

Way Off Broadway

by Ellen Baer

“HEY KIDS, LET’S PUT ON A SHOW!”

That was the cry that went out when there was a problem to solve in Andy Hardy’s neighborhood. Andy, played by Mickey Rooney in 16 films from 1937 to 1958, would cheer on the neighborhood gang, and they would scramble to put on a show to raise money for a worthy cause, notably in such films as *Babes in Arms*, *Strike up the Band*, and *Babes on Broadway*. The show would succeed and a good time would be had by all, especially when Andy’s neighbor Betsy was there as an aspiring young singer. Judy Garland starred as Betsy in three films between 1938 and 1941. What made the movies work so well, besides the charm of the kids, was their can-do optimism plus their belief in the power of theater.

It was those same impulses that made **Beth Timson** and **Joan Seiffert** post a notice for a meeting at the end of 2022, asking in big letters: *WANT DRAMA IN YOUR LIFE?* Several residents

celebrated the resumption of ordinary life after COVID by showing up in January 2023 to find out what these two women were up to. Beth and Joan had both taken part in theater as teachers and as audience members in Durham, and they shared an interest in Improvisation. At that first meeting they invited willing participants to try a simple improv activity and to discuss other possibilities for group drama.

A few of those present recalled a previous TFAD drama group that had put on short plays a number of years ago. A list of *Play Readers Productions* from 2014 to 2019 includes big names like Ibsen, Chekov, Neil Simon, Noel Coward, Claire Booth Luce, and Jack Webb, along with play-writing residents like **Don Chesnut**. At first the group met in the auditorium, moving to the party room when construction in 2015 and 2016 turned the auditorium into a temporary

(Continued on Page 12)



Way Off Broadway Playreaders: From left, first row: Sue Howell, Lynn Langmeyer, Chelly Gutin, Jo Mauskopf, & Ellen Baer; back row: Carol Rawls, John Howell, Rosemarie Kitchin, Lynn Featherstone, Irwin Abrams, Beth Timson, Daniel Langmeyer, Catherine Berg, Sanford Berg, & Joan Seiffert. Not pictured: Sylvia Kerckhoff.

The Forester

The newsletter of the Residents' Association of The Forest at Duke, Inc., 2701 Pickett Rd., Durham NC 27705. Published monthly except July, August, and September by and for the residents:

Sharon Dexter, *Managing Editor*

Ellen Baer & Beth Timson,
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Jo Mooney, *Text & Graphics Editor*

Linda Cushman & Louise Scribner,
New-Resident Biographers

Carol Reese & Don Chesnut,
Columnists

Richard Ellman, *Photographer*

Katherine Shelburne, *Illustrator*

Catherine & Sanford Berg, *Couriers*

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News from the RA Board



by Judith Ruderman
Marketing Committee Chair

The mission of the Marketing Committee is providing support and new ideas for the Sales & Marketing staff to help recruit prospective residents to The Forest and, in turn, communicating information of interest and importance to the residents.

In practice, the committee performs several functions in fulfillment and enhancement of that mission. For one, we meet, greet, and eat! That is, when prospective residents come to campus, we make ourselves available to welcome them and serve as ambassadors for our community. Such occasions include, but are not limited to, the visit of the OLLI class called "Stay Put or Move On," which takes participants to see a variety of CCRCs; the holiday party for wait-listers; special events for Terrace depositors; and one-on-one or small-group meals with prospects who request a dining experience with residents. The committee also considers it part of its responsibility to attend, mix, and mingle at community events such as the employee appreciation party and the "souped up social hour" designed to introduce new residents each quarter to the larger community.

In addition to this key social role, I would note that every month we carefully review the Occupancy Report sent to us in advance of the meeting by April Ravelli. This gives us the opportunity not only to monitor recruitment into our various programs, including early acceptance and the Terraces apartments, but also to gain information and ask questions about construction, finances, schedules, and other aspects of our complex residential system. We also engage in conversations about how The Forest presents itself to the outside world, addressing such issues as how to portray our community authentically as well as attractively through print advertising and other media. An issue always on the table is how to enhance the diversity of our population by

(Continued at Left)

In Memoriam

Geralene Sutton January 3, 2024

Michael McLeod January 10, 2024

Marketing Committee ...

(Continued from Adjacent Column)

means of various kinds of outreach. We review Sales & Marketing's competitive analysis of CCRCs across such metrics as buy-in fees and monthly increases. The committee also assists with such nitty-gritty tasks as assembling informational packets in order to free up the Sales & Marketing staff to concentrate on the essential elements of keeping The Forest at full occupancy.

