

Volume 27 Issue 1

A Newspaper by and for the Residents of The Forest at Duke

October 2021

Looking Back

Looking back from Fall 2021, the editors have chosen to highlight two special anniversaries. One, from twenty years ago, was the attack on the World Trade Center in New York City. The other, from thirty years ago, ten years earlier, was the construction activity underway to build The Forest at Duke.

The tragedy at the World Trade Center and the final withdrawal of United States forces from Afghanistan six weeks ago bookmark the 20-year

Afghan war. Memories of the withdrawal are fresh in our minds; it dominated the newspaper and television reporting at the time. Our memories of September 11, 2001, are perhaps less fresh, but the images then transfixed us, especially when those lost were neighbors, friends, or family. In *The Forester* of October 2001, Editor Jack Tebbel published a moving memorial to those who were lost. We have reproduced it below, twenty years later.

(Continued on Page 4)

TWENTY YEARS AGO

They Hurt My Country

Our Pentagon cruelly damaged, the twin towers gone;
By so many pairs of disbelieving eyes observed;
Now my fellowmen beat their breasts in rage
Even as they find ways their country to serve.

These atrocities etched on our minds forever,
Masterminded by cowardly criminals
Too evil to give innocents a running start;
That they be able to rise again NEVER!
For in their midst is no feeling, no soul, no heart.

My spirits flux, my thoughts race,
I long for yesterday's peace of mind.
Our world quieted, we prayed,
We lifted our voice in praise.

But security as once known we do not find.
Patience, so hard to come by, we diligently seek
For men must learn that freeland is not for the meek.
From the Atlantic to the Pacific we stand as one
Until the hurt is soothed and our duty is done. ¶

—Ellen Cheek Dozier

The Forester, Vol 8, Issue 1, page 8 (October 2001)

TWENTY YEARS AGO

Editorial

With the rest of America, Foresters mourned last month for the victims of the historic attack on America. Our reaction brought us even closer to our children, grandchildren, and other relatives whose lives we still share. The world has changed for them and for us in dramatic, ongoing ways. We look at a world we never made and a future that makes us fear for those we love.

If there is one good thing to be derived from this mountain of evil, it may well be the restoring of perspective to everyone, young and old. We had seemingly been caught up in a culture replete with what seem, in retrospect, trivialities. Now we must deal with issues of life and death that go beyond individuals.

Those of us here in the last years of our lives thought we had seen it all—two world wars for the oldest, the tragedy of Vietnam, the shock of Pearl Harbor. We were settling for the “reality” shows that have captured television, and suddenly we were shown what reality really was. If it has brought us even closer, that is a good thing for certain. If it gives us strength to endure whatever may come of our lives, that will be even better.

—John Tebbel

The Forester, Vol 8, Issue 1, page 1 (October 2001)

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:

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Lois Oliver
Carol Reese

President's Podium



by Lois Oliver

This has been a difficult summer for all of us. We have missed travel, (I didn't get to fish at Jackson Hole, or visit family in the West) though some TFAD residents have get-aways in the mountains or at the beach. We are missing breakfast confabs—and still accumulating paper bags from food carry-out or delivery. The pandemic seems endless, though we should always remain glad that we have been taken care of and protected as much as possible. The opening up of dining has made some of us very glad to eat out, though it seems many of us still prefer to take out or get meal delivery. It is good to have choices, but I hope soon we will see a more lively Heartwood, Taproot, and Greenwood's.

The Residents' Association has stepped up the work of many committees, thanks to the volunteers getting back in action. We now enjoy the Library, and the Gift Shop, and some volunteer-initiated programs in the auditorium, as well as the art, meditation, and folk dancing sessions. These combined with the many, many fitness and wellness programs provided by Sheri Sampson can raise our spirits and keep us fit. Art and music programs in the Health and Wellness Center brighten the days there.

