



Oak Hammock
**The
Oak Leaf**
at the
University of Florida

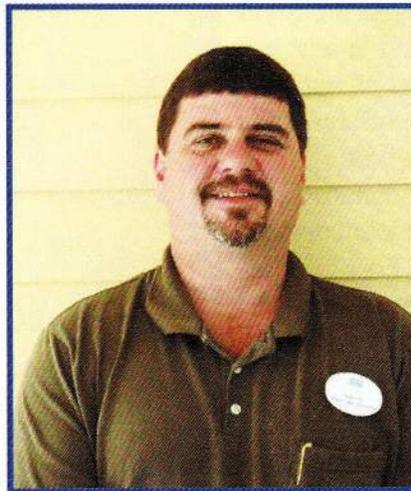
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Environmental Services Director Roger Mueggenberg

As the Environmental Services Director for Oak Hammock, Roger Mueggenberg's responsibilities include overseeing daily operations of Maintenance, Housekeeping, Laundry Services, and Grounds Maintenance. They also include maintaining a current and active safety program, being involved with many member-chaired committees, and maintaining OSHA and AHCA compliance in these various areas. This department consists of 51 full-time employees. It includes Oak Hammock Special Services, the newest addition, designed to meet any member-requested construction changes. The department also offers technical support for Oak Hammock security and maintains a viable turn-around resale program for any vacated residence.

Roger joined the Oak Hammock staff on January 26, 2004, in the capacity of Maintenance Manager. He brought extensive knowledge of skilled nursing facility operation to OH. For almost 8 years he was the Regional Director of Maintenance for American Medical Associates c., a Marietta, Georgia based health provider, where he oversaw daily operations of 480 skilled nursing beds in three locations. He also has experience in multi-family real

estate, specifically a 560-unit student housing community with many facility challenges. His early experience was with a mechanical contractor in Omaha, NE where he ran a large service department. Roger is an active member of both the Florida Association of Homes for the Aging and Florida Health Care Engineer Asso-



Roger Mueggenberg

ciation.

In the Summer of 2005, the former Director of Environmental Services left Oak Hammock for employment elsewhere. Following a statewide search that garnered numerous applicants including Roger, he was appointed to the position in August, 2005.

On any given day many issues and requests come to Roger's attention.

Some of these include requests for space, landscape improvements, and modification approvals. OH has many active committees which present valid concerns and lifestyle changing ideas. Requests are reviewed and acted upon as the budget allows.

Many of the questions raised concern Environmental Service policies and how to access them to meet the needs of the members and committees. "My door is always open," Roger says, "for any member to speak directly with me about personal or community-wide issues."

Members should be familiar with the policy/procedure for accessing Environmental Services, both during normal hours and after-hours for emergencies. Monday through Friday between 8 and 5 contact May Jones at 548-1062 for service requests. If you call and don't get an answer, and have a dire emergency, please call security at 377-2061 and they will immediately notify the appropriate staff. Any after-hours emergencies should be called into security at the same number, and they will notify the on-call personnel. "If at any time you feel we do not respond appropriately," Roger advises, "please call my office direct at 548-1060."

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PCA : What is it And What is its Purpose?

The PCA at Oak Hammock is the Partnership Council of Advisors, a complex term for the Council elected by the Oak Hammock members. The Council consists of 12 members and meets monthly.

The purposes of the Council are:

- ◆ To promote the general well-being and enhance the quality of life of the community as a whole;
- ◆ To be responsible representatives of the community to the management of Oak Hammock at the University of Florida and to act as liaison between the management and the community;
- ◆ To establish and maintain close liaison with residents so that their needs, interests, ideas and concerns may be accurately represented to the Board of Directors.

The Council works with the Oak Hammock Board of Directors (appointed by the University of Florida) and with the management firm of Praxeis (hired by the Board). Dave Stauffer, Chief Executive Officer, works closely with the Council.

The Council operates through Standing Committees, which are Building & Grounds, Dining, Health & Well-Being, Housekeeping, Newsletter, and Travel & Events. There is an ad hoc committee on Finance. Oak Hammock members are urged to attend and to participate in the various committee meetings.