Currently we are very focused on working with other committees and departments on how to acclimate and integrate the occupants of the 71 new Terrace apartments into the existing community. This is also a critical focus of the RA Residents Association, the central administration, and the "Big Board." The marketing committee is well-positioned to be a leader in this conversation.

Portraits of an Artist in the Health Center

by Don Chesnut and Kaidy Lewis

Down the hall in Birch 4 of the Health Center at the building's corner is the Art Room. It's a bright and cheery place that Kaidy calls home, chock full of *objets d'art*. If you visit there, you'll find many folks drawing or painting or forming clay or simply talking to Kaidy as they "do" art. What is generally overlooked is that this is a vital and important part of The Forest at Duke's healthcare system.

What is it like to be an artist and be an important part of our healthcare system? Our title, "Portraits of an Artist in the Health Center" (note the plural) says it all. What pictures or portraits can we draw about those involved?

Arts-in-health is a field dedicated to using the power of the arts to enhance health and well-



Creative disarray in the light-filled Art Room following a resident session with Kaidy



Being with Kaidy in the Art Room

being through diverse institutional and community contexts. The World Health Organization defines "health" as "a state of physical, mental, and social well-being, and not merely the absence of disease or infirmity." We show how broad and varied this care can be and illustrate it by our own interactions and those of others. Kaidy will nudge, guide, challenge, and coax, but not prescribe. Visit the Art Room, but leave your expectations and judgment at the door.

Who are we? Don is a Forest resident currently living with his wife, Debbie, in the Health Center and is an active participant in Health Center affairs. He is Professor Emeritus of Chemistry at Duke and worked at times in both solid state physics and theoretical chemistry. He and Debbie have been at The Forest for 17 years now.

Kaidy is a full-time artist supporting herself through her paintings and her full embodiment of art as a method to improve our sense of well-being and feeling alive. An active member of the

Frank Gallery, she currently leads the Henry Rodgers Art Program and is Artist in Residence at The Forest at Duke.

Most people are confused about what it is to be an artist, and Kaidy is all for clarifying and demystifying. She was curious as a child and comfortably the contrarian. Observing the background and being confused about people, she had a tendency to go off script. Terribly independent, she loved many things and saw everything as connected. A calling to wake people up to their individual selves while recognizing and respecting everyone else became the ultimate dream.

Why do the two of us, artist and scientist, get along so well with such disparate backgrounds? Because we have the same questions. Not only do we have separate backgrounds, but in our case, a big difference in ages. Kaidy is young and Don ... is not! How do two such generations share the same passions and desires?

Actually, age at some point doesn't or shouldn't make a difference when we interact. All of us at a



The whimsy of Fox Poetry, Art in a Different Form

(Continued on Page 4)

Portraits ... from the Health Center

(Continued from Page 3)

certain age become confident and knowledgeable about things. A difference is that some don't take advantage of this because they don't take the time. We think the artist does because she is always questioning her work and looking for new approaches. Scientists, on the other hand, are often in too much of a rush. From *Alice in Wonderland*: "I'm late, I'm late, for a very important date! Hello, goodbye! I'm late, I'm late, I'm late!" Freely translated, this means "publish, publish, publish!"



Art Lesson

At the beginning for a participating resident, more practice is required, and eventually more flexibility. One size does not fit all. Whether a drawing or painting or clay molding, there is less about the final product and more about the transformations that occur along the way. As he learns proportions from Kaidy, the thing Don has drawn magically changes from what at first looked like the Loch Ness Monster to a real person. "Yes, I see it," he exclaims! "I did that, I opened up myself to create that, I went outside myself, I improved!" I feel better, ergo, my health is better. Michelangelo would be proud. And so am I.

To illustrate our interactions over the past year



Talking, Discussing

or so that Kaidy and I have known each other in this very special healthcare system available to all residents: Kaidy and I have been talking about advanced things of general concern to us both—the key word here is *talking*. For example, we have been talking about *time*. Once time was thought to be absolute, but we know now from Einstein's special and general theories of relativity that it is not. What is the origin of time anyway? Does time cease to exist at the event horizon of a black hole, a region of space so dense in matter that the gravitational pull prevents anything escaping its boundaries, including light itself? Is the last vision of a friend entering a black hole one of frozen terror as the gravity difference between the feet and head tears the body apart, a process some have termed "spaghettization"? What in the world does this mean and why should it be this way? What in the world ... what in the universe is going on? Our discussion continues. This is not a trivial problem.

