

# THE CAROL WOODS NEWS

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## A FAIR TO REMEMBER

Anniversaries by decade can be very significant. Carol Woods' 30th anniversary on September 12, marking the opening of our retirement community, is definitely significant.



*Janet Davis & Jessie McIntyre Enjoy Lunch*

A special celebration was wonderfully planned and executed. The Steering Committee of residents, Janet Campbell, Hans Krusa, Judy Smallwood and Sandy Venegoni, and staff Karen Daniel, Sarah Hyde and Leigh Strickland (Administration), Liz Schmitt (Human Resources), Shawn McDonald (Dining Services) and Jen Wilson (Well-Being) began work back in May. Monique Williams (Human Resources) assisted with public relations.

First ideas discussed included an open house, exhibits, speeches, and other weighty events. But Hans made another suggestion, "Why not just have a day of fun? And what's more fun than a fair?" The rest of the Steering Committee was enthusiastic and planning the Country Fair for residents, board members and staff and their families was underway.

The day dawned bright and clear. Giant red and blue helium-filled star balloons flew from the fences  
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## JACK, THE DOT CONNECTOR

When I was having difficulty finding space for a new exercise program on campus someone advised "Ask Jack Chestnut." What, ask the Director of Community Contacts and Special Projects? Yet, he was exactly the person for that and for a myriad other questions about practical matters or the history of Carol Woods.

Jack was the first employee hired by Carol Woods, beginning as "Director of Everything" when the pioneer residents moved into cottages in the muddy fields that would become our beautiful campus. He attributes our culture of resident participation to that exciting beginning when there was no staff to do the work of the community. Residents saw needs and decided how to meet them. For a while the trash disposal system was a resident driving a pickup truck from cottage to cottage while Jack gathered the trash bags and threw them in back! Residents went on to participate in landscaping, design a security system, build a greenhouse, begin fitness and cultural programs, etc.

As campus organization increased, Jack rotated through several departments. In the community he participated in organizations concerned with older adults. He was appointed Director of Community Contacts and Special Projects in 1999, the same year Orange County produced its Master Aging Plan. Given Jack's experience and Carol Woods' commitment to serving the community, he began "connecting the dots" to determine the ways Carol Woods could help with the plan. For example, in emergency situations elderly residents with oxygen machines or other critical appliances can be housed at Carol Woods until their power returns. Our Community Room served this purpose during the winter power outage in 2002.

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## A FAIR TO REMEMBER (CONTINUED)

and canopy poles in the cordoned off Building 4 parking lot.

Partygoers began arriving at 11 am to find plenty of free fair food awaiting them—including burgers, hot dogs, soft drinks and funnel cakes. The enthusiastic volunteers continued running the sumptuous buffet with plenty for everyone until the closing moments at 2 pm. And diners enjoyed the al fresco atmosphere at tables set up under shady white canopies.

There was also a big ice cream truck with lots of cold treats. It was easy to feel like a kid again having to decide among the flavors, bars, on a stick, chocolate or not, popsicles, etc.!

While not eating and enjoying the opportunity to chat with friends and neighbors, there were games to watch and play. Staff members Jacob Fudge (Dining Services), Alicia Wood (Housekeeping) and residents Marge Richter and Jacqueline Allen showed their expertise with game ideas and management. The elementary school-age kids loved the Bounce House and the tossing games were fun for all ages.

Favorites of the day included “Swine Flew,” (with a Leigh Strickland format): pitching cute little pink rubber pigs into baskets; and the “Wet T-Shirt” Game (NOT what you think), throwing sopping wet T-shirts into dishpan targets! With skill and luck, the victorious won tickets redeemable at the prize booth and chose their own rewards.

Fair goers could also enjoy croquet, a cakewalk (slices for instant eating for the winners), a face painting booth and an Antique Car Show with colorful autos from the ‘60’s and ‘70’s. It’s hard to realize that those decades now qualify as “antique years.” Most of us remember them well, hmmm.

As the 30th anniversary party drew to a close, both staff and residents declared the day a success. It was hard to choose the most popular game. Perhaps it was people-watching while enjoying another snow cone in the shade of the ole ice cream truck.