It is my hope that we all feel an obligation to participate in some way in the life of TFAD. Serving on a committee is a way to get to know your neighbors, and it will make you feel a part of the community. Welcoming new residents, visiting in Health and Wellness, getting to know how the services such as dining, marketing, resident life, housekeeping and maintenance, and finance work to manage this institution is not only enlightening, but often fun. Join the RA Board in October for the Annual Residents' Association meeting and learn more. 🌱

In Memoriam

Rosalind Abernathy	June 17, 2021
Frances Bryant	July 6, 2021
Robert Timmins	July 20, 2021
John Dailey	July 24, 2021
John Tindall	Sept 4, 2021
Elizabeth Clark	Sept 7, 2021
Willie Mae Jones	Sept 28, 2021

In This Issue ...

The centerfold (pages 6–7) addresses the construction now underway for a new Health Center. For a peek at the live camera feed from the construction site, as well as time-lapse videos of progress, please visit

<https://bit.ly/TFADConstructionCameras>

Archived full-color issues of The Forester are available under Quick Links at <http://www.ForestRes.org>

Library Science 101

by Carol Reese

Welcome back! I hope everyone had a relaxing summer and a chance to enjoy some good reads.

SUMMER ACTIVITIES

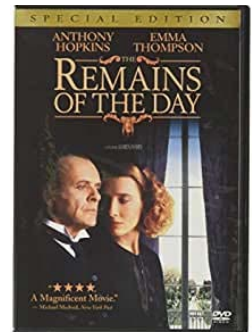
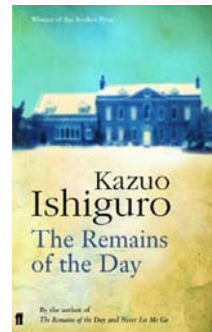
Based on the library's usage, many of you found some interesting books to read. From July through August, we experienced over 200 checkouts; 182 were unique items. This means that some items were checked out more than once. During these summer months, over 60 different residents took out 46 mysteries, 77 fiction items, and 49 large print books. In addition, we added 30 new titles to the collection: 16 fiction/mystery, 14 nonfiction/biography. Some examples of the new items are:

- *Moonglow: A Novel*, by Michael Chabon
- *Hermit King: The Dangerous Game of Kim Jong Un*, by Chung-Min Lee
- *These Truths: A History of the United States*, by Jill Lepore
- *Southern Book Club's Guide to Slaying Vampires*, by Grady Hendrix
- *All The Devils Are Here*, by Louise Penny
- *The Maidens*, by Alex Michaelides

To find the latest items added to the collection, remember to check the book case on the left as you enter the Library on a regular basis. New additions are kept on these shelves for at least two months before they are placed in their normal locations on the shelves.

BOOK EXHIBIT FOR SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER: FROM GREAT BOOKS TO GREAT MOVIES

The latest exhibit highlights books that have been made into movies. If you are interested in a story full of wicked villains, twisted crimes, creaky old haunted houses, and so many plot twists that you're never sure what's going to happen next, then *Fingersmith*, by Sarah Waters, is for you. If these elements sound appealing to you, then I would highly recommend picking up this historical novel which is set in Victorian England, and is truly a Gothic literary classic. For a different kind of book, there is *The Remains of the Day* by Kazuo Ishiguro. This is the story of a man so burdened by propriety that he lets the love of his life slip through his fingers. Once you have read the book, you can check out the DVD from the Library and compare the two. Gillian Flynn's *Gone Girl* is about a couple's marriage. On their fifth anniversary Nick Dunne heads for work and in the meantime his wife, Amy, disappears into thin air. The story turns into a two-sided contest in which Nick and Amy tell conflicting stories—Nick in the present tense and Amy by way of her diary. This novel is wily, mercurial, subtly layered and populated by characters so well imagined that they're hard to part



with. A book you will want to read again and again—finding details you probably missed the first time. A final example from this exhibit is a classic, *Oliver Twist*, by Charles Dickens. While most are familiar with the story, the reader will still find Dickens' characters and situations so well drawn that you will become engrossed in his novel.



Many thanks to **Carol Goldsmith** for putting this discriminating collection together. It will be available on the book cart right inside the library doors through October. I recommend that you take advantage of it. ☘

Looking Back...

