

SERENDIPITOR



Brooks-Howell Home
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July-August 2011

*When Summer Comes**

*When summer comes our thoughts are turned
To You who cradle all our earth
With food for all, abundant life,
And gracious gifts beyond all worth.*

*Forgive us now for careless ease
With which we waste the gifts you give.
Grant us a care for friend and foe
That in Your love, we all may live.
Amen*

--Helene R. Hill



*May be sung to the tune Old 100th.

From Our Administrator - -



Greetings from Brooks-Howell Home,

Summer is here, and it is here with a vengeance. Like many of you we have had terrible thunder and

wind storms and when it is not storming it is very hot. On the bright side, with all the rain our grass, trees and flowers are gorgeous.

Another thing that Spring and Summer have brought is a baby boom, (no, none of our residents have had babies)! . We have five employees who have had babies in the last few months. We are raising our own future employees. That does not even count our assistant director of nursing Frieda Woody's goats, and we won't even talk about the bunnies she raises.

Our wonderful Deaconess Debbie Pittman is still hard at work bringing us into the modern technology times. Our residents were able to watch the annual conference event on their own TVs. We have two in-house TV channels that allow us to communicate better with our BHH family, along with a number of other functions we are now capable of doing.

Among our losses were local community residents, Trudy Painter, Ruth Leutenegger, and Barbara Davis, Mrs. Davis was a long time friend and a previous board member of Brooks-Howell.

We welcome Dr. Joseph Robertson, Mr. Robert Hartman and Ms. Pauline Gibbs.

May God Bless and keep you.
Nancy Garrison
Executive Director

Brooks-Howell Deaconess/Home Missionary Gathering

Becky Louter met with a gathering of retired (actually . . . just retreaded . . . these folks are still going strong!) deaconesses and a few active deaconesses in the Asheville NC area to share about the Human Resources consulting process underway and about proposed legislation for General Conference. I wish I had tallied up the years of experience represented by that gathering. There is a lot of excitement and encouragement for our community in the coming months and years! Watch for more details about both these topics soon.

–Debbie Pittman

WBHH Open House

In May the Studio Office of WBHH (Wonderful Brooks-Howell Home) Channel 56 held an open house as the kick-off for our new in-house TV channel. During the Open House, residents and staff were invited to see the equipment and techniques used to broadcast live programming such as the Central UMC worship services as well as commercial videos. Refreshments were served and residents were asked to submit suggestions for the channel. A door prize was also given away. That evening, with our new CVLI license proudly on display, Movie Night kicked off with *The King's Speech*. Since then the weekly Friday Matinee has featured many favorite older movies while the twice-monthly Movie Night features either a new movie or requests from residents. In addition, the studio is used to edit and produce special features such as excerpts from chapel services at Brooks-Howell and other resident activities. An information/announcement channel displays on Channel 56 when movies are not being shown.

Channel 56 is managed by Debbie Pittman under the direction of staff and a resident committee.

[NOTE: CVLI is a license for churches and church-related organizations to allow legal showing of copyrighted videos and video materials. Available through UMC.COM.ORG or other vendors.]--D.P.

Magnifique! Fantastica!! Wonderful!

The crowds gathered; the curtains parted and the Oscar decorated dining room could be seen. It was “The Golden Years of Hollywood!”



Stepping on the stars named for the Hollywood “greats” and then on the red carpet, residents, staff, employees, spouses, AB Tech students in training entered to be part of BROOKS-HOWELL HOME’S 35TH EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION DAY CELEBRATION. Bright metallic stars hung from the ceiling; tables were decorated with “golden Oscars,” red napkins and white tablecloths. Several of the staff were dressed to represent stars of the “Golden Years.”