So why do we so strongly believe that this is a most important part of the healthcare provided residents here in the Health Center? Because by talking we are made to think about things outside ourselves. Healthcare involves more than just providing pills and meals and taking care of our physical body. It also involves the mind, which we exercise by talking and thinking. In 2024 we plan to expand our discussion group to any and all who share this particular portrait of an artist, every Tuesday at 3 PM in the Art Room. We hope many of you will join us.

There is yet one more "portrait" to be mentioned before we finish, and that is the portrait of the Commercial Artist. Kaidy's life as a painter extends beyond the walls of The Forest. She has just recently been joined as a painter on Artful Home (<https://www.artfulhome.com>) and selected as a finalist in the HMVC Gallery in New York City in the recent exhibition "Piece of Me." Congratulations, Kaidy! 🌿

The Forester Is in Crisis

Have you ever noticed on the front page the little line just below *The Forester*, the one that reads “A Newsletter by and for the Residents of The Forest at Duke”? Whether you have or have not, please pay close attention to that third word: “BY.” That word is the key to understanding why, as proclaimed in the title, *The Forester* is in crisis. From creation of content, to copy editing and proofreading, to photography and illustrations, to layout and design, to transportation and distribution, to managing the entire process, it’s all done by residents who volunteer their time, talents, and energy. And it’s been done that way since April of 1994—that’s right, our newsletter will celebrate its 30th anniversary with next month’s issue. But that celebration looks to be muted and bittersweet because, as things stand now, that April 2024 issue could be the last.

The editors became acutely aware of the situation about a year ago when two key people retired from their roles as writers/copy editors. Soon after, the senior layout editor announced that he needed to cut back on his responsibilities, and the managing editor followed suit with the same declaration. At a facilitated discussion of the situation, a SWOT (Strength, Weakness, Opportu-

nity, Threat) analysis revealed that it was all about W and T that across the entire production process *The Forester* does not have sufficient staff to sustain publication. This is despite the fact that residents continue to contribute excellent stories and new resident biographers continue to provide important articles.

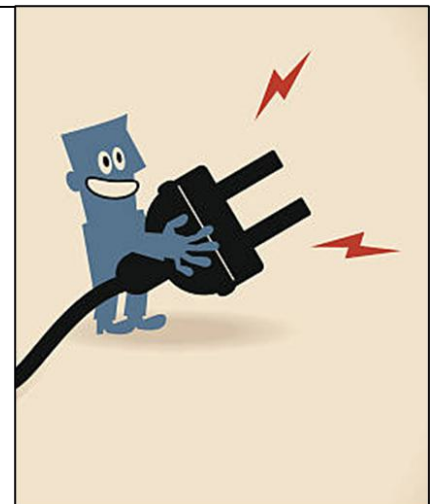
At this point, however, for publication of *The Forester* to continue, several residents will have to take on key positions. The work flow chart on pages 6–7 of this issue shows who does what for each monthly issue, with brief descriptions of their jobs. Continued publication needs the addition of at the least two copy editors and a proofreader, two people to share layout and design, a managing editor, and an editor-in-chief.

We, the editors and writers and all who labor to create and deliver *The Forester* to you, believe that the newsletter is a good thing, that it benefits residents by helping to sustain the vibrancy of our TFAD community. And we, like you, know that “all good things must come to an end”—but we’re hoping that enough of you who are reading this will step forward and take on the roles and responsibilities that are essential to ensure that *now* is not the time for *The Forester* to end. †

April 2024 marks the 30th anniversary of *THE FORESTER*. It's currently published nine months of the year by residents, for residents, to share information that informs and enlightens.

Learn how you can take part in turning residents' writing into a finished publication by copy editing, layout and design. If you have interest or experience in editing or in any version of desktop publishing, we especially need you. Stop by and talk with current staff about tasks you can do.

Tuesday, March 12, 1:30 PM, Greenwoods



Jobs at *The Forester*

Writers, Reporters, Columnists, and Photographer

These are the people who produce the content for each issue.