(Continued from page 1)

The October 2001 *Forester* also included a poem by PBS-founder Ralph Steele who had written

In case of terror assemble the poets!
This is no mere conceit.
The gravest danger we now face
Is to let evil set the pace

I call on poets, near and far
To remind us who we are

Remind us of truth and beauty;
Help us back to truth and love.

The included response by *Forester* poet Ellen Cheek Dozier has been reprinted on page 1.

Looking back another 10 years to 30 years ago, we find a September 1991 proto-*Forester* describing to imminent residents the construction then underway. This scene is familiar to our present experience:

“With construction activity in full swing, we now have all trades and subcontractors busily working on The Forest at Duke. The Community Center and the west apartment wing have been topped off All steel work has been completed for the Health Care Center and apartment wings Just south of the apartments, the earthen pad for the swimming pool is in place Cottage footings and concrete building pads are being poured Not a day goes by that we do not have three-way communication ... to keep construction running on schedule toward opening in September, 1992.

“All units throughout the campus have been developed to take advantage of the most attractive views possible. Cottages and apartments are oriented to the north, east, and west, with the service areas being oriented to the south. This means that units will be looking into forested buffer areas, not south to commercial areas.”

That proto-*Forester* also introduced the first Board of Directors: **Joseph S. Harvard, III**; Juanita Kreps; John J. Piva, Jr.; Julia W. Taylor; Charles L. Becton; Harvey J. Cohen; **Margaret Keller**; and James D. Crapo, Project Director and visionary founder of The Forest. ♪

—The Editors

Forest Understory Restoration Update

by Phil Baer

TFURP (The Forest Understory Restoration Project) envisioned in “Beyond Goats” in *The Forester* of January 2021 has begun. Over the four-day period of July 19–22, the guys from Ripple EcoSolutions “removed” invasive plants from the forested area above the pond and from the wetland that extends from beside the greenhouse up to the swimming pool patio. I had to put “removed” into scare quotes because, as several residents have pointed out, the dead and dying invasive plant matter is still there. While it temporarily makes these areas look messy, the rationale for leaving it is ecologically, if not aesthetically, very sound.

For a long time, several decades in some cases, the invasive plants have been extracting nitrogen and other precious nutrients from the ground in which they grew, converting those nutrients into the biomass that we now see on the ground or festooning the trees. If we were to actually remove that biomass from the area, those nutrients would be forever lost, forever unavailable to the native plants that we want to flourish. By leaving the biomass in place, we allow nature to take her course. A vast array of life forms— insects and other small critters, fungi, molds, and bacteria—will consume and digest the biomass and return the nutrients to the soil, closing nature’s loop and making the nutrients available to the native plants. A second benefit of leaving the dead plant matter is to provide places for birds and small animals to nest and shelter. The combination of removal of invasive plants, encouragement of native plant growth, and providing natural shelter will support our effort to have The Forest at Duke designated a bird-friendly habitat by the Audubon Society.

Like our ongoing construction project, TFURP is a multi-year undertaking. The Ripple EcoSolutions guys will be back in late fall to complete the removal of invasive plants that were missed in the first pass. In the spring and summer of 2022, with the assistance of the New Hope Audubon Society, we will undertake an inventory of the native plants already present and

(Continued on Page 11)

Beneath the Forest Floor

by Ted Harris

Our understanding of what's happening beneath the forest floor has flowered through the exciting research of Suzanne Simard, a professor of forestry at the University of British Columbia. She discovered that fungi interconnect the many trees and plants, creating an integrated community that shares nutrients and information. Simard compares it to the World Wide Web.

Thirty years ago, as a young forestry research scientist, Susanne Simard, questioned the then-current view that competition was the driving force in the growth of forests. Simard also questioned the practices of clear cutting and especially the application of heavy doses of Roundup.

In an effort to understand the underground relationship of forest trees, Simard designed what was to become a classic experiment. With the use of radioactive carbon Simard was able to prove that the White Birch and the Douglas Fir, two species which naturally occurred together, formed a symbiotic relationship. In the summertime the birch sends nutrients to the fir, and during wintertime the process is reversed. This ultimately led to the discovery of the importance of fungi as the connecting grid within the forest floor.

