



Jessica Hackett, Resident Navigator

By George Williams

From her goldfish-bowl glassed-in office deep in the thickets of The Forest, unseen by most residents, our Navigator, Jessica Hackett, helps direct the lives of residents as they travel through the continuum of care from troubled to smooth waters. Though few of us see her, from her office of high perception she sees us.

Jessica was born in Menomonee Falls, Wisconsin (just outside of Milwaukee) to David and Kathy Miller in 1975, the oldest of four sisters. She grew up in the small rural town of Dousman where she went from elementary through high school. Her name was invented by Shakespeare, adapted from the Hebrew Jesca, as it appears in the earliest English translations of the Bible. He devised it for the young female role in *The Merchant of Venice*, Shylock's daughter.

Jessica attended the University of Wisconsin-Whitewater, graduating in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in social work. She then moved to Phoenix, Arizona, where she worked in several long-term care facilities as an assistant social worker, and then as Director of Social Services. She met



Stu & Jessica

and married Stuart, her husband, in 2004 and together they moved to Chapel Hill in 2007, so Stuart could complete his MBA at the Kenan-Flagler Business School of UNC. He is now a financial analyst at Lenovo in Morrisville, NC. They have two sons, the older now eleven, the younger eight.

She studied for her master's degree in healthcare administration, earning it in 2014, when she came to work for the Duke University Health System as a population health specialist at DukeWELL. In that

assignment she worked closely with Dr. Heidi White, specializing in geriatrics and palliative care. This position afforded her the opportunity to associate with our own Dr. Tony Galanos. She describes her position as her "wheelhouse," an appropriate name for a Navigator.

Her older son, Jackson, is actively into club soccer, where he plays for Triangle United, and has been coached intermittently by "Coach Bobo" (who is, as February's account told us, the husband of Birmo Nzanga, our Clinic RN—another example of the smallness of the world). Jackson is said to be "quite good." Her younger son, Carsen, is theatrical, caught up in singing and dancing. He was previously in hip hop class; currently he is in a group called "Broadway Bound," and he may indeed be so. He now has a role as a pirate in a production of *Peter Pan* in Chapel Hill.



Jackson & Carsen

Jessica's hobbies include watching her boys on the field and on the stage. She also enjoys traveling, which is fortunate because Jackson has weekend soccer tournaments within the region. She also travels to Wisconsin to see her family as much as she is able, and hopes soon to take her boys to Universal Studios in Orlando. In the few hours left in her day, she loves to read mysteries or crime novels, and enjoys watching documentaries and Dateline ID.

She thinks of her present position as an opportunity to help residents and family members "navigate" their way through the continuum of care, and aims to provide empathy and compassion in the process.

The Forester

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In Memoriam

Edward Back, Jr. February 2, 2018

Herman Grossman February 11, 2018

President's Podium



by Russell Jones

One of the ongoing challenges at The Forest is keeping up with things. No, I don't mean the latest rumors—they seem to spread like wildfire. I mean—Gee, I just missed an event I would have gone to if I had known about it. Some of that is on each of us—did you go through the Monthly Activities Book, did you read the Forest Forward, did you turn on TouchTown / 1390 this morning, did you look at 1390 on the Residents' Association website, or did you look at the announcements by the fountain in our central foyer?

Sometimes keeping up with things is more complicated—like where do I find XYZ? This came up at a recent Caucus Leaders meeting responding to questions raised by our Finance Committee. Which brings up a couple of “did you know” questions.

- Did You Know—that reports of our Residents' Association Board and Standing Committee meetings are in big white notebooks in Connections?
- Did You Know—those reports also are posted on the Residents' Association website?
- Did You Know—the directions for getting on the website are posted in Connections?

Log on and you can review the reports in the comfort of your home.

Going back to questions raised by the Finance Committee:

- Did You Know—that our library's Special Collections section contains a notebook full of financial information about The Forest? There is much more there than just the year-to-date monthly financial report, budget for the year, and the Audit Report.