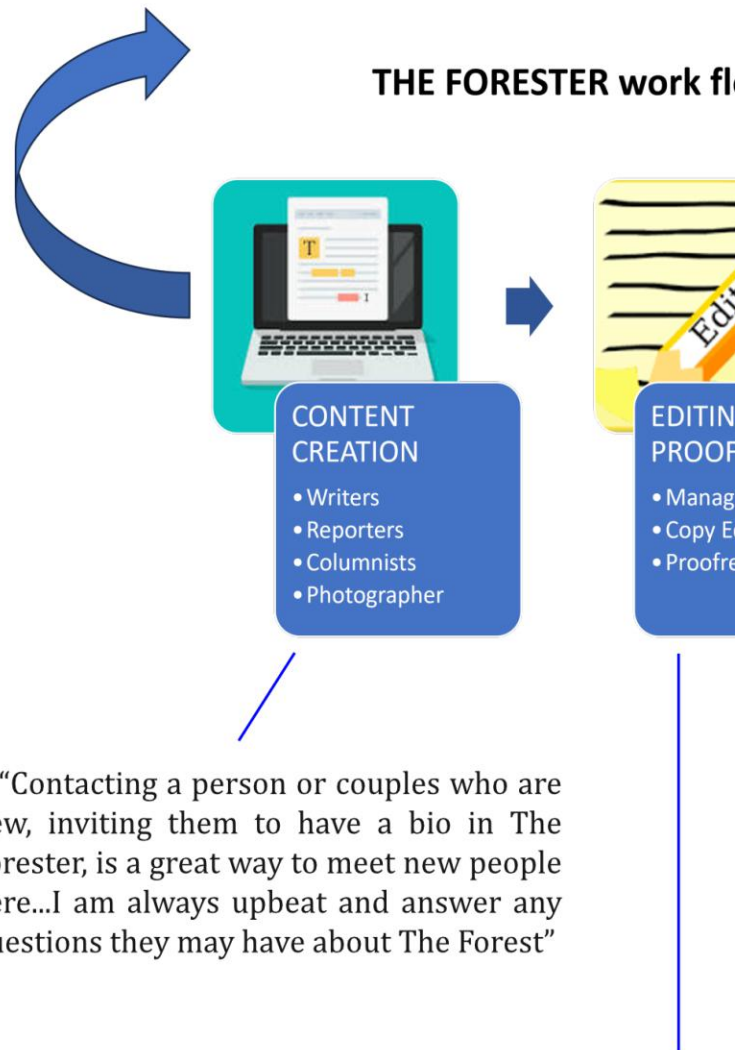
- *Columnists* contribute a regular article monthly; some are familiar features such as “Library 101” and notes from the RA President or RA Board. The number and content of these feature columns have varied over the years, and likely will continue to do so, but all of them contain news and comments about some aspect of life at The Forest.
- *Reporters* produce articles on topics suggested by the Editors—often these are interviews of new staff people who have a major impact on our life here. Resident Biography reporters get notice of new TFAD residents from Marketing and contact and interview two or three of them each month to introduce them to *Forester* readers, and the Photographer takes pictures of them.
- *Writers* are...well, YOU. A large part of each issue, perhaps the largest, is made up of pieces sent in by volunteer writers: memoirs, poems, essays, observations thoughtful and funny. There are delightful things submitted every month for potential publication.
- Pictures add visual life to the writing, and every journal needs a *photographer*.

Managing Editor, Copy Editors, and Proofreaders

These are the people who each month turn the pieces of writing received in a wide range of sizes, contents, and formats into the publishable works you read in *The Forester*.

- The *Managing Editor (ME)* controls the work flow. All submissions come in to the ME who

“Having a public outlet for our true feelings and life observations enriches and encourages our community to risk vulnerability, to allow ourselves to share parts that may go unseen in our daily rounds of meals, exercise, and upkeep. Surely it contributes to the warmth and hospitality of our home here.”



“Contacting a person or couples who are new, inviting them to have a bio in The Forester, is a great way to meet new people here...I am always upbeat and answer any questions they may have about The Forest”

“If I have questions about publishing an article for any reason (like length or the time of the year), I will send the article to all staff members for a consensus decision”

Jobs at *The Forester*

Continued

makes the initial decision on content and length appropriateness. If a “go” decision is made, the ME sends the work to a copy editor and, if needed, requests a photograph. Edited works return to the ME, who decides on timing for publication and forwards things to the Layout Editor.

- A *Copy Editor (CE)* often solicits writing from volunteers, but a CE’s main job is reading and editing works for quality control—tasks may include revisions of grammar and format, correction of any obvious errors, and editing for length. Work may involve clearing changes with the authors.
- A *Proofreader* does the detail quality control, the final reading before publication to ensure all content is correct and consistent with *Forester* style guidelines.