In 1997 she published her discovery in *Nature*, a premier science periodical. She used the term "Wood Wide Web" to describe the relationships the underground networks fostered.

As Simard discovered, survival in the forest is not focused on competition but depends upon a

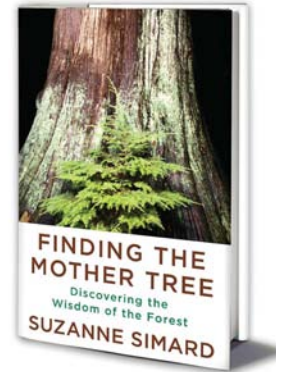
cooperative effort led by the oldest trees, referred to as "mother trees."

In further experiments Simard was also able to prove that mother trees recognized their own offspring, children and grandchildren. Young trees unable to get sunlight need support to survive, and the mother tree provides that sustenance. She also found that a dying tree will contribute its remaining nutrients to the fungi grid. Trees can also communicate with each other; news of an insect attack, for example, will shortly be known by all the trees in the loop.

There seems to be a rather amazing evolutionary difference between life that is mobile (such as animals and humans) and life that is immobile (such as plants and trees). It makes sense that plants and trees living their entire lives together would evolve cooperative efforts to survive. How would Darwin modify his Survival of the Fittest explanation of evolution if he understood Simard's discovery?

If you're a fan of TED talks, you will surely enjoy her presentations. Go to Simard's website, Project Mother Tree (<https://mothertreeproject.org>). You will find TED videos in the About Mother Trees section.

Over her working career Simard has published 80 articles. This Spring her memoir, *Finding the Mother Tree*, was published (Alfred A. Knopf, 2021). It was an instant best seller. ‡



Ted Harris, former banker, legislator, and promoter of old-growth forests, has a serious interest in environmental issues and in everything related to trees.

Flowers are another passion. Seeing an opportunity to brighten the front approach to The Forest, he arranged the installation of flower boxes on the railing of his fourth-floor apartment and planted them with petunias, shown at left at the peak of their display.

Ted is a regular contributor to The Forester.

Forsythiatis

by Robert Shaw

I met a traveler from an antique land,
Who said—"Many vast and jagged concrete pieces
Stand in the desert Near them, on the sand,
Half sunk a shattered visage lies, whose frown
And wrinkled lip, and sneer of cold command,
Tell that its sculptor well those passions read
Which yet survive, stamped on these lifeless things,
The hand that mocked them, and the heart that fed;
And on the pedestal, these words appear:
My name is Forsythiatis, King of Kings.
Look on my once nice cottage and despair!
Surrounded by Green it was
And birds came there and small animals.
Flowers bloomed around—no longer!
Nothing beside remains. Round the decay
Of that colossal Wreck, boundless and bare,
The lone and level sands stretch far away."

Health Center Project: Destruction and Resurrection

by Judy Jo Small

To make way for new Health Center, fourteen cottages were deconstructed on Forsythia, Gardenia, and Pond View Courts, and the first two courts were leveled. Some materials were salvaged, but the view was one of destruction, a shock to the displaced residents and to the merely curious alike. Bob Shaw's poem "Forsythiatis" draws from Percy Bysshe Shelley's famous sonnet "Ozymandias," with its dramatic image of shattered remains of a once-colossal statue abandoned amid barren sands, to describe the scene at The Forest.

While Shelley's sonnet underscores the remorseless ravages of time and the ironic humiliation of human pride—"O, how the mighty have fallen!"—"Forsythiatis" becomes a lament for the sacrifices made here, and it captures the feelings of those who lost cottages—*homes*—that had given comfort and peaceful pleasure, with surrounding garden spaces filled with companionable wildlife and blooming plants lavished with care.