*Janet F. Campbell*



*Sandy Venegoni & Libby Fink At The Fair*

## JACK, THE DOT CONNECTOR

(CONTINUED)

As if it were not enough to be connecting the dots for meeting needs in the community, Jack sees his job as similarly serving residents and staff at Carol Woods. He solves our problems on campus and is an advocate for affordable housing for our staff.

It is hard to know how he finds time, but he relaxes by fishing and entertaining his granddaughter, especially taking her to Disney World (he is a Mickey Mouse devotee). He lives in Hillsborough with his wife, Merry Christine (born on Christmas Eve), who is in our personnel department and was hired only six months after Jack. Both Jack and Merry treat residents and staff as family. We, Orange County, and the aging population in general are fortunate to have them working in our behalf.

*Nancy Martin*

## COMING EVENTS

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

- Oct. 15 – George Bissinger, PhD, ECU – What Was Antonio Thinking?
- Oct. 22 – Lynn Blanchard, MPH, PhD – Carolina Center for Public Service
- Oct. 29 – Jaki Shelton Green - Poetry in the Piedmont
- Nov. 5 – Howard Lee – Growing up in the Segregated South
- Nov. 12 – Fred Brooks, PhD – Is There Any Virtue in Virtual Reality?
- Nov. 26 – Thanksgiving, No Program

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

- Oct. 21 – Richard Luby, violin; Jane Hawkins, piano
- Oct. 28 – Hsiao Mei Ku, violin
- Nov. 4 – Misako Toda, piano
- Nov.11 – Bonnie Thron, cello
- Nov.18 – Jazz combo

### Special Programs

- Fri. Oct. 9, 7:30pm – The Ambassadors, Big Band music
- Sat. Oct 10, 4:00pm – Rachel Narula piano students
- Sun. Nov. 15, 1:00pm – Recital, piano students of Misako Toda

### Art Exhibits

- Sept 11 – Oct. 23 – Special exhibit for Carol Woods 30th Anniversary by Carol Woods resident potters and photographers.
- Nov. 6 – Dec. 4 – Fred Good, watercolors, and Alamance Artisans Guild, Three-dimensional works.

## WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS



**Wayne Benson and Arlene Taylor**, living at 102 Coventry, joined our community after renting one of the townhouses that is now an integral part of Carol Woods. They accepted the invitation to become residents, without moving!

Wayne is a retired Presbyterian minister. Born and raised in Nebraska, he received his theological education at McCormick (BD 1956, MA 1961) and San Francisco (STD 1974) Theological Seminaries. He served churches in various capacities in Colorado, California and Illinois. In recent years he was interim minister for numerous congregations in Indiana, Florida, New York and Pennsylvania.

Arlene was born in Kansas and grew up in Oklahoma. Her degrees are from Oklahoma Baptist University (BA 1963), University of Illinois (MS 1966) and University of North Carolina (PhD 1981). She worked as a cataloger at the Library of Congress and at Iowa State University. Arlene also taught at University of Chicago, Columbia University and University of Pittsburgh, retiring in 2005. During her career she wrote 15 library science textbooks and numerous professional articles, and she continues her writing.

This is a second marriage for both Wayne and Arlene. Between them they have three daughters, a son and seven grandchildren.

Wayne and Arlene are both involved in a local church and are members of Parents and Family and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG). Wayne is active in the Hearing Loss Association of America, does genealogical research and writes poetry. Arlene's interests include reading, knitting and family history projects.

- Mack Ivey



**Marion Snyder** (Apt. 2211) and her late husband, Bill, came to Carrboro in 1986, taking early retirement from Redding, Connecticut. Bill had been a guidance counselor in Chappaqua, New York, and Marion had worked as a pre-school teacher, librarian and secretary. They were fortunate to have four children and six grandchildren. Her daughter, Kim, lives in Carrboro.

Marion was a "do-it-yourselfer – a jack of all trades, master of none" – crafts, gardening, painting, cooking. She says, "I'm past my prime in all of the above, but willing to keep on giving them a go." Welcome, Marion!"