Agendas and minutes of all PCA and Committee meetings are maintained in the library (off the entry foyer) and are available to all Oak Hammock members.

-- Rufus Broadway MD, PCA President.

King Tut Excursion

Bach and Beethoven greeted us in the lobby of the Palm Beach Gardens Embassy Suites, and our excursion was underway. Bach and Beethoven are, of course, the royal Swans that grace the hotel lobby pool and made our wait for keys less of a 'grump' than is typical of registration. Dinner our first night was a relaxed affair at the local Columbia Restaurant with its Spanish flair.

Although based on no formal survey, it is inconceivable that anyone on this outing did not find the Fort Lauderdale Art Museum exhibit on Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs a joyous pleasure. Golden art beautifully arranged and skillfully narrated via individually controlled audio! Later the weather gods cleared away the rain so that we could enjoy the 90-minute riverboat cruise along the Intracoastal Waterway. The Breakers, renowned Palm Beach Hotel, was the site of our second day dinner. Dinner at the L'Escalier restaurant is a luxury that must be experienced because it is impossible to describe successfully.

Our final event was a visit to the Palm Beach Flagler Museum, the restored Gilded Age mansion of Henry Flagler, Florida's railroad magnate. Highlights included a Tiffany silver exhibit and Flagler's private railroad car displayed on the south lawn. Although this museum merits a second visit, the long docent lecture on Flag-



ler's life could easily be replaced by a written brochure for literate guests, such as those of our Oak Hammock group.

Pleasant Oak Hammock people make for pleasant excursions. Here's to more in the future!

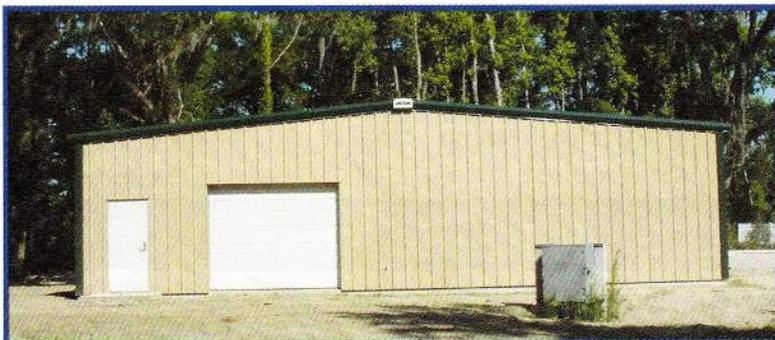
--Julia van Deusen

At Long Last: A Woodworking Shop

The new Maintenance/Woodworking shop is nearing completion. The exterior is complete and power tools have been ordered. Safety policies and procedures are in place, and the building should be ready for occupancy in the very near future.

The shop has been six years in the making. Although it is smaller than first planned, it will provide almost 4000 square feet of space, of which roughly half will be used by Maintenance and half by woodworker members. The shop's interior will be completed by the maintenance staff and the members themselves.

Quite a few of the members came to Oak Hammock because a woodworking facility had been promised. The impetus for the shop started in early 2000, before Oak Hammock's groundbreaking, with email discussions between Tony Ewer, Dan Keane, and Leon Glaze. A short time later Arthur Saarinen joined the group. They tried to develop a list of power tools that would be needed for the shop. A considerable number of suggestions that were not feasible were pointed out to Tony Ewer and Bruce Delaney, e. g., where they had planned to put the shop—on the first floor in the Commons. After installing the dust



collector, Bruce decided that it would be better to move the shop out to a maintenance building. Maintenance took over the original location of the wood shop. The maintenance building for the shop itself was not built, although a site had been designated, and preliminary site preparation had been done, including grading and utility access.

Soon after Oak Hammock opened in 2004 the woodworkers (the list had now grown to 20 to 25 members) implored Dave Stauffer and Oak Hammock to get the building constructed and the wood shop opened. Four or five designs were agreed upon by the woodworkers but still no building was started. In 2005 viable plans were formulated and construction bids were reviewed, resulting in the award of a contract to Scherer Construction for site preparation and the erection of a metal building.