Though some residents may have welcomed the opportunity to downsize and move to an apartment, even at best moving is stressful. Even residents who weren't directly affected by the "removal" of cottages were somewhat shaken when they saw heavy machinery uprooting trees and shrubs, ripping off roofs, knocking walls to the ground, reducing pleasant neighborhoods to rubble, which was hauled off in mammoth trucks as bulldozers smoothed the ground until nothing remained but dirt.

Forest staff have done their best to ease the transition for affected residents, to accelerate closure for those few still not fully resettled, and to soothe the hurt. Most relocated residents have been gracious in accepting the necessity of building a new, updated, state-of-the-art Health Center. We all are united in believing that will benefit our entire community. It is progress. ¶

Building the Health Center

Architect's rendering of the completed Health Center as seen from the current end of Pond View Court. The south wing on the right shows five resident levels; the north wing on the left, four—one less because of the slope of the land. The connecting link at the rear of this sketch has six levels, starting with a lowest “level zero” shown under construction below. Levels zero and one are at the same elevations as in the existing Health Center. Level two will be at the elevation of the main (level two) corridors in the existing apartment buildings. It will be the common connecting level for all these buildings (and the projected new apartment buildings).



Rose Boyarsky admires the construction choreography.



Level-zero construction for the Shared Link between North & South Small Houses.



Gene McGuire watches through the 'knothole' of the chain-link fence.

Welcome New Residents

Jane Axelrod

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Jane was born in New York City and grew up in Larchmont NY. She went to Wheaton College and earned her BA in history. While she was, and still is, a lover of all history, her enthusiasm for American history has continued. Encouraged by the Director of Larchmont Library, she went to graduate school at Case Western Reserve University for her Master's degree in Library Science.

Jane loved being a research librarian, helping people to find material and to make good use of the library.



She could only find part-time work until she joined Price Waterhouse in New York City as a tax librarian. She did research for tax accountants and the firm's tax publications. After 15 years, when the company

was merging with another, she returned to work in the public library system in Westchester County. She worked as a reference librarian in several local libraries and was very active in the Special Librarians Association.

While she was working, her volunteer activities were at her temple where she served on many committees, read to the nursery school children, and contributed to the annual art show. She served on the Board of Friends of Larchmont Library and attended many continuing education programs. She is a member of the American Needlepoint Guild and the Jane Austen Society of North America.

Jane's brother lives in Atlanta and her sister in New York. In retirement, three of her good friends had settled in the Triangle area, so Jane looked for a retirement community nearby. After exploring the many options, she happily chose The Forest. Her avocations are needlepoint, reading, concerts, theater, Mah Jongg and jigsaw puzzles. She can be found often in our library, where she quickly became a volunteer. ☸

Dorothy & Donald Berlin

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Dot was born in Wilmington DE, and grew up and went through school in Washington DC. She attended Wilson Teachers College for a year and later did General Studies at the University of Maryland, University College. She continued to live in the DC area where she raised her children. She worked as an administrative secretary for an international computer company, and then as Human Resources Administrator for the same company.

Don grew up in Riverdale MD and as he graduated from high school, was immediately called up by the Selective Service and served three years in the US Air Force. He then went to the University of Maryland earning his degree in Civil Engineering and Architecture. He spent his career in real estate investment and building garden apartments.

Both of the Berlins were great community volunteers. Dot helped in county and church functions. Don supported house construction for injured vets and helped in the training of service dogs.

The Berlins were neighbors and friends before their marriage in 2002, and their children had socialized in their neighborhood. Dot's son, David Gartner, retired from the FDA and moved to Durham to be close to his niece, who is a nutritionist with the Durham County Health Department. Don's daughter, Karen, and son, Greg, are both in the real estate industry in the DC area.