Nancy Garrison, dressed in a lovely hostess gown, explained that the celebration would begin with the special awards so that everyone could be present. Those honorees with 5 years of service were: Irina Antyufeyeva (health units), Jason Gerrie (maintenance), Jeanne Greski (health units), Jeanette Mayfield (environmental services), Sheila Murray (environmental services), Sharman Pittman (front lobby) and Natalya Yermenko (health units). Those with 10 years of service were: David Williams (gardener) and Sheila McCarty (nursing staff). 20 Years of Service Awards were given to David Carter (environmental services) and to Mary Harrin (front lobby). As each honoree received his or her award there was spontaneous applause from everyone. We are truly blessed here at Brooks-Howell with such fine caring employees and staff.



Five Year Honorees

*Jeanne Greski, Irina Antyufeyeva, Jason Gerrie, Madina Mamontova, Jeanette Mayfield, Sheila Murray, Natalya Vermenko
(Sharman Pittman not present)*



Irina Antyufeyeva Celebrating



*10 Years
Sheila McCarty, David Williams*



*20 Years
Mary Harrin, David Carter*



*Staff: Nancy Garrison, Carole Gilham
Board Members: Betty Swarthout, Bonnie White*



Lana Turner (Susan Gerrie)

(Continued p. 5)

Hollywood (Continued from p. 4)

Jorie Ruegger, president of the BHH Residents' Council, expressed our deep appreciation to all our personnel and especially to Susan, Charlene and all the others who had contributed to making this celebration and every day at Brooks-Howell such a wonderful place to live.

The menu included prime rib, grilled salmon steaks, mashed and baked potatoes, mac and cheese, vegetable casseroles and salads, shrimp cocktail and other gourmet treats. "La Piece de Resistance" was the flowing waterfall of chocolate in which you could dip fresh pineapple or giant strawberries. All these delicious dishes were prepared and served by "The Hollywood Waiters": our own dining and kitchen employees, dressed in white shirts, black ties and top hats. Our hats off to you! A great big thank you.



Buffet Luncheon

*Ann Janzen & Everett Woodcock fill their plates
Servers (front to back): Teresa Anderson, Sandy Harrison,
Myrika Chambers*

–Pat Riddell

(Photos Esther Megill)

I Remember...



From 1966-68 I was a US-2 in south Texas. The church and community assignment was a joint endeavor of the Rio Grande and Southwest Texas conferences. There was one English-speaking church and there were three Spanish/English-speaking churches. For me, going from the mountains of West

Virginia to the flat lands of south Texas was an interesting adventure. It was quite a learning experience living in the midst of two cultures who did not always understand or appreciate one another. I went from a fairly homogeneous culture to a place where there was definitely discrimination based on

ancestry, race, language, and culture. I was very much accepted and loved by the people of a culture different from my own.

One of my fondest memories includes working with the Methodist Youth Fellowship in two of the churches. One youth named Eddie was a member of his local 4-H club. He was raising a pig which he intended to show at the local fair. Unfortunately, shortly before the time of the fair the pig quit eating and began to lose weight. If you have ever raised an animal to show, you know this is a serious situation. Eddie was understandably distressed. One day after our MYF meeting he asked me if I would pray for his pig. It was the first time I had ever had such a request. But I did pray for Eddie's pig and you know what? The pig began to eat and thrive and went on to win a ribbon at the fair that year. My prayers were coveted for all manner of things for some time after that. It is indeed a fond memory.

By the way, Eddie is the brother of Inelda Gonzalez, our current Women's Division president.

--Marilyn S. Benson

Accessibility with Charm and Comfort Atkins House's Updating

On a beautiful June day nine residents of Brooks-Howell went from Asheville to Lake Junaluska. We had been invited to an Open House at Atkins House.

Many years ago the Love-Atkins family gave their lovely home overlooking Lake Junaluska for rest and re-creation for world and home missionaries and deaconesses. For many years it served as an ideal place for renewal and spiritual growth as guests could fully participate in the programs offered by the Lake Junaluska Association. In later years, the Intentional Growth Center came to share the facilities and cover general expenses.

Now as both the house it self and those from Brooks-Howell and others who benefitted from the opportunities at Lake Junaluska were aging, bedrooms on the second floor (with a very pitched two flights of stairs) were no longer an option.

Under the initiative of the new hostess Donna Dupree, plans were made for transforming the offices of the Intentional Growth Center into accessible bedrooms with adjoining bathrooms.