A survey in March, 2006, showed widespread interest in a woodworking shop. About 30 Oak Hammock members indicated a variety of projects in which they would engage, from furniture refinishing to fine carpentry. Interested members should contact Leon Glaze for further information.

-Leon Glaze & Bill Castine

Travel Club Presentation A Realistic View of Hispaniola

It is not often that one reads or hears about Hispaniola unless news reports give the location of an impending hurricane. Yet the two countries that comprise this island, the Dominican Republic and Haiti, have been part of the history of the United States since the time of Columbus. And neither country is a major tourist attraction, Haiti less so than the Dominican Republic.

The Travel Club's April program featured an illustrated lecture, "The Two Faces of Hispaniola," by Dr. Joseph Gilkey who, with his wife, Heather, has traveled often to the Caribbean. His talk was a composite of several visits to Hispaniola, with emphasis on both the Santo Domingo of Columbus and the merchants of Haiti.

Dr. Gilkey's presentation gave a clear picture of what it was like, and what it might be like, to vacation on Hispaniola. His view of the Dominican Republic was quite favorable. Not so for Haiti: he did not recommend it as a vacation spot. In the audience a few heads nodded in apparent agreement with this insightful evaluation.

Members were enlightened as well as entertained.

- Bert Miller

Environmental Services Director

Continued from page 1

Because Environmental Services aspires to meet the needs of members and staff in a timely and efficient manner, its biggest challenge is maximizing available manpower and other resources to achieve the objective at hand. Roger feels great satisfaction when a large plan or program comes together and becomes reality. "I also like to see any of my staff receive praise for a job well done," he says, "and then pass that praise along to other staff members."

The most obvious recent change is the addition of the Maintenance/Woodworkers building. This will allow for the large group of interested woodworkers to have a place to enjoy their hobby, as well as provide the Maintenance and Grounds department with available space for their daily operations. The new facility also frees up valuable space for additional member-required func-

tions in the existing maintenance shop.

OH members are encouraged to report any issues they see on campus that may require the department's attention. "If we all work together to make OH a nice, safe, comfortable place," Roger says, "we will meet our goal."

Roger lives near Archer, Florida on small acreage with his wife Erika and two children, Ryan and Erin. They raise horses, dogs, and chickens as a farming hobby. Roger comes from a farm family from Iowa and has been a Florida resident for nearly 12 years, having moved here from Omaha, Nebraska. He used to be a Cornhusker fan but has switched loyalty to the Florida Gators.

- Bill Castine

Library News



Large-Print Books Added to Library

- ◆ A Recycled Riches grant in the amount of \$200 has been awarded to the Oak Hammock library. With part of the grant, the library committee has purchased 30 large-print books. Twenty books were placed on a special shelf in the library annex and are available for check-out. The rest were put on the book cart in the Health Pavilion.
- ◆ Committee plans to use the rest of the grant to purchase newly published hardcover books to add to the

Oak Hammock collection. If you have a suggestion for specific titles, either fiction or non-fiction, please fill out the survey located in the blue folders in the fiction room and the fireside room.

- ◆ If you have low vision, you are eligible to borrow audio books via the mail at no charge for either the service or postage. Documentation from your physician is required. Call 1-800-226-6075 or write to the Bureau of Braille and Talking Book Library Services, Daytona Beach, FL 32198-001 to find out how you can take advantage of this service.
- ◆ Oak Hammock will no longer return books to the public library.

Resolutions Revisited

As we approach Summer, it is fitting to share a message of 15 resolutions sent in by Mary Caroline Thurber. The resolutions were written by Jack Levine, President of Advocacy Resources. Inspiring, thought provoking, and optimistic are just a few of the words that come to mind. As we contemplate a new season, it's timely to reflect on who we are and where we hope to go in the months ahead. For many of us, 2005 was a year of tremendous challenges and awesome responsibilities. Optimists believe that the year ahead will open new doors and present new opportunities for all of us. New Year's resolutions are about change and the commitment to do something different in our lives. Consider these 15 resolutions:

- ◆ I resolve to appreciate family, friends, and colleagues for who they are, what they mean to me and others, and to gracefully overlook some things they do (or don't do!). None of us is perfect and accepting that reality is a good thing.
- ◆ I resolve not to ignore a wrong that needs righting, a crass statement that needs correction, or an offense that demands a just response. We can set a positive example by not accepting negativity in others.
- ◆ I resolve to be a valuable teammate and to trust others to do their best. Each of us should know what team position we play best, and regularly practice our skills.
- ◆ I resolve to listen to the voices of children and elders. The wisdom of innocence and experience is both free and priceless.
- ◆ I resolve to speak truth to power, but to be both polite and persistent. There's a fine line between persistence and pestilence. Resist aggressiveness, but advocate with assertion.
- ◆ I resolve to accept that I don't know everything. There are others who know more about most things, and together we can form a great brain trust if we meet and blend expertise.

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Jump Start Your Week With a Guided Nature Tour

The Society of Natural History is offering Oak Hammock members a way to jump start the week each Monday by providing a guided nature walk along the 1.5 miles of the campus's woodland trails.

For those unable to walk the distance easily, a golf cart with seating for eight persons will be provided. Reserving space on the cart in advance is recommended. Use the sign-up sheet in the mail room area of the Commons.

Weather permitting, the tour group leaves at 9:15 a. m. each Monday from the main Commons entrance and returns at 10:30 a. m.

Knowledgeable guides, members of the Oak Hammock Society of Natural History, will identify trees and other plants along the route, provide historic insight into the area, and identify birds and their songs.

While the tour is presently limited to the wood-

land areas, society members say they may extend the tour to include areas with deer and turkey feeders, as well as special plants of historical significance such as the Cherokee Rose.

- JoAnn Pierce



Storage Space for Recycled Riches

Recycled Riches is pleased to announce that we have been given a storage area in which to keep items until our next sale. This will be for large items only at this time. We are asking members to hold onto their small items in their own storage areas. We are also in need of some shelves for our storage area. If anyone has shelves that they are not using, please contact us.

At our last meeting we gave money to three Oak Hammock groups: Art in the Corridors, the Natural History Society, and the Library Committee. We hope that other groups in Oak Hammock will continue to submit Grant Applications which are available at the front desk.

Our next sale will be held in the Oak Room on October 21, 2006.

Please help us by continuing to save items which we can sell. We accept almost anything except clothing. If you have any questions, please call Valerie Griffith or Russell Brown, or come to our next meeting. We meet the last Monday of each month in the Multipurpose Room. Check your Oak Hammock calendar.

--Valerie Griffith

Lucille Swanson: 98 Years Young



Friends and neighbors of Lucille Swanson, of # 1205 Building 2, joined her at a favorite get-away, the Convenience Store, April 20, to celebrate her 98th birthday with ice cream and cake.

She is presently living in the Pavilion skilled nursing unit, recovering from a fall.

A native of California, born in 1908 in the Los Angeles area, Lucille came to Gainesville in 1931. Her husband was a doctor of veterinary medicine on the University of Florida research faculty in parasitology, a branch of biology that deals with parasites. He later became one of the faculty members instrumental in developing the university's School of Veterinary Medicine.

To what does Lucille owe her longevity?

"Oh," she says laughingly, "I guess you've just got to be a little stubborn. After all, it sometimes takes a certain amount of sheer stubbornness just to hang in!"

- JoAnn Pierce

New Members 2006

Nina & Anthony Caimi V6 2559



Both Nina and Anthony are from Philadelphia, PA. (They've known each other since they were five years old.) Nina is a graduate of Bucknell and was a teacher and a homemaker.

She is a painter, both in watercolor (portraits) and oil.

Anthony earned his BA degree at Harvard and his BS at Temple. He was a major in the U.S. Marine Corps, a high school teacher/coach, and a managing partner in the New York Life Insurance Company. He enjoys sculpting. Both he and Nina spend summers on their farm in an Amish section of Middlefield, OH. (Neither is Amish.) Anthony has his own herd of pygmy goats, as well as a grape arbor. He says winemaking may become another of his interests.

Fanny Gershow 4106



Fanny is from Washington, PA and attended Pennsylvania State University. She was a secretary in the Officer Classification Division of the U. S. Air Force at Wright Field, Dayton, OH. She moved here from Boca Raton. Her interests are bridge, mah jongg, and canasta.