Don continues to enjoy architectural drawing, while Dot enjoys keeping up her long standing love of bridge. They learned about The Forest from Dot's granddaughter, and are looking forward to a more normal TFAD than the one they entered this year. ☸

The Mysterious Allure of Mysteries

by Ellen Baer

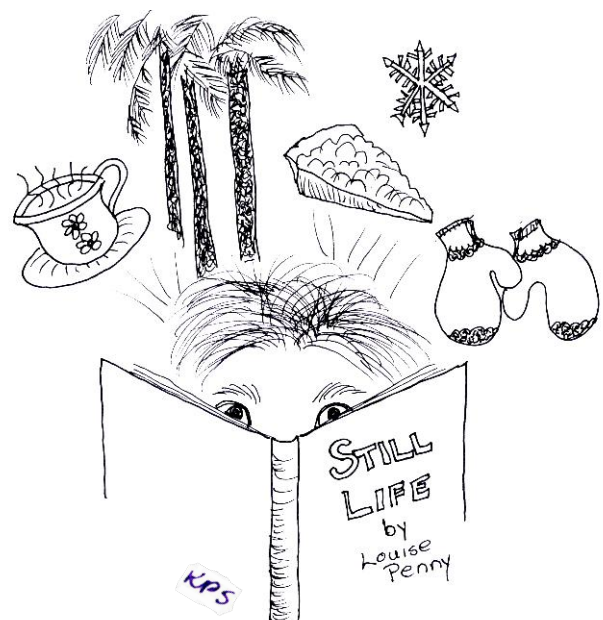
I never used to read mysteries. In fact, I was rather dismissive of mysteries as worthy reading material, so I was surprised when a smart and talented friend of mine told me she's in a mystery-book club. With a touch of smugness, I thought about how my own book club reads books about politics, history, race and caste, social justice, and famous feminists. I had left mysteries behind with Nancy Drew except for a few lunch dates with Miss Marple, a flirtation in college with Hercule Poirot, and a short affair with Sherlock Holmes. I know the murder mystery genre enjoys an illustrious history going back to 1844 when Edgar Allan Poe wrote *The Murders in the Rue Morgue*, but I just wasn't interested.

That changed when a trusted friend put Louise Penny's *Still Life* in my hand shortly before the pandemic, in spite of my protesting that I don't read mysteries. She insisted, saying the author is from Quebec, and she knew that Phil and I used to live in Montreal. So, to placate my friend, I read it—and ohmygosh it put a spell on me. Suddenly I wanted to go to Montreal and hang out with Chief Inspector Armand Gamache while he solved a murder in a nearby but off-the-map village called Three Pines. By the time I finished the book, I wanted to go to Three Pines and meet all the delightful folks he had met there: the artists, the shopkeepers, even the angry poet. I wanted to stay in the B&B, browse in the bookstore, eat scrumptious food in the cozy bistro, all the while telling those charming folks about how I used to live in Montreal studying French and taking care of small children who kept losing their mittens. The heavy snowfalls in Three Pines are lovely, not unlike the ones we had to tromp through as relocated Southerners in Montreal. What a treat to go back with no tromping, but staying warm and dry while Armand (we're on a first name basis, of course) and his intrepid assistant Jean-Guy worked through this first murder with 15 more books (and murders) to follow.

In addition to crime solving, all these books offer sweet nuggets of philosophy, psychology, art, history, music, and literature along with insights into language and culture. These observations often compare the

way French and English Canadians perceive and react and express themselves in any situation fraught with confusion and complexity. As I was reading, I kept saying to myself, yes, that's it exactly! I saw that! I heard that! Pretty soon, even without knowing who was the murderer, I felt like a well informed and particularly competent reader. Isn't this what we all need during a long period of uncertainty and helplessness—to feel well informed and competent? And to have smart, caring, courageous but imperfect people like Armand Gamache working on our behalf to right wrongs and create a better world.

Now I understand the appeal of good mysteries as vehicles of hope and order; and I'm ready to tag along with Guido in Italy and Bruno in France, even though I haven't been to all the places I want to go with dear Armand (I hear he's going to Paris and I can hardly wait). I won't give up the seriously intense books of my own book club because they are important, but they do tend to weigh a reader down and make her long for a cup of tea and a piece of lemon meringue pie, preferably at the bistro in Three Pines. Once, a shrewd reviewer pointed out that there is lemon meringue pie in all but one of Louise Penny's mysteries. Now, even though I'm trying to say no to desserts in the here and now, I have to say yes to lemon meringue pie, for the sake of Armand Gamache and a better world. ‡



Tomato Thief

by Jo Mooney

Remembering how a warm tomato tasted fresh from the vine, a resident decided to grow them on her balcony. They thrived. Then something began taking huge bites out of the tomatoes. She consulted her biologist son:

MOM: Could be a large bird.