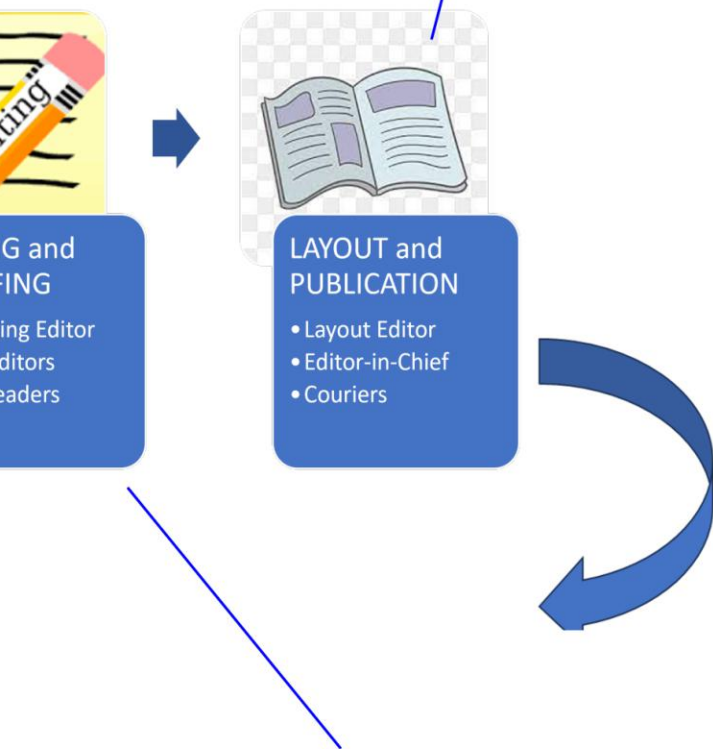
Layout Editor, Editor-in-Chief, & Couriers

These people take the edited content and turn it into a real publication.

- The *Layout Editor (LE)* receives edited articles from the ME and creates a mockup of the issue for the Editorial staff to review, and after the review makes any required changes. Then the LE creates electronic versions each month for the printer and the RA website for digital and archival use.
- The *Editor-in-Chief (EiC)* organizes staff meetings, heads the editorial staff, and makes final decisions on material inclusion and layout of each issue. The EiC also leads the discussion on topics for upcoming issues and makes writing assignments. S/he represents *The Forester* to the RA Board and manages the yearly budget.
- *Couriers* collect copies of *The Forester* from the printer and distribute them to the readers at TFAD (residents and staff).

“Accuracy is of prime importance in all publishing...my work at The Forester started out helping with layouts...now I freely offer editorial advice when I feel like it!”

ow each month



“I don’t have technical skills, but I have a good relationship with words and sentences...the best part of this job is working with great people”

My Most Unforgettable Character

by Ken Parker

My initial impression of Lloyd Sumner was hardly prescient. It was October of 1965 and on the first hike I did with the University of Virginia Outing Club. I was repulsed by the voice behind me grating in my ears: *There's someone I'll be avoiding*, I thought. Two months later I was looking forward to joining him for Christmas with his family in southwestern Virginia.

He was the youngest of 13 children and was raised by a sister after his parents died. They had been farmers on 35 acres of land not far off the Blue Ridge Parkway. Other than the outing club we didn't seem to have much in common. He was always filled with whimsical ideas, and only later would I realize that he could almost always somehow pull them off.

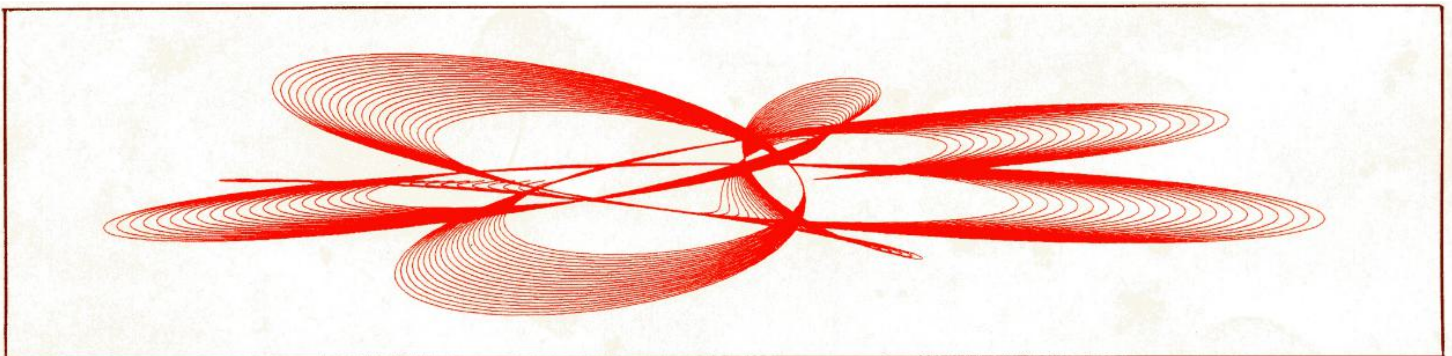
Being an engineering student at the University of Virginia must have been one of those seeming fantasies. His family certainly couldn't have afforded to send him, but the university gave him a job to make it possible. It was in the computer center, and one of his responsibilities was to operate the plotter. That was a device that drew graphs from instructions provided on a tape generated by a computer, and Lloyd's main job was to load the tapes and execute the plots. In addition to his engineering courses, he was also taking some art classes, and so he started writing programs to make the drawings he designed, like that at the bottom of this page.