Lois & Bob Langelier 3115



Lois is from Tarrytown, NY. She attended Sarah Lawrence College, and received her BS degree from the University of Wisconsin, her MA from degree from NYU, and her doctoral degree in educational administration from Nova University. She was a teacher and school principal. Her interests are dancing, miniature doll houses, theatre, music, and travel.

Bob is from NYC. He received his BS/BA from the Georgetown University Walsh School of Foreign Service and his MA degree from NYU. He was managing director of General Motors divisions in Brazil, Venezuela, Chile, and Portugal. His interests are electric trains, travel, classic cars, and golf.

Announcing the arrival of
George Francis Osman
3 lbs. 13 oz.
May 1, 2006
Congratulations to
Katherine & Todd Osman

Resolutions Revisited Continued...

- ◆ I resolve to pleasantly surprise someone every day with an unexpected kindness in word and deed. Life's subtle gifts of concern and cordiality are cherished.
- ◆ I resolve to respect the diversity of faiths, feelings, and fashions. Differences are natural and honoring each other's beliefs creates mutual admiration.
- ◆ I resolve to exercise artistic expression for its intrinsic value. The vitality of the physical, instrumental, visual or vocal arts fuels the soul and expands the mind to new possibilities.
- ◆ I resolve to invest a thoughtful minute before I speak or act. Regret is often preventable. Reversing harm is one of Hfe's most vexing challenges.
- ◆ I resolve to honor those who courageously sacrifice for us at home and abroad, care for our health, educate us, and perform all manner of healing and helping arts so that our quality of life is improved.
- ◆ I resolve to share even if I don't think I have enough. Setting an example by gifting to others in need is one of the best lessons for children to observe.
- ◆ I resolve to protect and defend people who rely on me. Give special attention to the needs of others who may not know how to find their own voice.
- ◆ I resolve to preserve natural environments for their beauty and bounty. Natural settings are home to plant life and species which re too often victims of our wants, not our needs.
- ◆ I resolve to never give up on a person or a cause, despite the challenges faced. Perseverance is an attitude that personifies leadership, attracts allies, and creates meaningful change.

The People Among Us

Many people think of Oak Hammock as a “Life-Fulfilling Experience” rather than a retirement community and members Robert Gentry and Mary Sue Koepfel personify that idea. They are writers who still work nearly nine hours a day, six days a week.

Bob is currently writing the 6th edition of his college humanities textbook, *Insights into Love and Freedom*, which is still used even though he is no longer teaching. Mary Sue travels back to Jacksonville for “Women of Vision,” a pilot program she co-founded at the Cummer Museum of Art and Gardens for visually impaired women. She will teach an ILR short story course in the fall. Bob and Mary Sue are now free-lance writers and co-editors of Writecorner Press (a website for writers seeking new venues for publication) and are presently redoing this website. In spite of their daunting schedules they each find time to participate in Oak Hammock activities and to reach out, helpfully, to many residents.

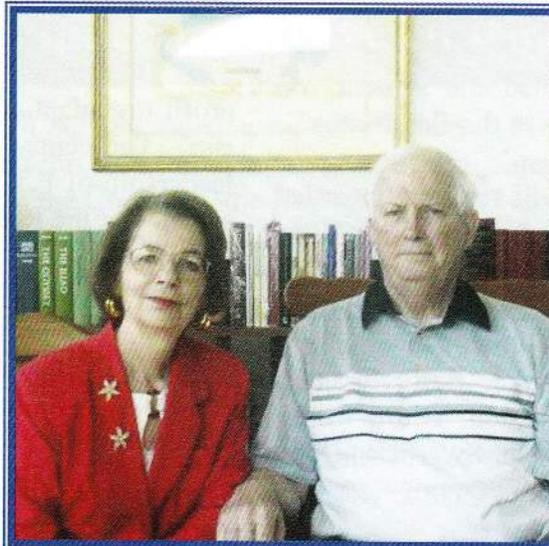
Mary Sue hails from Wisconsin, graduated with an MA from Loyola University, and has done additional graduate work at five other universities. Before moving to Florida, she taught high school and then college where she was a faculty member and an academic administrator. It was while she was attending The National Institute for Teachers of Writing in Portland, ME, that she met Bob, also an attendee, and three years later they married. Subsequently, for fourteen years, they both had the honor of teaching at and running these national seminars.