If financial puzzles are not your thing, go around the corner to the left of the Special Collections and you will find a host of real jigsaw puzzles. The library has so many different ways to keep our minds active!

Library Science 101

by Carol Reese

When I was working in a library in New Jersey, the staff was small and we worked closely together. In addition to celebrating the traditional holidays, we found other things to celebrate such as King Kamehameha Day (June 11—one of the staff had a special fondness for the 50th state). When we ran out of ideas, we would check a book called *The Book of Days*. It listed all the different holidays and other observations; some were national and others international. We always found something to celebrate! Now one can go online to the website www.Nationaldaycalendar.com to find things to help you have a good time.

For instance, March 4th is I Want You to be Happy Day. You might wish to read the *Book of Joy* by Desmond Tutu and the Dalai Lama. Here two great masters share their own hard-won wisdom about living with joy even in the face of adversity. If they can do it, so can we.

March 8th is International Women's Day. To celebrate you might wish to read Cokie Roberts' *Capital Dames: the Civil War and the Women in Washington, 1848-1868*. Ms. Roberts sifted through newspaper articles, government records, and private letters and diaries—many never before published—and she brings the war-torn capital into focus through the lives of its formidable women.

For those of us who are always right, we now have a special day—March 16th happens to be National Everything You Do Is Right Day. While the main character in Ann Jacoby's *Life After Genius* might not do everything right, by the end of the story he is on the right track. You might enjoy the ride.

For National Biodiesel Day on March 18th you might celebrate by reading Donna Leon's *Through a Glass Darkly*. This novel combines a tour of Venice, modern-day glassblowing, and environmental issues

into a very satisfying mystery. Enjoy!

For National Tolkien Reading Day on March 25th, you can always listen to the audiobook *Lord of the Rings: the Two Towers* by J. R. R. Tolkien, available in the library's collection.

In honor of National Vietnam War Veterans Day on March 29th, select *The Company* by K. J. Parker or *Matterhorn: a Novel of the Vietnam War* by Karl Marlantes. *The Company* is about several veterans trying to find a peaceful life on a remote island after the end of a war; *Matterhorn* is about a company of Marines who build, abandon and retake an outpost on a remote hilltop in Vietnam. Marlantes shows that war is a confusing and rich world where some men die heroically, others die because of bureaucratic stupidity, and a few are deliberately killed by platoon-mates bearing a grudge.

Fittingly, the month ends with National Crayon Day on March 31st. You can celebrate the occasion by coming into the library and taking advantage of the coloring books and pencils it provides; or you may wish to read about art forgery and forgers. If you prefer the latter, perhaps the publication *Provenance: How a Con Man and a Forger Rewrote the History of Modern Art* by Laney Salisbury would interest you.

As you can see, there is always a reason to rejoice even if it is just that crayons come in many different colors or the birthdate of someone who was the first and (hopefully) the last king to rule on U.S. territory.



The Forest's Community Gardens

Highlights from 2017 and Prospects for 2018

by Dean McCumber

With spring just around the corner, gardeners are again making preparations in The Forest's Community Gardens. The long spring season is by far the most popular and successful of the three primary growing seasons. Energy and enthusiasm are high, and growing conditions are favorable. Summer heat has not yet sapped gardener energy, and cool-season plants have not yet bolted to set seeds. Residents with Southern tastes look forward to the summer heat and its unique opportunities, while Northerners despair that much of what grew well in Pittsburgh or further north does not flourish here. Fading light makes the fall a challenge.

In 2017 about half of the beds were again bloom filled: iris, spiderwort, and lilies in spring and early summer; zinnias, roses, and asters into fall; and a prolific scented carpet of ornamental oregano as the season faded. But the flower that *demand*ed attention was a huge single sunflower, sown perhaps by a careless bird, that dwarfs **Wes Steen** and **Craig Daniels** in the photo. When it fell, **Judy Vick** counted forty-nine blooms.