After a warm welcome from Ms. Dupree and her daughter Casey Kennedy, we were served cookies and cold punch. One by one the eleven visitors, all residents from Brooks-Howell, and the driver, Shelia Freeman, were escorted around the first stage of the new renovation. The program hopes to have four bedrooms (nine twin beds) and three accessible bathrooms. A new ramp and driveway, more landscaping and updating the kitchen are also in the plan. The upstairs baths and bedrooms will still be available for the more agile.

All guests have full use of the living and dining rooms and kitchen. Families and friends of missionaries and deaconesses may also stay at Atkins House for a nominal fee, but first consideration is

always given to those who have served or are serving in mission.

After a pleasant time of chatting and photographing together we returned to share the wonderful news about the renovations at our "beloved Atkins House."

—Pat Riddell



*(Back) Jeanne Wintringham, Bev Reddick, Ellie Charlton, June Fischer, Pat Riddell
(Rt. back) Roberta Rice
(Second Row) Nola Smee, Debbie Pittman, Helen Frey
(Rt., standing) Esther Megill
(Front) Donna Dupree, Sheila Freeman, driver, Loise George*

(Photo Casey Kennedy)

Kids were asked questions about the Old and New Testaments. The following statements about the bible were written by children. They have not been retouched or corrected (i.e., incorrect spelling has been left in).

1. In the firstbookof the bible, Guinnessis, God got tired of creating the world, so he took the Sabbath off.
2. Adam and Eve were created from an apple tree. Noah's wife was called Joan of Ark. Noah built an ark, which the animals come on to in pears.
3. Lot's wife was a pillar of salt by day, but a ball of fire by night.

(More to come in the next issue!)

From Our Chaplain - -

Follow Me

The earliest disciples of Jesus responded favorably to Jesus' invitation to "follow me." All of us have in some way heard that same invitation and have yielded to the longing of our hearts to follow Jesus also.

Perhaps we were surprised at how quickly following Jesus involves going. For those first disciples there was a period of learning for them but it was usually a traveling classroom as Jesus went from place to place "teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people." (Mt 4:23)



Like those first disciples we have discovered that following Jesus means giving priority to discerning and being faithful to God's way in every circumstance of our lives. This in turn involves going with him to public worship and to private quiet times on the mountain. We soon understood that when we are open to the leading of God's Spirit, we cannot stand still or be alone. God's way involves going beyond our personal needs and interests.

In our study of *The Acts of the Apostles* we have seen that the message of God to those who have agreed to follow usually includes a challenging "go." And on the other end of that mission would be someone who needed to hear God's message of abundant life. Ananias was sent to bring healing and comfort to Paul. Philip was sent to help the Ethiopian understand the scriptures and find salvation. Peter was sent to Cornelius to explain the gospel to him and his household and thus to open the gospel to gentiles. God has a wonderful way of connecting people for the good of all.

Following Jesus leads us into a lifestyle of going to others. And, once we have gone in the power and courage that the Spirit gives, amazing things happen!

--Don Turman, Chaplain

Come, Holy Spirit, Come! A Pentecost Celebration

On Thursday, June 26, we celebrated Pentecost, the coming of the gift of the Holy Spirit to us. There are times when we are aware that something special is happening, that we are a part of this specialness and that we can store it tenderly in our memories to draw on in the future. The Chapel service celebrating Pentecost was such a time.

Debbie Pittman brought us together with the Prelude and warmed us with her sampling of hymns, played as only Debbie does. The Pentecost Procession was led by the acolyte, followed by two residents with red, orange and yellow balloon bouquets that were placed on the flower stands, and matched the colors of the three altar candles.

Next came four residents carrying the new stoles, made of white felt with red flames to indicate the presence of the Holy Spirit in our worship and in our lives. The stoles were blessed by the entire congregation. While Tracey Owens sang "Sweet, Sweet Spirit" the stoles were distributed to everyone present with a gentle individual blessing. The extra stoles were then draped on the altar creating a visual feast.