After marrying Bob, Mary Sue moved to Jacksonville and became a professor of Communications at Florida Community College at Jacksonville. She has acclaimed poetry books: *Between the Bones* and *In the Library of Silences: Poems of Loss*. Her articles, reviews, poems, and short stories appear in over 50 anthologies, newspapers, and journals. Mary Sue has taught creative writing workshops for college students, Elderhostels, writers and Hospice bereavement groups. She conducts interviews of writers for the television show *Writer to Writer* sometimes picked up by PBS. She was the editor of *Kalliope, a Journal of Women's Literature & Art* from 1988 to 2006 where she published writers and artists from the USA and abroad. Another interest of

Mary Sue's is helping people gather and record memories from their lives which she does through workshops and her text.

The recipient of numerous awards for outstanding teaching (including the prestigious Red Schoolhouse Award for Excellence in Teaching as the State of Florida's community college professor of the year) as well as grants and awards for poetry, short fiction, editing, and for community service, Mary Sue is the most proud of her forty-four years as an educator because “education changes lives.”

Bob Gentry grew up in Knoxville, TN, graduated from The University of Tennessee, then from the U.S. Army Language School in Monterey, CA, and served with the U.S. Army in Europe. He has a master's degree in English from UT and additional



graduate credits from three other universities. Prior to his 30 years of teaching English and Humanities and serving as an academic administrator at Florida Community College at Jacksonville, Bob held instructorships at Georgia State University and the University of Georgia. In addition to the textbook that Bob is now revising, he has written *A College Tells Its Story: An Oral History of Florida Community College at Jacksonville*, the first oral history of a U.S. educational institution in book form; *Twentieth-Century Western Culture: An Introduction*; *Tips for Collecting Stories: A Guide to Developing an Oral History*; and a satirical novel, *The Rise of Hump House*. A man of many achievements, Bob was once FCCJ Professor of the Year, received first place in the National First Coast Writer's Festival Contest, won an award in the University of California Quest for Peace Writing Contest, received a grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities as well as other writing awards. Although Bob enjoyed teaching, he is now looking forward to doing more writing and volunteer work.

Bob and Mary Sue thoroughly enjoy their new friends and activities at Oak Hammock.

- Cynthia Clements

Volunteer News

Members Who Have Made a Difference At Idylwild and Prairie View Academy

As the school year comes to an end, it is time to recognize the many Oak Hammock members who have volunteered their time this year at two public elementary schools in the area, Idylwild School and Prairie View Academy.

At nearby Idylwild, the following Oak Hammock residents tutored students in reading and math: Bette Archard, Christine Clark, Cynthia Clements, Mary Jo Davis, Mary Hausler, Edna Hindson, Catherine Morsink, Gloria McDonald, Kirk McDonald, Grace Robey, Jane Smith, Rhoda Swerlick, and Anne Willets. Brenda Thomas was a tutor in Spanish/English. Bert Miller mentored a student after school, and Mary Adams Smith conducted a knitting/crochet class also in the after-school program at Idylwild. Some of these volunteers also accompanied the students on field trips and made presentations in the classrooms.

Once each month another group of residents boarded the Oak Hammock bus and traveled to Prairie View Academy to read to the students (3 and 4 years old) in the Head Start classrooms. They were Jane Baxter, Mary Brown, Marcia Davidoff, Joan Dewey, Jack Hays, Betty Hoffman, Janet Janke, Betty Kramer, Maxine Kuns, Una Law, Pat Liston, Billie Miles, Grace Robey, Jane Smith, Rhoda Swerlick, Betty Taylor, and Al Warnick.

For the second year, Oak Hammock residents who served in the armed forces went to Prairie View Academy to share their experiences with the students in Grades 3, 4, and 5. Participating this year were: Jane Baxter, Rufus Broadaway, Russ Brown, Ed Byrne, Bob Denny, Jerry Kirkpatrick, Frank Pierce, Rodie Squires, Al Warnick, and Ruth Wermiel.