One day he saw an ad at the back of a magazine for a set of instructions on how to open a mail-order business. He sent in his money, and the suggestion he got was to offer free catalogs. His



“catalog” was a sheet of paper with pictures of his drawings, but soon the orders started coming in.

In 1968 he completed his engineering degree and I my masters degree. We both got lots of offers by recruiters to visit their facilities. Lloyd hadn't traveled much, so he accepted dozens of them. It turned out the idea of working eight hours a day in an office for someone else just didn't appeal to him, so he stayed in Charlottesville to make a living with his art and continue going on the club's outings. My job was in Greensboro, and I found that if I took a night class at UNC-G, I could join their outing club. Soon I proposed a joint trip between the two clubs. It was good to see Lloyd again, and hear that he had gotten a book of his drawings published. He also told a girl named Sharron from the UNC-G club about it and invited her up to Charlottesville for his book signing.



A Symphony of Time

Unforgettable ...

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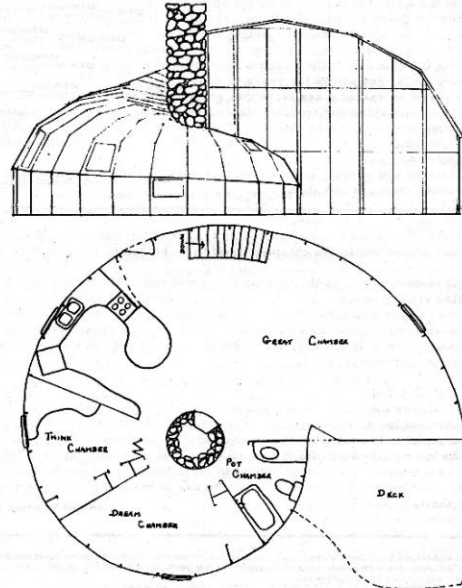
Two years later, we'd kept in touch, Sharron and I were married, and Lloyd's new scheme was to travel around the world. Of course he didn't have the money to do it so he would just have to earn it as he went and travel as cheaply as possible—mostly by bicycle. First he would cross the United States, and a visit with us in Greensboro was one of his first stops. This crazy idea soon seemed even crazier when, on a short ride with Sharron, he fell off the bike!

Lloyd's bike trip cross country went well. He earned \$25 per week with articles he wrote for the Charlottesville newspaper. He had a tent and could usually find a place on a field or public land, and he was personable and frequently got into conversations that led to offers of a meal and a bed. Soon that led to a following who wanted to keep up with the adventure, and Lloyd, ever the entrepreneur, started writing "Lloyd's Trail-o-gram." In addition, his book had led to an interest in his drawings, and he had offers of paid lectureships along the way.

Seven thousand road miles and one year later, he was in California. He was also working on another project: getting to the highest point of all fifty states, and during the ride he added 12 to his list. When he found that there was a Mt. McKinley expedition he could qualify for, so he peddled up to Seattle and boarded a plane to Anchorage with his bike.

With all of the photos he had taken along the way, he now had another way to make money: slide shows of his adventures. Now he was ready for more, and over the next three years he rode his bike through Australia, Asia, Europe and Africa, climbing the highest peaks in all but Asia. His Trail-o-grams detailed the many sometimes harrowing adventures he encountered and he spoke about how fortune seemed to rescue him over and over. Four years after his departure, with 28,478 miles on his odometer, he arrived back home. His second book, *The Long Ride*, describes his adventures and misadventures.

Years later, his activities became a partnership with a wife, Jean. Together they designed and



"A Shell of a Place to Live"

built a home in the spiral shape of a chambered nautilus. They took up wood turning, and sold their wares in craft shows. Sharron and I joined them once on a trip to the Amazon (no bicycles!) to collect varieties of woods available only there, eventually incorporating over 300 varieties into their nautilus home.

For years, over seven continents, Lloyd's guardian angels protected him from the precarious places and dangerous situations he got himself into. But in 1996, Lloyd's own family history of early deaths caught up with him, and he died at age 52. His first book, *Computer Art and Human Response* is now listed among rare books, and his art is in important collections, including that of the Victoria and Albert Museum in London.