The congregation responded by singing, inviting the sweet spirit to "come as the wind, fire, dew to convict, convert, and consecrate many hearts and lives to our great good and to thy greater glory...."

At the point in the service we prayed the Lord's Prayer, residents prayed simultaneously in different languages providing a Pentecostal experience.

The scriptural story of Pentecost was beautiful and powerful as it was spoken in a variety of languages: Swahili by Everett Woodcock, Mandarin by Jim Hipkins, Spanish by Jayne Smith, Urdu by Samuel Mohansingh, Indonesian by Ramona Turman, Korean

(Continued p. 8)

Pentecost Celebration (Cont. from p. 7)

by Roberta Rice, Ilocano by Dana Tyson, and Portugese by Sarah Frances Bowden.

Chaplain Don Turman shared a message “The Spirit Comes with Power.” He spoke of the power of unity among the members of the early church, and reminded us that the Spirit gives us the power of discernment of God’s way. “The People of the Way” always involves going outside of ourselves in a special way. As older people, we can still go, often using the technology that makes our going possible.

The hymn, “Many Gifts, One Spirit” was appropriate to close this special time together. We were blessed and challenged as we departed after singing “Happy Birthday to the Church.” As one person said, “This was a meaningful and memorable encounter with the Holy Spirit and I’ll carry it in my heart for a long time.”

–Ann Janzen



Bev Reddick



Procession, Bev Reddick Leading



Ann Janzen



*Blessing of
the
Stoles*

(Continued p. 9)

(Pentecost. Continued from p. 8.)



Jayne Smith distributes stoles



The Altar

(Photos Esther Megill)

From the Library--



RESIST! Christian Dissent in the 21st Century

Michael Long, editor

A Bonus Book on the UMW 2011 Reading Program--RESIST! is worth two credits in Social Action

This is a collection of writings from persons following diverse branches of the Christian faith. Most are Protestant; a few are Roman Catholic—all probably leaning toward Progressive Christianity.

Included are essays, sermons, poetry, devotional writings and prayers. There is one chapter outlining the rich history of Christian dissent in the United States.

It clearly recognizes the many avenues of Christian resistance in both our past and in our present. It is an inspiring and hopeful book for those who yearn for the leadership of the Christian Church and/or its constituents in movements to promote peace (not war), justice (for individuals and societies), environmental renewal, and community (not strict individualism) in the world today.

A must-read for anyone serious about our society's social problems.

UNDER CEDAR SHADES by Helen Lavinia Underwood

(New on our shelves, gift of the author and signed by her)

This is a novel based on stories and writings from the author's family. It begins with the tragedy of some of her forbears displaced by the Cherokee removal and the Trail of Tears. Her great, great grandmother was left on the doorstep of a white family after her mother

(Continued p. 10)

(From the Library. Continued from p. 9)

dies in childbirth and her father faces the impossibility of caring for his daughter as the Cherokees are herded from their lands.

The family through five generations is a mixture of Cherokee, Chickasaw, Welsh/Dutch, Yuchi, Scotch, & Irish/African heritage. The story chronicles life during many years and multiple localities of pioneer existence, triumph & tragedy, prosperity & poverty, in North & South Carolina, Tennessee, Arkansas and Alabama.

The book offers lots of interesting information in a very readable form.

–Jayne Smith

News from Resident Services

On June 2 a Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon was held to honor our volunteers from the Asheville area for their service in 2010. These individuals serve in many different capacities here at Brooks-Howell. They sew, lead exercise class, assist in arts/crafts, lead music, visit our residents, help with the white elephant sale and make Brooks-Howell a great place to live.

The following have volunteered more than 1134 hours during 2010: Beverly Congdon, Janet David, Marnie Downs, Mary Jo Drake, Beth Holtam, Bonnie Kittner, Leah Ledbetter, Lucy Lively, Alice Lutz, Victoria Mobberly, Thelma McGraw, Samuel Owens, Georgia Panchy, Bess Redmond, Dorothy Smith, Judy Spangler, Betty Sprouse, and Dilys Winn.

