS

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## THE GOLEMOIDS AMONG US

A *Golem* is a fiction of the Frankenstein ilk. In the story he's a labor-saving robot created by a progress-minded *rebbe* from Prague. But the *golem* develops a mind of its own and goes on a spree of mayhem. The computer in the Stanley Kubrick film *2001* is clearly a *golem*.

We are surrounded by related beings I shall call *golemoids*. They are beings, virtual or real persons, who wreak havoc with technology. Consider the teen-age *nerd-golemoid* who devises a computer *virus*...just for the sheer glee of it. Another is the *calypso-siren* who welcomes you on the phone to your bank or mutual fund. You want a bank balance or stock quotation and you are introduced to a menu of choices. You are told you don't have to listen to them all but you plunge on and make your choice. You are then asked for identification, a pin number you were given when you were in possession of your full faculties, or some detail of your life which only you can supply. Which you have, of course, long since forgotten. "Information must be entered in the time allotted..." shrieks a *harpie*. You yearn to speak to some fellow human. You hang up and dial again. The *calypso* is back, telling you that your call will be answered in approximately ten minutes.

There is a miscellany of suspected golemoid-produced technological "improvements". The *safe packaging* that cannot be opened except with sharp teeth. Surely a step back in evolution. The telephone book, especially the yellow pages; there are duplications

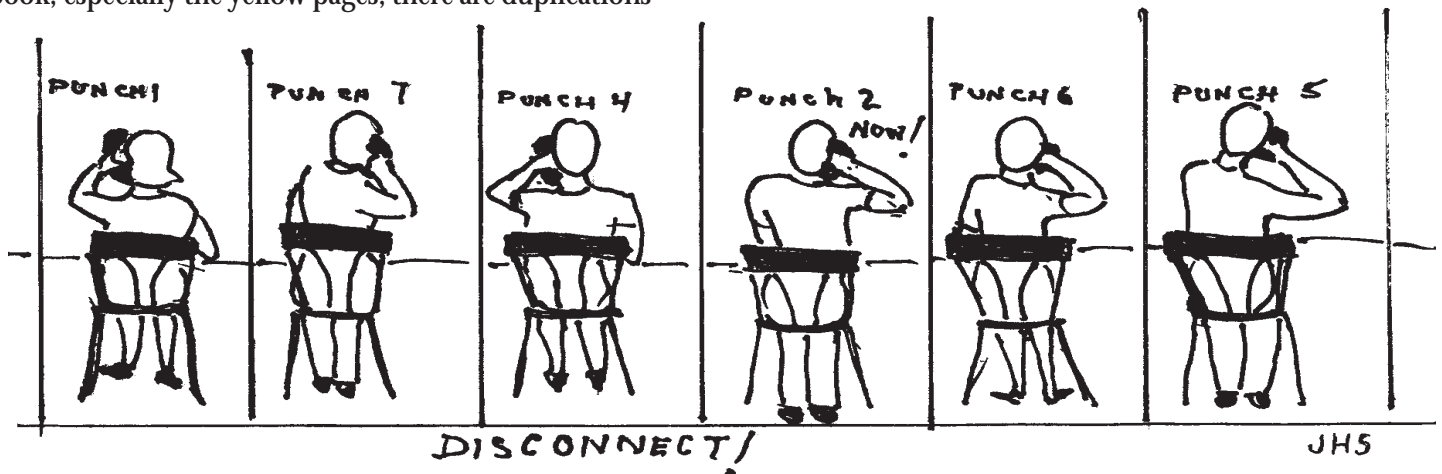
uncrossreferenced. For example, "Alterations - Clothing" and "Tailors". And there are gaps. Try finding "Amtrak Reservations". The phone book doesn't recognize Amtrak as passenger transportation. The phone book is produced by marketing golemoids who are not consumer-friendly.

A word of praise for the Chapel Hill Public Library. It has stuck with a computer catalogue that is elderly-user friendly. Contrast this with the UNC Library and the NCSU Library where golemoids keep changing the catalogue programs on me. Most times I cannot figure how to get in. I seek out the nearest librarian who is always sympathetic and helpful, but my self-esteem suffers dreadfully.

Finally, there are parking decks. At the UNC hospital it is a helix, a continuous curve in three dimensions. It is a twin helix. Worse, it's a *siamese* twin helix, joined at several points as it twines gracefully toward the open sky. Finding my way to the hospital is no problem. Finding my way back is defeated by design and the deck becomes a labyrinth. Never mind the minotaur; have I enough change for the parking fee?

I have never become the master of my remotes, television, tape deck, whatever. I never can follow the manual. Fortunately, I can call on my fourteen year old grandson. He never reads manuals. He knows what's wrong by experience. In my nightmares he turns into a *golemoid*.