When Lloyd and I first met, we were both strangers in a strange land. The University of Virginia drew most of its students from the privileged class of the state. Students wore coats and ties to class, and most of its social activities revolved around the fraternities. I had chosen UVA for one of the few then-existing computer science degree programs. But it had an outing club and that was my refuge. Whenever I would try help him see the futility of some absurd plan, I became the one whose eyes were opened. I learned from but never quite lived up to his motto: "You never do anything bigger than you dream, so dream big."

Welcome New Residents

Dennis E. House

Apt. 4034 843-958-8547

Give a warm welcome to Dennis, newly arrived in January at The Forest from Fort Myers FL. He grew up on a farm in northwest Kansas, near Goodland, where his older siblings attended a country one-room schoolhouse in their early years. Dennis went to school in Goodland and attended the University of Kansas



for a BS in Business Administration. Upon graduation in 1967, he served in the US Navy, attending Officer Candidate School in Newport RI, Supply School in Athens GA, and then serving aboard the USS Proteus (AS-19)

homeported in Guam.

On separation from the Navy in 1970, Dennis worked for the Comptroller of the Currency, examining Trust Departments of National Banks. He also attended evening classes at the University of Denver Law School, where he received his JD in 1976. At the school, he was elected to the Board of Editors of the *Denver Law Journal*. After leaving government employment he earned a Master of Laws degree with an emphasis on International Law at Georgetown University in 1978.

After two years as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Colombia, Dennis worked at a small community bank in Parker CO, which he describes as the last responsible position he held in life. Since retirement he has participated in "working vacations" with Global Volunteers, teaching English in Vietnam and Spain. He has also had brief stints as a volunteer with the American Red Cross, Meals on Wheels, and a Lions Eye Clinic.

Dennis loves to travel, and, as of this writing, is headed out for a trip to the Azores with friends.

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Jack & Diane Sasson

Cottage 64

J. 615-477-5710 D. 615-478-2248

Welcome to Jack and Diane Sasson who come to us from Chapel Hill where they retired in 2015. Born in Aleppo, Syria, Jack grew up in Beirut, Lebanon, immigrating in 1955 to New York City. He received a B.A. in history from Brooklyn



College and a PhD. in Ancient Near Eastern Studies in 1966 from Brandeis University. From 1966 to 1999, Jack taught about the ancient world at UNC in Chapel Hill, where in 1991 he was named the William R. Kenan Professor in Religious Studies. He joined the faculty of Vanderbilt Divinity School in 1999 as the Mary Jane Werthan Professor of Jewish Studies and Hebrew Bible. His research focuses on a Mesopotamian city, Mari, that flourished in the 18th century BCE and on the Hebrew Bible.

Jack is the author of commentaries on the biblical books of Ruth, Jonah, and Judges, as well as books and articles on the ancient Near East. He was a member of the Society of Biblical Literature and president of the American Oriental Society and of the International Association for Assyriology. He manages the listserv *Agade* that reaches over 5,000 scholars and students worldwide. For enjoyment, Jack collects classical music and reads mysteries set in antiquity. He is gathering material to write a memoir and he

(Continued on Page 11)

Dennis House ...

(Continued from Page 5)

He has visited more than 60 countries and since his retirement has enjoyed auditing various university courses, sailing on Semester at Sea, a university semester held on a cruise ship. He is proficient in Spanish and has learned some French, Italian, and Portuguese at some 20 different intensive courses in those countries. He says, "These courses are my way of being a tourist for about a month at each school." At The Forest, Dennis looks forward to hearing musical groups and in-person lectures, as well as playing pool and table tennis. †

Jack & Diane Sasson...

(Continued from Page 5)

enjoys brisk walking for exercise.

Diane was born and raised in Asheville NC. She holds undergraduate and doctorate degrees in English from UNC where she coordinated the Public Humanities Program. At Duke University, she directed the Master of Arts in Liberal Studies Program from 1987 to 1999 and the Master of Arts in Teaching Program from 1992 to 1995. Diane served for many years on the Board of the Association of Graduate Liberal Studies and was its president from 1992 to 1994. She is the author of *The Shaker Spiritual Narrative* and of *Yearning for the New Age: Laura Holloway-Langford and Late Victorian Spirituality*. Extracurricular activities include Meals on Wheels, teaching English as a Second Language, and volunteering for the Democratic Party. She and Jack are active members of Beth El Synagogue.