A new program this year was GIFTS – Giving Important Foundations To Students. Oak Hammock provided transportation to Prairie View Academy where the members met with students during their lunch hour, sharing their life experiences and giving the students an opportunity to talk with and ask questions of an interested adult. The Oak Hammock mentors were: Bob Denny, Betty and Walt Flanders, Minette Hendler, Tiffany Lehman, Jessica Jones, Juanita

Miller, Emily Patton, Bob Perraud, and Ruth Wermiel. At the end of the school year, these students will visit Oak Hammock for a tour of the Smart House and lunch with their mentors.

Pat and Manny Lucoff also worked on a special project to be used in the after school program at Prairie View Academy. Pat read a story while Manny did the videotaping.

Because of these extensive commitments by members, as well as a Christmas project that provided gifts for the students at the Sidney Lanier School, Oak Hammock was one of the nominees this year for a "Work of Heart Award." Also nominated was Janet Janke, who has helped promote and organize volunteerism in Oak Hammock.

The "Work of Heart Award" is presented annually by The Volunteer Center of North Central Florida, a non-profit organization dedicated to promoting volunteerism. The center was established in 1971, under the leadership of E.T. York and with the support and assistance of the Rotary Club of Gainesville.

It is hoped that this year's Oak Hammock volunteers will return in the Fall. And for those members who may be interested in these worthy activities there will be a "Make a Difference" meeting in August to describe the volunteer opportunities at each school. The date and time will be announced in *The Oak Leaf*.



Volunteers Janet Janke, Bob Denny, Betty Taylor, Grace Robey, Jane Smith, Mary Jo Davis, & Maxine Kuns

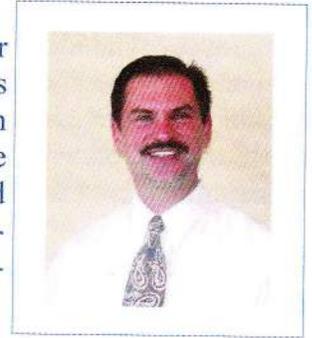
Shawn Ferrell: A Wealth of Experience

Oak Hammock's restaurant manager, Shawn Ferrell, knows the food service industry. He should; he's been part of it since he was 14 years old. He started as a carhop at an A&W Root Beer stand in Ohio and, when his family moved to Gainesville, he worked at Georgia Boys restaurant as a dishwasher and busboy. He went next to the Gainesville Country Club, working both in the dining area and in the kitchen. He was soon promoted to captain.

Four years later he went to the Holiday Inn West as banquet captain and, ultimately, Food and Beverage Director, overseeing more than 50 employees. Six months after Shawn took over, the restaurant went from the bottom quarter in customer satisfaction scores to the top quarter for all Holiday Inn restaurants. He went on to become catering manager for Chef's Garden Custom Catering; then to Paramount Plaza Hotel as Director of Banquets and Conferences. During his three years at Paramount the company received an award for achieving the highest percentage increase in catering revenue among Paramount's 400 hotels. Little wonder that Shawn was the company's Employee of the Year in 2003.

Last October Shawn brought his years of experience to Oak Hammock. As restaurant manager, he is responsible for the hiring, training, and scheduling of staff. He also oversees special events, catering, and the lounge.

Where does he see room for improvement? He thinks members should be served in a more timely manner, the point of service system should be more efficient, and the restaurant phone should be answered during off hours.



Shawn Ferrell

He sees wait-staff turnover as a problem inherent in a predominantly student workforce. It takes three months to train a server with no prior experience and about three more months before servers are fully qualified. That's why Shawn now gives preference to those applicants who can make a commitment of two years or longer.

What are the strong points Shawn sees in the restaurant operation? The pleasant personalities and intelligence of the wait-staff, as well as its good rapport with members . . . the excellent kitchen staff that enables him to focus his attention on service . . . the motivational skills of Chef Kris that foster teamwork between the kitchen and wait-staff . . . his work environment, in which he is not micromanaged and where constructive recommendations are encouraged.