(Bob Metzger)



## SMART MOVES

The Carol Woods Board of Directors seems to have taken on an unofficial new role — to serve as a resident recruitment center. Eight former Board members became residents in recent years, which speaks very positively for Carol Woods.

My own experience (**Fran Weaver**) was shaped by service on the Board and the Health Committee. I was impressed by the quality of health care in a caring atmosphere. In addition Carol Woods plays an important educational role in the medical community. It serves as a paradigm of geriatric care and has had a significant impact on the approach to treatment of geriatric patients at the UNC Medical Center.

Here are some of the comments that former members of the Board, now residents, made when interviewed:

According to **Rusty Wagoner**, the quality of the health care and the soundness of the finances swayed her. The administrative staff “makes sure things stay progressive while we stay on budget”. Rusty was also impressed by the diverse quality and experience of the Board members.

The late **Jim Cansler** said he thought that “Carol Woods actually succeeded in making its vision shape its method of operation”, with resulting strong, creative, caring, and trustworthy management.

According to **Bob Seymour**, “My highly positive impression of Carol Woods from the outside perspective of a board member almost coincides precisely with my current experience as a resident of the community.”

**John Sanders**, who recently moved into Carol Woods with his wife **Ann**, says that his experience on the Board made him familiar with “programs, management, financial structure and the quality of health care. We were impressed and decided it was the place for us.”

While **Thelma Boyd** was on the Board, a Board committee conducted a study of our financial structure compared with the other communities in the area. The study found that our financial requirements were more advantageous to our residents in the long run.

**Audrey Booth**, who while serving on the Board contributed her professional skills to improving health care, says that she had practically made up her mind to come even before she was on the Board. She had a high regard for the group that founded Carol Woods. While on the Board she found no reason to change her opinion.

**Sandy McClamroch Jr.**, one of the founders, was quoted in *The Chapel Hill News*: “Having a long association with the Board gave me a first hand knowledge of just how good this community is and that the idea of moving here was a good one.”

The former Board members now see Carol Woods from a different perspective but their admiration remains undiminished and they play an active role in the Residents Association.

*(Fran Weaver)*

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## WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

**Walter Friedman** (Apt. 218) was born in London of German parents. His mother went to England early in the Nazi days so that their son would have dual British-German citizenship. The family later came to the U.S. where he grew up in Boston and New York City, graduating from City College. There he met his wife, Betty.

Wally's professional work was initially in U.S. advertising and later in international advertising. He and his wife enjoyed living in many parts of the world with their three sons. Among their favorite places was the Carribean. They built a house in St. Barts where they lived for over 10 years.

Five years ago they came to Chapel Hill. Sadly, Betty passed away just before they were scheduled to move to Carol Woods. Wally expects to spend time with retirement programs at both Duke and Carolina. He is a golfer and enjoys the arts, and his fluency in French and German make traveling inevitable.

*(Natalie Fiess)*

**David (Dave) and Jacqueline (Jackie) Sices** live in Apt. 140, along the bunny trail. They moved to Carol Woods from Hanover, NH where they had lived for 40 years. Both taught French at Dartmouth College, and Dave also taught Italian. Dave was originally from the Long Island suburbs of New York City. He attended Dartmouth College as an undergraduate and got his Ph.D. in French Language and Literature from Yale University. Jackie was originally from the Normandy area of France. She went to college in Rouen and then attended the Sorbonne in Paris, where her field of study was English. Dave and Jackie met when she came to the United States to teach French at Dartmouth for a year. They have four children and 8 grandchildren scattered around USA.

*Continued on page 3*

## WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

### *continued*

Dave took up the cello at age 60, and is looking forward to meeting others who share his interest in classical music. Jackie has taught English as a second language and volunteered with Hospice at Dartmouth-Hitchcock Hospital. She too has a deep interest in music - but as a listener. They look forward to learning more about this part of the country.

*(Ed Gross)*

**Charles M. and Shirley F. Weiss** (Apt. 2114) have both had distinguished academic careers in Chapel Hill where they have lived for almost 50 years. They each completed undergraduate work at Rutgers. Charles continued graduate work at Rutgers and Harvard, earning his Ph.D. at Johns Hopkins in Biology and Sanitary Engineering. Shirley earned her Ph.D. at Duke in Economics. Charles is Professor Emeritus in Environmental Biology, School of Public Health at UNC and Shirley is Professor Emeritus in the Department of City and Regional Planning at UNC.

Together they created and sponsored the Charles and Shirley Weiss Interdisciplinary Fellowship Program in Urban Livability at UNC's Graduate School, continuing to be active in that program and serving on other boards. Shirley is the recipient of the 2003 Distinguished Alumna and Alumnus Award of UNC-CH (MRP, Class of 1958).