SON: Could be, but birds usually peck holes, rather than chewing away large swaths.

MOM: You are right! Probably a squirrel. Critter has also removed many leaves. I had stretched strips of cloth to support the tomatoes, and critter was probably sitting on those while munching.

SON: Well, it could also be a tomato hornworm, as they often eat the tomato as well. If leaves are missing, that is actually the most likely predator. Do you see pellets below the plant? Or do you see a big green worm that looks like this?

MOM: Yes, there are pellets, I think—may be dirt. It's too dark now. I'll have to search tomorrow.

SON: Well, the caterpillars themselves are major prey for birds, usually when they get larger and are easy to spot. So it is possible that natural exterminators took care of the problem. Send a picture of the "dirt," taken as closeup as possible.

MOM: (Next day) Forwarding photos.

SON: Yep, you have/had tomato hornworms. Must have been big to eat your tomatoes like that. Look closely, sometimes they are extremely well camouflaged. Also do you see evidence of a burrow hole in the soil below the plant?

MOM: Could be a burrow hole close to one of the stakes. Do you think it could be in there?

SON: Yes, if the caterpillar dug the hole to pupate. If you can gently unplug it, great. If it is already pupated, then there is a good chance it will make it to adulthood, which most don't. So if the damage is done, you can foster the moth!

MOM: I spotted him or her! Could there be more than one? I see a tomato nearby has been munched.

SON: Could be more than one. If you can take a photo alongside a ruler, I can then guesstimate how much longer before it pupates...it could be close,



if it is big. Most get parasitized by predatory wasps, if they don't get eaten by birds.

SON: That is a very nice caterpillar. Perhaps you could put a sock or nylon around each tomato to keep him at bay.

MOM: Look for more than one?

SON: Sure, but he could do most of that on his own. Cool that the moth could locate tomatoes all the way up on your balcony. They must have a great olfactory sense to do that.

MOM: Not one but two—so far!!! Now there are three! And two more tomatoes destroyed!

SON: Haha. An alien invasion. Might as well raise hawk moths and give up on tomatoes.

MOM: Just spotted #6 coming out of my watering can! I wondered what was stopping it up! ... And seven!



MOM: Shall I prune off stems that have been completely denuded?

SON: No, the plant can still photosynthesize with the stem and also it resorbs nutrients from defoliated stems, so don't cut them.

MOM: Thanks. (later) I have taken many photos and put the predators in a jar with holes. What should I do with them? They are now friends, sort of.

(Continued on Page 11)

Tomato Thief...

(Continued from Page 10)

SON: Well, if you don't feed them, they will die. If you don't want them on your plants, I guess you either have to kill them or let them go somewhere (which is more or less the same thing).

MOM: Off to the woods!

SON: Or you could give them to me. My peppers and eggplants are about done. They will eat them if they have to.

MOM: Can you stop by for those critters? How long will they last in a jar?

SON: Yes, I'll get them when I head home from work.

MOM: Great! Pick them up at any time.

MOM: (Later) Yikes! I just checked the tomato hornworm on YouTube. It's supposed to have a black or blue horn. Cat has a pink or reddish horn, so he's actually a tobacco hornworm, *Manduca sexta*, closely related to the tomato hornworm, *Manduca quinquemaculata*! Shall I rewrite the article and make you the omniscient scientist?

SON: Always tell the truth. Hornworm is a generic name for many different Sphinx species. I think all larvae of that genus will feed opportunistically on *Solanaceae*, including tobacco, tomatoes, eggplant, peppers, potatoes, and so on. ‡



Pupa (left) formed by the tobacco hornworm caterpillar and the adult hawk moth, Manduca sexta, that will emerge from the pupa.