Thank you, Brooks-Howell volunteers, for your dedication and service to us!!

–Tracey Owens, Activities Coordinator

First Corinthians 13 for United Methodist Women

Though I attend circle meetings and make the finest plans but have not love,
there will be no growth or renewal for me.

And though I make my pledge, participate in the Reading Program and fill those hygiene or school kits, but have no awareness of the UMW's focus,
it is not enough.

And if I spend many hours of “being involved” and become tense and nervous with the strain, but have no love or understanding of community and global concerns,
it is still not enough.

The United Methodist Woman is patient and kind, is not shocked when someone brings her their confidences, does not gossip, is not easily discouraged, does not behave in ways that are unworthy, but tries at all times to be a living example of the good way of life which Christ gives.

Love never fails. Meetings will be attended and forgotten. Rummage sales will come and go. Mission projects will be initiated and then completed.
We know only a little and we can “pass on”
only a little.

But when we love, then our efforts can become creative and our influence will make a difference for someone . . . somewhere.

And now abide these three:
Commitment, Participation and Love.
But the greatest of these is love.
–Author unknown

BIRTHDAYS



RESIDENTS

4 DON TURMAN
9 DEBBIE PITTMAN
11 EVELYN DEVRIES
13 JIM HIPKINS
14 ROBERT HARTMAN
15 MARGARET STEWART
18 FAYE LANCE
25 BETTIE SUE SMITH
27 CLARA WHITE
29 FRIEDA MORRIS
30 LEGRAND SMITH

EMPLOYEES

1 CRYSTAL REEMS, NURSING
2 MIKE WALKER, RES SERVICES
6 MADINA MAMONTOVA, NURSING
8 NINA KNIGHTEN, DIETARY
10 DONNA ANDERSON, NURSING
19 PAMELA RICE, NURSING
20 LYNDA TRULUCK, NURSING
21 DENISE MILLS, NURSING
22 ELIZABETH MORTON, NURSING
25 GAYLE RILEY, NURSING
26 LONNIE MORRIS, MAINTENANCE
30 SANDY HARRISON, DIETARY



RESIDENTS

4 DORIS ALEXANDER
8 NAOMI WRAY
11 CYNTHIA WARD
15 COY HOWE
19 HELEN FREY
29 EVERETT WOODCOCK
31 ELIZABETH HOWELL

EMPLOYEES

5 KEVIN SMITH, ENVIRON SVS
7 JILL BANYAI, RESIDENT SVS
11 DEBORAH CLOSE, NURSING
12 AILEEN MANGUM, NURSING
13 CHRIS HENKE, MAINTENANCE
19 ANNA SHELEY, NURSING
22 IRINA ANTYUFYEVA, NURSING
26 SARA PENLEY, NURSING
29 MARY SHETLEY, ENVIRON SVS
31 MELISSA HARPER, NURSING



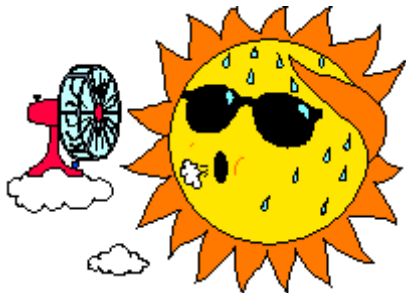
AUGUST 29 EVERETT & VERA WOOKCOCK
AUGUST 31 DON & RAMONA TURMAN

Serendipitor is published at least six times during the year. It is sponsored by the Brooks-Howell Home and is written by and for residents, staff and friends. It focuses on people and current happenings here, features past and coming events, and points the way to creative Christian living. EDITORIAL STAFF: Esther Megill, editor; Joyce Anderegg, Elaine Gasser, Helene R. Hill, Ann Janzen, Tracey Owens, Nancy Garrison. Mailers: Barbara Markham & Virginia Miller. **RATE: \$10.00 PER YEAR; SEND SUBSCRIPTIONS TO SERENDIPITOR**, checks made payable to Serendipitor. Check your label for an expiration date.

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