Other plantings might loosely be called *produce*. The stars of early spring were sugar-snap peas, radishes, and leaf vegetables: lettuces, chard, spinach, parsley, kale and young collards. Peppers and tomato plants of various varieties were set out when the danger of frost was past. Garlic planted the prior fall by Craig Daniels was harvested midsummer.

The peppers thrived but—again—most tomatoes, after starting strong, withered just as ripening looked imminent. Although it may seem a fool's errand, some of us will continue to try to grow large red heirlooms, but if we crave a sure supply, we've learned our best bet is the local Farmers Market! **Lois Fussell**, an experienced gardener, is also turning to small cherry and grape varieties; Sun Gold has consistently done

well in our 4'x8' beds.

The heat of summer brings out The Forest's surgeon-turned-experimental-farmer **Harold Dunlap**. In each of the past few years he has planted "crops" with great success that no one else has dared to try on our Lilliputian scale: potatoes, sweet corn, peanuts, and last summer several varieties of white cotton (see photo). We're waiting to see what this year's surprises will be.



The fall with its fading light is tricky. A few hardy annuals (and biennials) persist even through the off season: the cold, dark winter. Lois Fussell has planted and is harvesting frost-tolerant spinach and mâche (sometimes called corn salad or lamb's lettuce).



And **Ann Inderbitzen** reminds us that there's more to gardening than blooms and edibles: "When the sun is shining, the birds are singing, and all the rest of the world is quiet, I am in the garden digging, planting, smelling the earth, getting my hands and body really dirty and sweaty, and feeling great. Life is good when you have a garden. Planting is the best, harvesting not so good, and weeding, ah well, we all love weeding. A garden is soul food for me!!"

The Community Gardens are accessible from a paved path between Cottages 68 and 70 at the southeast corner of the campus. (Visitors are welcome, but cautioned not to pick the flowers or vegetables—they are doted on like beloved grandchildren.) Beds are available for residents who might wish to dig with their own hands.

Dean McCumber has years of experience in science and technology but reverts to spade, rake and bare hands to tend his garden beds.

Welcome New Residents

James & Jean Klausman

Cottage 37

919-401-0411 Klausmanj@gmail.com



Jean and Jim Klausman grew up in Western Pennsylvania. Jim earned his bachelor's degree at Indiana University of PA in music education. He taught music in public schools in St. Mary's, Oil City, PA (where they were married) and Scottsville, NY over a period of seven years. He completed further graduate study at the University of Colorado at Boulder, earning a Ph.D in music. He joined the music faculty of Marshall University in West Virginia for two years before moving to Edinboro University, PA, where he later retired as professor emeritus and chairman of the music department.

Jean worked as a secretary for various large companies, until she began to undertake academic work as they moved about. She studied at Marshall in a business administration program, and at Edinboro she earned her B.S. in library science, followed by an M.Ed. in elementary education during her daughter's preschool years. She then worked as a kindergarten teacher in the mornings and a librarian in the afternoons in Edinboro for Penncrest Schools.

Both Klausmans have invested in serious avocations. Jean has traveled many summer months over much of the world. Jim, a dedicated motorcyclist, and was a certified instructor for the Motorcycle Safety Foundation. He directed the Chancel Choir of the Edinboro Presbyterian Church (USA) for over twenty years. He also formed the Lake

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Richard & Sioux Ellman

Cottage 48

914-772-5171 rellman@nc.rr.com (Richard)

914-772-3344 sellman@nc.rr.com (Sioux)



Sioux and Richard Ellman grew up fairly close to one another; she in Mount Vernon and he in Rockville Center, New York. However, they did not meet until both were enrolled at George Washington University in Washington, DC. Richard was studying business administration and accounting while Sioux majored in psychology and minored in sociology. After what Richard describes as a "campus romance," the two married at Temple Emanuel in Yonkers in 1964 soon after Sioux had graduated. They reared two sons: Eric, who lives with his wife and two daughters in Bethesda, MD; and Andy, who lives with his wife and their two children in Maplewood, NJ. Richard coached both sons' youth soccer and baseball teams; Sioux was involved in the PTA.