- Selma Froom



**Jerry and Rosalie "Wuz" Beloff** (Apt. 2219) may have just recently moved into Carol Woods, but they have long been part of our community by eating here sometimes, and coming eagerly to our concerts and lectures. Welcome home!

Jerry grew up in Meriden CT, earned his B.A. degree at Amherst College, and his M.D. at Columbia University Medical School. He practiced Pediatrics for 17 years in Connecticut before joining the faculty at Yale University School of Medicine. Later he joined the faculty at the Department of Family Medicine at the University of Miami FL, where he instituted the health team concept for the management of multi-problem families. He has been a consultant for the Joint Commission for Accreditation of Health Care Organizations. Jerry retired in 1990.

Wuz lived in Providence, RI, for her B.A. from Brown University, attended U. of Connecticut School of Social Work and received her M.S.W. from Barry University School of Social Work in Miami FL. Wuz was a social worker in a Family Medicine Program for seventeen years, then also retired in 1990. In Florida, Wuz and Jerry were active in the Foster Care Review, which trains citizens to evaluate and give a safety net to children in foster care.

Jerry and Wuz married in 1966, and between them have five children, twelve grandchildren, and eleven great-grand-children. Jerry and Wuz especially enjoy opera and all classical music. They love theatre, films, and all learning. They are happy to travel with Elderhostel tours.

*Burt and Mary Jane Linker*

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### CAROL WOODS NEWS – Staff

Anne Wright, Chair; Louise Baker, Jane Berryman, Janet F. Campbell, Ginger Davis, Betty Hughes, Nancy Martin, Lucia Pap, Burkhard Seubert, and Sally Slack.

Pat Bartell and Catherine Clark, proof readers.

**Circulation:** Barbara Allen, Janet Campbell, Hans Krusa, Eva Lynch, Jessie Lutz, Stella Lyons, Jan Paddock, and Jack Reed.

**Pictures:** Don Campbell, David Hughes

## RESIDENTS ASSOCIATION MEETING, September 8, 2009

On September 8, 2009, a new Carol Woods Council (with three hangers-on from last year) ushered in a new Residents Association meeting year. There were many new residents to greet, and a new President, Ken Reeb Sr., to run the meeting. A generally festive atmosphere prevailed, thanks in part to some lovely cool fall weather.

The cheerful mood was also enhanced by getting to meet our new Director of Dining Services, a pleasant young man named Christophe Arnaud, who has a sterling resume to his credit. The morning was further enriched by Hans Krusa's magnificent pep talk about the "Country Fair" soon to take place to celebrate our 30th Anniversary as a community.

And as if all that weren't enough, CEO Pat Sprigg told us that our financial state of affairs is slowly improving. She presented to us 11 Carol Woods employees singled out for their extraordinary on-the-job performance. All in all, a very pleasant and promising start to the year ahead!

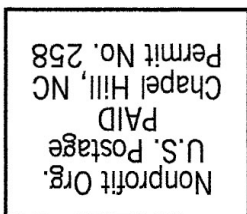
- Dick Wood

## FUN AND INSPIRATION

It was expected that the September Residents Association meeting would last a bit longer than the usual hour. We'd all been on sabbatical for the summer, so a bunch of stuff would have accumulated. But who had anticipated the dense, packed house? Why were about a dozen staff people seated down in front instead of doing their jobs?

At the beginning of her talk Pat Sprigg explained that she'd asked department heads to name five employees who best exemplify the Carol Woods spirit. We were instructed to sit on our hands as she introduced and commended eleven individuals who were repeatedly listed as going "above and beyond" their job descriptions: Morgan Randell, Sarah Denny, Hicham Choukaili, Mark Weber, Annette Woodard, Jeff Sumpster, Mary Ann Wit, Jenny Eller, Lori Giannini, Monique Williams and O.C. White. Several were new faces to us because they work behind the scenes, such as in our accounting office. Before the proud bunch was finally allowed to sit down the audience burst into a spontaneous standing ovation—an exciting moment for everyone present. We residents are truly blessed. Henceforth the poor dears will have to live up to the accolades!

- Sally Slack



ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

Chapel Hill, NC 27514-1438

P.O. Box 2121

CAROL WOODS