Resident Jo Mooney is an avid gardener. Her son Richard, Geller Professor of Neurobiology at Duke, collected and raised butterflies and moths during his childhood.

Understory Restoration...

(Continued from Page 4)



View from the path near the Greenhouse into the wetland showing the penetration of sunlight.

beginning to emerge. As shown in the photo of the wetland (above), it is now possible to actually see into these areas and appreciate their potential. We can see that sunlight now reaches the forest floor. And we can find dogwood, redbud, a small shingle oak, green ash, and red maples that were being smothered by the wisteria over-growth. With that burden removed, we expect those to grow rapidly, taking advantage of the light, air, water, and nutrients now easily available to them.

During the inventory, we will also get recommendations for what native plants we can add to the mix in areas where space has been opened up. These two areas offer a great diversity in terms of sun and shade, soil moisture, and soil quality. That diversity of habitat will allow us to add an equally diverse array of native flowering and fruit-bearing plants, to attract and support birds, beneficial insects, and small wildlife. There is still much to be done, but TFURP is underway, and we can take pride in being on the way to restoration of a healthy urban forest on our campus. Thanks to all who have helped support this project. ‡

Bird Benefactors of Fountain View Lane

by Shannon Purves

It was a lucky day for Durham County's water fowl when, six years ago, **Katherine and John Shelburne** chose #93 Fountain View Lane as their TFAD residence. Bird-lover Katherine was particularly pleased by the placement of the cottage's deck, which provides an uninterrupted view of the pond and its wide banks where she noticed what seemed to be wild ducks.

Very soon after moving in, she befriended the visiting Mallards by inviting them up the slope to her yard onto which she tossed some dry corn she happened to have. Next thing Katherine knew, she had TFAD ducks arriving at her back steps every morning *and* afternoon to ask for more of that corn. Today, she serves up to about 40 of these quacking guests twice a day. She and John buy the corn in 50-pound bags, one of which lasts about a week—that is, unless, as sometimes happens, the ducks are joined by a dozen or so passing geese. And these days, rabbits and crows also drop by to enjoy the kernels.

But one afternoon this August, a totally unexpected visitor to the pond—an egret—needed Katherine's generosity. On her bicycle trip to the dining room to pick up dinner, she noticed something white in the thicket by #93 which she decided was trash of some sort that she'd pick up on the way back. When she returned and got closer, she saw that the white thing was actually a large bird with a long, sharp beak. Later, when Katherine went out to look again, the bird hadn't moved and she saw that something was wrong with one of its wings. Luckily, just then, **Bennett Galef**, a fellow bird lover and Fountain View neighbor, was walking by and stopped to see what was going on. The two of them decided to call the Durham Sheriff's office to ask for professional assistance, and shortly thereafter the Sheriff himself arrived.

Because of the size of the egret and its dangerous beak, the Sheriff contacted the local office of The American Wildlife Refuge, which, in turn, very quickly sent a trained rescuer to #93. Substantially suited up for protection, the rescuer (who had already saved several large birds that day) produced a special cage into which he maneuvered the Forest's visiting egret and took it away to be examined at the Refuge's



Rescuer sent by American Wildlife Refuge to TFAD to recover the wounded egret.

raptor hospital in Raleigh. There, our egret would be evaluated and either treated or euthanized, depending on the vet's assessment. All that was left for Katherine and Bennett to do was wish the poor bird well.

Katherine intends to keep whistling the ducks to their corn breakfasts and suppers and welcoming the assorted other birds, bunnies, and occasional geese. Surely all of these feathered and furred friends are, like the wounded egret, grateful to Katherine—and Bennett—for being attuned to their needs as they share our pond and its lovely surroundings.

For more information about American Wildlife Refuge, a Raleigh-based rescue organization, see their web page at <http://awrefuge.org>. 🌿

Katherine Shelburne, a school psychologist still practicing in the Durham school system, has counted as many as 62 mallards attending recent corn deliveries.

Bennett Galef, who taught in the Department of Psychology at McMaster University for 35 years, is a frequent photographer of our wildlife, with many photos appearing in The Forester.