After working as a social worker for two years while attending Hunter College for a BA in education through the Catalyst Program and The College of New Rochelle for an MA in early childhood education, Sioux started her 26-year teaching career. Richard began his career as a practicing CPA. After five years he turned to business administration, serving as chief financial officer for several companies in the apparel and textile industry. Sioux also briefly had a catering business which she ran from their home.

Sioux and Richard moved to Treyburn in Durham 12 years ago where Sioux learned to play mah jongg and canasta. They are founding members of the

Continued on page 6.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**TFAD Financial Health**

by Carol Carson

The RA's Finance Committee has reviewed TFAD's audited financial statements for fiscal year 2017, ratios based on those statements, and actuarial studies that take off from them. This article reports the Committee's finding as part of its mandate "to monitor and report." The information summarized below points to a conclusion that, as of September 30, 2017, TFAD's current financial health was sound, its financial health compared favorably with other CCRCs, and the long-term prognosis was good.

A noteworthy explanation of the 2016-to-2017 variances in the financial statements was the refinancing of TFAD's debt. One effect of the refinancing was the reduction by about \$2 million in the amount TFAD must pay annually to service its debt. On the *balance sheet*, the fiscal year 2017 ended with another positive addition to net assets; net assets increased \$1.5 million to \$7 million

Ratios calculated from the financial statements help analyze key aspects of an organization's financial health—namely, its profitability (a term used even in the non-profit world to indicate an excess of revenues over expenses so as to provide some flexibility), liquidity, and capital structure. Importantly, they facilitate comparison with like organizations. Although many ratios may be calculated, four are often considered especially useful. TFAD's *net operating margin ratio*, an indicator of profitability, compared favorably in 2017 with the median of accredited CCRCs using a contract similar to TFAD's and ranked in the top quarter of all accredited CCRCs. *Days cash on hand*, an indicator of liquidity, also compared favorably with the median of like CCRCs and ranked in the upper middle quarter of all accredited CCRCs. For 2017 two ratios that are indicators of short- and long-term financial viability reflected TFAD's debt refinancing. The *debt service coverage ratio* and the *unrestricted cash and investment to long-term debt ratio* both ranked in the top quarter of all accredited CCRCs. More broadly, 16 of TFAD's 17 available ratios were distributed equally in the upper middle and top

quarter of all accredited CCRCs for fiscal year 2017.

Actuarial studies are needed to assess the long-term viability of CCRCs, like TFAD, where costs depend on the nature, extent, and timing of services provided but the payment for those services is a combination of pre-set advance fees and periodic fees. The *actuarial funded status* is a measure of the extent to which future fees plus reserves are adequate to cover the future costs of care associated with residents of a CCRC, all as of the valuation date. When the measure is 100 percent, future costs are covered; when it is above 100 percent, a buffer exists for future contingencies. At 107 percent, TFAD's actuarial funded status for September 30, 2017, was within the generally recommended range of 105-110 percent, as it had been for the two previous years.

As a final note, copies of TFAD's financial statements are in the Library in a notebook titled "Current Fiscal Year Financial Reports." The Finance Committee's monthly reports are available in its notebook in Connections.

— Carol Carson, Chair, RA Finance Committee.

Klausmans ... *continued from page 5*

Erie Consort which performed medieval and renaissance music in period costumes with period instruments.

When they retired to Savannah Lakes Village, SC, Jean kept busy with golf, bridge, and DAR. Jim became choir director for a Lutheran Church, while continuing his golf and tennis.

Ellmans ... *continued from page 5*

Durham Jewish Community Center where Richard has been the director of internal audit and board member. Richard was student, teacher, treasurer, and president of OLLI; served seven years as the assistant CFO to Habitat for Humanity; and in a total post-career change is a community member of an Institutional Review Board (IRB) at Duke Medical Center.