Married in 1969, the couple has three sons and four grandchildren. Retired from the IT industry, son David lives in Pelham NY where he is an aspiring novelist. Noah is a professor at the University of Texas in Dallas, where he researches autism. Daniel resides in Charleston SC where he is a Marine Scientist at the South Carolina Department of Natural Resources. †

Library Science 101

by Carol Reese

READ ACROSS AMERICA

February and March are our time to celebrate Black History with book exhibits, but March is also READ ACROSS AMERICA month—the nation's largest celebration of reading. Its purpose is to encourage us to broaden our reading horizons. Many times adult readers find themselves choosing the same types of books over and over, even though the public and private libraries contain a great variety of books written in a variety of styles and subjects.

Although small, our library contains approximately 4,500 titles in a broad array of styles and subjects—almost half are fiction, a thousand mysteries, 260 biographies, and over 200 non-fiction. This March should be the month that you take advantage of the diversity of writings available. If you have been concentrating on romance novels, perhaps you should try a classic mystery by P. D. James or Agatha Christie. On the other hand, if you only read modern mysteries by James Patterson, perhaps it is time to try something with a little more depth to it such as something by Isabel Allende or Colson Whitehead. You will also find books on every topic from abolition to zeitgeist and everything in between. Browse the subject headings in the library's online catalog to find something new to you. Take this opportunity to expand your reading habits, and try some different types of books. Who knows, you might find something different to enjoy.

FROM GREAT BOOKS ...

DO GREAT MOVIES GROW!

March/April will feature a new exhibit highlighting books that were made into movies. This will include such classics as Jane Austen's *Emma* as well as modern thrillers like Lauren Weisberger's *The Devil Wears Prada*. This exhibit will be up by the second week in March and run through the end of April. Compare the book to the movie—many times what makes a great book doesn't translate to the screen, but the differences can be very interesting. Be sure to check it out. †

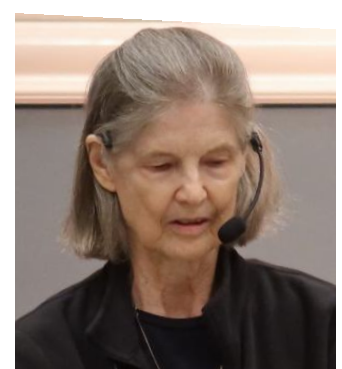
Off Broadway ...

(Continued from Page 1)

dining room. Later, when normalcy returned, the readers put on radio plays in the auditorium until COVID closed everything down in 2020. So, when Beth and Joan wanted more drama in their lives in 2023, a lot of other folks did too.

Since then, this still-new informal drama group has read together and played together and attended a couple of Improv Workshops together. We've also done several readings together for Wednesday afternoon audiences as part of *Resident Readers*, thanks to **Jo Mauskopf**. Although the group hasn't yet tried Improv with an audience, we've embraced basic improv guidelines as useful for many kinds of voluntary group activities: *Say Yes And* (instead of "yes, but..."), *Be Specific, Accept Everything, Make Your Partner Look Good*, and *Remember that Mistakes Reveal Our Humanity*.

When we began to feel bold enough to read before an audience of fellow residents, we named ourselves the *Way Off Broadway Play Readers*. This is the group you may have seen on May 23,



Scenes from the January presentation in the Auditorium of the Way Off Broadway Readers

From left, top/bottom: Rosemarie Kitchin; Irwin Abrams, Sanford Berg; Judy Mace, Lynn Langmeyer, Catherine Berg, Sue Howell, Sanford Berg; and Ellen Baer.

2023, and again on Oct. 4, 2023. The most recent reading/performing took place on January 17, 2024, and the well-attended event was captured in photos by **Richard Ellman**. Enjoy his pictures on this page and see if you can feel the spirit of Andy Hardy's neighborhood. 🌿

Oh, the Places You'll Go ... at TFAD

A hit with the crowd at the most recent WOB reading was a poem by Sanford Berg—a composition combining everyone's favorite Dr. Seuss and an overview of life at The Forest: "Oh, the Places You'll Go ... at TFAD." It begins,

Welcome to TFAD
The Forest at Duke.
Your getting here
Sure isn't a fluke.

and takes the reader through a Suessian view of meals, activities, and getting around. And it ends

with the confident assertion:

"On and on you will go
And I know you'll go far.
And face up to your problems
Whatever they are.

"And will you succeed?
Yes! You will. ... Yes, Indeed!
(98 and three-quarter percent
... guaranteed!)"

And it was clear that the WOB readers enjoyed the performance as much as the audience did. 🌿