Chamber music and opera have been consuming interests. They continue as members of the Board of Directors of the Santa Fe Chamber Music Festival. Between 1951 and 2002, they have attended 820 performances of 417 different operas on the stages of opera houses worldwide. At Carol Woods they are organizing their lifelong photographic collection depicting changes within cities around the world.

*(Natalie Fiess)*

## SHORT NOTES...

September began with festivity, a Labor Day Scavenger Hunt, which started in the Social Lounge, expanded far beyond, and hunted 24 items. There were 3 winning teams of 5 persons who accomplished the feat in less than an hour.

The staff hosted a special reception to say "Thank You" to residents complete with homemade refreshments, impressive words, and posters filled with the pictures and staff quotes about our relationships.

The September art exhibit featured the work of **Dee Brown, Barbara Cromack, Dottie Hall, Julia McAfee, Irene Reichert, Bill Smither, and Oscar Sussman**. These residents placed first in their respective categories in the Residents Show of December, 2002.

The croquet fall tournament began September 15 with 2 flights of 8 teams each.

**Anne von Storch** inaugurated the season by reviewing *God's Secretaries: The Making of the King James Bible* by Adam Nicolson in which the author puts together an account of the origin, working methods, and personnel of the committee that produced this volume.

### Wednesday Evening Programs:

The Heart of Carolina Jazz Sextet

Katharine Boyes, Piano

The Shanahan-Newbrough Duo, flute and guitar from the North Carolina School of the Arts

A Horn Trio from Meredith College

### Thursday Evening Programs:

Josh Gurlitz, Chapel Hill architect, "The World Trade Center: Past, Present and Future"

Art Southard, Director of Security, Communication and Transportation taking us to the Amazon and dangerous adventures

### Friday Night Programs:

"Paul Cezanne, The Man and the Mountain", documentary

"Bowling for Columbine", documentary

Did you know that Yogi **Berra** had 358 home runs in his career?

**Pat Sprigg**, President/CEO, held a series of 7 resident quarterly meetings discussing major assumptions and projects for the 2004 preliminary budget as well as a resident "wish list".

The downpour from Hurricane Isabel gave residents a quiet day at home and canceled a Thursday Evening Program. We picked up dinner early in the afternoon so that staff could get home without boats.

The fall Bridge Round Robin is underway with 3 flights of 5 pairs each.

Suggestion: All meetings should be scheduled for 50 minutes so that we can have time to move to the next "class".

Friday, September 26, was Open House at Carol Woods. A large turnout of persons who are on the priority list came to see what's new at Carol Woods. Open were 16 homes including expanded central apartments and cottages.

**THE ASSOCIATION OF CAROL WOODS RESIDENTS, INC.**  
**Summary of the Meeting of September 9, 2003**

Eleven new residents were introduced by **Glenna Chapin** for the Welcoming Committee: **Sue Fletcher, Wally Friedman, Bob and Nancy Martin, Mary Ramus, Marion and Jim Summerville, Dalys Vogel, Shirley and Charles Weiss, and Edith Welch.**

**Karen Daniel** announced the upcoming Open House for Priority List members. **Muriel Easterling** made an appeal for volunteers for both the Audio-Visual and the Sewing Room Committees; A-V training will be held soon. **Ivor Collins** announced the annual meeting of the Continuing Care Community Residents of NC. **Lois Frost** described changes in the sign-up procedure for computer classes.

After discussion, two motions were passed to implement the work of the newly-formed Association of Carol Woods Residents, Inc.: By-laws were adopted; the Employee Appreciation Fund Escrow Plan was established.

Two members of the Carol Woods family are to be honored at the American Association of Homes and Services for the Aging national meeting in October in Colorado. Board member **Florence Soltys** has been chosen as the Trustee of the Year and staff member **Annette Woodward**, from our communications desk, is being honored as one of the final nominees for the national Lloyd Lewis Excellence in Service Award.

In Pat Sprigg's absence, **David Wilkerson**, provided an update on current issues and activities including work on the central apartments and **Leslie Carver** received a hearty round of applause for her excellent work as coordinator for the accreditation self-study which the evaluators praised for the quality and for the writing and for all standards being met.

*(The Carol Woods News Editors)*

# *Happy Halloween*

**RESPONSE TO EDITORS' PUZZLE:**

**Cathy Orne** offers some obfuscations:

Effective attention to routine maintenance obviates the necessity of major reconstruction.

Should your initial strategies not prevail, persist increasingly in your endeavors.

When traveling abroad, you should modify your modus operendi to that of the local population.

**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.

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