Sioux "loves all kinds of crafts"—needlepoint, knitting, basket weaving, beaded flowers, jewelry making, smocking, cooking, "and many others." Richard deeply enjoys political give and take, sports, and Sioux Ellman. Sioux's current goal is to be a professional hedonist.

Looking at a Long and Lucky Life: *Excerpts*

by Barbara H. Seay

From the Preface:

Dear Reader:

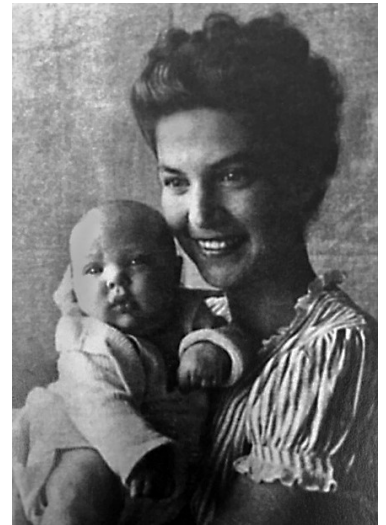
You have an advantage over me, as you know who I am: You probably think of me as either an older relative or a dear friend from long ago, or if you live here at The Forest, you may just know I am a strange older resident who has over eight hundred *New Yorker* magazine covers! But as you turn the pages or read some of the copy, you will see I was once young and energetic, and that I have tried to describe some of my past...[and] have tried to fit almost a hundred years of living into under two hundred pages...

From the Introduction:

...the writing has yielded one good thing for me. I have learned more about myself, acquired some insight into how I have functioned all these years. My attitude about how I felt seems to have been: This is the way things are. I never questioned or thought about whether or not I was happy, any more than I would have wondered why my heart was beating or why I got out of breath if I raced up a hill. That was the way the world turned...

...To start you off, I will tell you some dates and world events that marked the time from my birth in 1922 to the time I'm writing this from The Forest at Duke in 2007. I was born just before the Great Depression. I was in school as President Roosevelt prepared us for World War II. I was married during that war, which started in 1941, and was greatly affected by it. The events of the 1950s slipped by almost unnoticed by us. The tumult of the 1960's—the two Kennedy assassinations, Martin Luther King, and the Vietnam War—brought many changes in our lives. The 1970s were quieter as they progressed and the Vietnam War ended. The 1980s were important as the liberals gave way to the Republicans, and then President Clinton was elected in 1993, and Bush in 2001, and then the terrible Iraq War...

...I did want to say something about that word *luck*, and how it affected my life...I wonder about this dominant force that surrounded me. It seems to form a protective circle around my personal life. I am not religious, I am not superstitious, but I am lucky, fortunate. I do notice it; I hope I have been grateful enough for this smooth ride through life.



*Barbara with Karen,
her first-born, 1944*

Barbara Seay wrote her memoir over the course of several years, completing it in 2007. In 2017, she and her two daughters, Suzanne and Karen, compiled the pages and many family photographs into a handsome book printed locally. A copy is available for check out in the TFAD library.

The Ever-Moving Shore

by Ted Harris

Ever since the earth contained oceans, there have been shoreline rises and retreats. One author likened these rhythmic pulsations to the earth's breathing. While the number of factors affecting shoreline movements are several, the most important factor is the accumulation of water in the form of ice and its subsequent melting. Other factors include tectonic plate movements and the tendency of water to expand when warmed and contract when cooled.

Harbingers of the ice melt are apparent today in the disappearance of glaciers around the planet. In Glacier National Park at one time the glacier count was 150. Now it is down to 26 and expectations are that within two decades Glacier Park will need to be renamed, The Former Glacier National Park. The melting of glaciers will contribute in a most minor way to the sea rising.

There have been at least five major ice ages in the Earth's history, on time scales of multi-millions of years. The colder periods within each ice age are called glacial periods, the warmer interglacials. When the most recent glaciation was at its maximum twenty thousand years ago, ocean shorelines were 400 feet lower than they are today. They will be 220 feet higher when the icepacks on Greenland (20 feet) and Antarctica (200 feet) fully melt.

Advancing and retreating waters leave their history on the landscape. A case in point is the Orangeburg Scarp, the remnants of high water some three million years ago, when there was no ice or at least very little. Named for its discovery point in Orangeburg, South Carolina, it is an eroded escarpment visible in many places up and down the lower east coast. In North Carolina at that time the Atlantic Ocean was beating up against cliffs in places two hundred feet high. Its distance from the present coast line varies from forty to ninety miles. (See photo of the cliff remnant today near Laurel Hill, NC.)

Advancing waters leave their history in cities, most notably Venice. In the fifth century the city of Venice sprung up from the crumbling Roman Empire. Built on a lagoon for protection, the city was elevated a number of times in response to the rising seas.



*Approaching the Orangeburg Scarp
near Laurel Hill, NC, from the East*

Recently during the renovation of the Venice Opera House the excavation located the floor of Marco Polo's thirteenth century home. Six feet further down was the floor of another home. And according to Jeff Goodell in last year's book, *The Waters Will Come, Rising Seas, Sinking Cities, and the Remaking of the Civilized World*, "Below that they found an eleventh century floor. Below that an eighth century floor. And below that a sixth century floor." Venice is a layer cake of basement floors and added filler material.

Around the world ten per cent of the shorelines have a gentle gradient which creates barrier islands backed by marshy salt-water lagoons. Our east coast supports a long string of these islands. When not impeded by man-made structures, they move inland as the sea rises, and when the sea recedes, the telltale signs are left behind. They are identifiable by the marine life deposited in the ground. The history of many sea rises has been recorded in our coastal plains. In *An Ecological Survey of the Coastal Region of Georgia* scientists identified the location of six strings of former barrier island chains in the Georgia tidewater.

The archaeological records show that the sea level is not rising evenly. There have been three growth spurts, the last one culminating about eight thousand years ago. A fourth spurt of sea rise has been triggered in the last few hundred years by global warming associated with the burning of fossil fuels. With so much population living near the shores of the continents, it will be a huge challenge to create successful coping strategies.

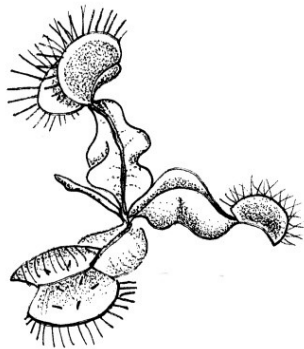
A regular contributor, Ted Harris is indebted to Duke Professor Emeritus Orrin Pilkey for source material from his book, Rising Seas.

Bug-Eating Beauties—Or, Plants that Eat Insects

by Katherine Shelburne

There are many kinds of plants that eat insects. In a small area on our eastern coast—where North and South Carolina meet—lives one of the most unusual plants on earth. Discovered and first described in 1760 by N.C. Colonial Governor Arthur Dobbs, it is the carnivorous Venus fly trap (*Dionaea muscipula*), so unique that it is protected from poaching and propagation by state regulations.

Here's its *modus operandi*: on the tip of each of the plant's petioles (stem-like protrusions) is a pair of hinged lobes—the traps.



Dionaea muscipula

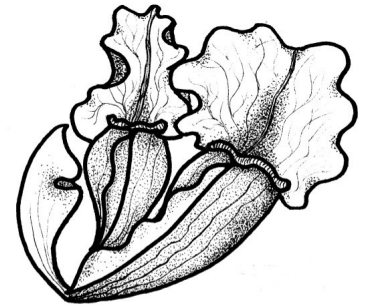
Those lobes house trigger hairs on their inner surfaces and, when the plant feels movement of live prey on at least two of those hairs, the lobes close tightly, allowing no escape, and digestion begins. Non-moving particles do sometimes activate the trigger hairs, but, when the plant senses that the trigger object is not digestible, it will signal the lobes to open.

In contrast to the fly trap, there are the pitcher plants that are included in the “passive pitfall” category (they do nothing but wait). There are many, many variations, but one of the most interesting is the *sarracenia purpurea*, found in locations from Newfoundland to Georgia, a small plant (only up to 30 centimeters long) that grows in clumps.

Each of the individual plants sports several watertight pods. But unlike many of the other pitcher plant variations, each of which has a large “lid,” this one has no “lid,” which means it must hold rainwater. Within the rainwater that collects in the plant are excreted enzymes and mosquito larvae, both of which call this plant home and do it no harm. Victims are

lured to this pitcher by an enticing scent that draws them down into the watery depths. When the prey tries to exit, downward pointing spines stop its progress.

To see these amazing plants and many more like them, visit the North Carolina Botanical Garden in Chapel Hill. It has a spectacular exhibit that is especially fascinating in the spring when the plants are in bloom and busy at their bug eating duties. Fly traps and pitcher plants can also be seen in the Blomquist Garden of Native Plants at the Duke Gardens. If you want to grow your own, they do very well indoors in a terrarium with a grow light, as well as outside in plastic (or glazed) pots set in water and in the sunshine.



Sarracenia purpurea

For more about these leafy green carnivores, *The Savage Garden* by Peter D'Amato is an excellent source of information.

Katherine Shelburne has grown carnivorous plants for the last 15 years and plans to add 10-15 more to her deck as well as in a terrarium inside her cottage. Her drawings, four of which are included here, have been published in botanical studies and exhibited at the North Carolina Botanical Garden and the N.C. Natural History Museum.



Drosera and Nepenthes
—more insect eaters

The Undertaker and His Grandson

by John Howell

How does an undertaker entertain his seven-year old grandson on summer vacation? Take him to a funeral, of course. John likes soldiers, and this will be a military event with soldiers marching to the cemetery and firing over the grave. On top of that, he will get to ride in a new hearse.

My grandfather's first hearse was horse-drawn, as shown in this photograph of him with the hearse. It had glass sides with scalloped white curtains, and was hitched to two black horses, Fred and Harry. Sitting on the hearse's buckboard and holding the horses' reins is my grandfather's younger brother, Alec. And standing by the hearse is my grandfather, Walter. He is tall and gaunt, with black hair and a black mustache. He is wearing a black topcoat and a black top hat. He is the very essence of an undertaker.

But he is not the man I knew when I was seven and he was sixty. His hair and mustache had turned snow white and he seemed very old to me. It was 1940 and Canada was at war with Germany. My father was serving overseas as a medical officer with the Royal Canadian Air Force, and my mother was working as a nurse at a hospital in Guelph, Ontario. My grandparents had invited me to stay with them for a few weeks in the summer.

Some years earlier they had moved from the village of Heathcote, where the picture was taken, to Thornbury, a small town on Lake Huron, where my grandfather owned a red brick furniture store on the main street, where he also offered undertaking services. The furniture was artfully arranged downstairs in the show room, the caskets were upstairs out of sight. My grandfather was a smiling salesman one moment, an undertaker the next.

This double role was a complete mystery to me at



Grandfather Walter and his first hearse.

seven. I had never attended a funeral, never seen a corpse. I had never seen a casket up close. And I had never seen a hearse up close until my grandfather showed me the new "Pontiac Limousine-Hearse," and pointed out the elegance of its black body, its grey scalloped curtains, its white sidewall tires, and, most interesting to me, the Indian head on the hood. My grandfather had driven a Model A hearse for many years, and disliked its noisy engine. He thought the Pontiac lent a "refined dignity" to the proceedings.

He especially wanted me to "hear the quiet." After he had me climb into the hearse beside him, he started the engine and tapped the accelerator with his foot. "Listen to that, John, you can barely hear the motor." When I nodded assent, he tapped the accelerator again and asked, "Would you like to go to a funeral with marching soldiers?"

I nodded again.

Actually, the funeral had taken place a week earlier. This ceremony was just for the interment of the soldier's body in the Thornbury cemetery. I didn't

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Undertaker ...

(Continued from Page 10)

care about that. I just wanted to see the soldiers, so I sat next to my grandfather as he drove his hearse slowly along behind eight men as they marched to the cemetery.

But as I watched the marching soldiers, I began to worry about the soldier lying in the casket behind us.

"Will the soldier be okay? I asked my grandfather.

"Yes, John," he said.

"What will happen to him?"

"He will be interred," my grandfather said. "Don't worry, John." But I did worry. When I looked back at the casket, I knew the soldier was looking at me.

Then we were at the cemetery, and the soldiers were sliding the casket out of the hearse and carrying him on their shoulders to the grave, and the sad people were walking to the grave. I wanted to follow them. But my grandfather told me to stay back with the hearse and "respect their grief," while he went forward to the grave. Then the minister said some words, and the soldiers fired their rifles, and the people hugged each other, and my grandfather got back into the hearse and we drove home.

I never rode in his hearse again, because a year later he was dead himself. After my mother said I was "too young" to attend his funeral, he simply disappeared from my view. But not from my mind, because he continued to drive his hearse in my dreams. Sometimes I sat beside him. Sometimes not. Sometimes we drove to the cemetery. Sometimes not. It was some time before I was able to lay him to rest.

John Howell was a professor of American Literature and chair of the English Department at Southern Illinois University. This is an excerpt from a memoir in progress.

CAROL'S CORNER

Cody Jeans

by Carol Oettinger

We used to see Cody giving us sweet desserts. He had been working at The Forest, in dining, for about eight months. He enjoyed being with the residents.

Cody lives with his family and helps his father with his gardening work. He loves the outdoors, being in the woods, and hunting and fishing. He also works special events at Duke.

What we didn't know about Cody at first was that he had also been working at the Lebanon fire department as a fireman for about a year. He had decided that he would like that to be his lifetime career and had begun taking classes for certification. These classes are taken over a period of several years and are quite demanding. So far he has taken twelve classes. He will need to have taken a total of twenty-two classes to be certified. Some of his classes are at Durham Technical Community College. When he finishes two more semesters he will have a degree in Fire and Service. He wants to become a lieutenant, but with his avid interest and hard work, I would bet he will become a captain.

In the meantime, an opportunity came up for Cody to join the security team here at The Forest. He applied, was tested and accepted. Now we only see Cody now and then. He says he enjoys being with security here. Though I'm not sure what all his work here entails, I do know that he rescues people. People like me. After a recent bout of flu I had a fall at night and wasn't able to get up. He and another security staff person answered my push call within minutes. Cody got me a pillow and held my hand until the nurse came. This was very comforting. The nurse hoisted me up and Cody and his colleague went back to work.

We are fortunate to have Cody Jeans as part of our Forest family. Whether he continues his Fire and Service training or decides to make a career in security, I know he'll be a success.

Snowfall at The Forest

In the third week of January The Forest experienced a 10-inch snowfall that blanketed the campus with a soft white layer. The snow was initially wet, ideal for decorating the branches of trees and for making snowballs—indeed, local media reported that the Duke



women's basketball team filled a weather-related travel delay to Virginia Tech with a vigorous snowball fight. The co-editors announced in the February *Forester* an after-the-fact photo contest soliciting resident photos of the snow scene. The photo submitted to the co-editors by February 12th judged best by the Forester's Photographic Editor, Bennett Galef, would be published and the photographer awarded a prize.

Bennett, with the support of the editors, has awarded top honors to two equally meritorious photographs—one (*above*) by **Jane Woodworth**; the other (*left*) by **Libby Whitaker**. Both feature the scene from their respective patios. A third

photograph (*right*) by contributing photographer **Russell Jones**, submitted after the contest deadline, captures the Currier & Ives tableau of Old Oak Court as seen from Forest at Duke Drive.

Cottage residents were somewhat inconvenienced by the storm, but our able Forest Team ensured that all residents were safe, warm, and well fed. In due course the Lord removed the snow the Lord had delivered, and life at The Forest returned to normal.