We members are the beneficiaries of Shawn's wealth of experience.
- Roanne Coplin

Marketing Update

It is possible that Oak Hammock will be 95% occupied by the end of summer or early Fall. Six commitments were made in April: one for a Teak Club home, two for Spruce Club homes, and three for a Villa Quince model. These new members are expected to move in within 90 to 180 days. Still available: three Spruce Clubs, 11 villas, one Palm atrium apartment, and one Fig studio apartment.

If 95% occupancy is achieved, much of the credit will be due to the Ambassador Program in which member-volunteers act as hosts and tour guides for interested prospects. The marketing office has come to rely more and more on the ambassadors, and the program is to be enlarged, thanks to a suggestion offered by Margaret Sidman.

The ambassadors will be organized into three groups, each with a captain and co-captain. Marketing will contact one of the captains when the need arises, rather than having to conduct a search for an available member as in the past.

Members who would like to become an ambassador should contact Triveni in the marketing office (548-1024) or Peg Nattress, Catherine Morsink, or Bob Denny.

Those interested in the program are invited to come to an Ambassador Training Tour on Monday, May 22 at 2 p.m. in the main lobby of the Commons.

--- Star Bradbury

Member-Sponsored Employee Scholarship Program

In the Fall of 2004 an Oak Hammock member contacted Dave Stauffer about establishing a scholarship program for employees. The idea was researched, a program developed, and an announcement was included in all employee pay envelopes. The anonymous donor narrowed down the responses to three applicants but still could not make the final selection. Dave Stauffer also could not decide which of the three should receive the scholarship. The solution: since all three applicants were equally outstanding, the donor elected to give \$5,000 to each, half to be paid for the semester after Christmas 2005, and the rest for the summer session, which all three students planned to attend.

After an article about the program appeared in *The Oak Leaf*, another Oak Hammock member got on board, and last year three \$5,000 scholarships were donated by two members.

For the Fall 2006 semester additional contributions are needed in order to continue the scholarship program. Members are invited to contribute any amount they can – by check, cash, or stock transfer. Contributions are tax-deductible. If you wish to take part in this worthy program and join the other contributors, please inform Dave Stauffer.

The following are the requirements for the applicants. The scholarships are available to Oak Hammock employees who work a minimum of 20 hours per week, have worked a minimum of six months, and have attained a minimum GPA of 3.0 with no grade below a “C”. A full-time employee’s spouse or child is also eligible to receive a scholarship, if the employee has been at Oak Hammock a minimum of six months and the applicant has attained a 3.0 (with no grade below a C). The application packet is to be picked up from the receptionist or Shannon Price. The completed application packet with a recent picture and a transcript attached is to be given to the receptionist or Shannon Price. There are two very important essay questions which have made a difference as to whether the applicant has been accepted or not. Once the applicants are narrowed down, an evaluation form is given to their supervisors who not only rate them but also write information about each worker.

The back of the application which the applicant signs indicates that the award is divided into two semesters, and that before receiving the money, proof must be shown that the tuition has been pre-paid. This must also be done before receiving money for the second semester in addition to providing a transcript of the fall semester showing that a GPA of at least 3.0 has been maintained.

The information sheet will be put in the paychecks either late June or early July and the applicants will have three weeks in which to return them.

- Roanne Coplin



March Member Donations

A stroll through Building 2 reveals an atrium enhanced by landscaping made possible by March donations from 24 members.

Another donation was made to the Needlers to be used for purchasing materials to be made into hats for cancer patients. That activity is a special interest of Pat Liston; the donation was given in honor of her recent marriage.

Other recipients of member largess were the Music Fund, the Equipment Fund, and the Benevolence Fund.

Approximately 30 large-print books were purchased with funds raised at the Recycled Riches sale. These books can be found in the Library Annex near the AudioBooks.

- Roanne Coplin

What to Recycle

Oak Hammock provides recycling bins in each trash room. Members are encouraged to sort materials and place them in the proper bins using the criteria established by the City of Gainesville, which are given below:

Big Blue Bins



Plastic Containers--Accepted: Milk jugs, soda bottles, household bleach bottles, and other plastic bottles and jars. Please remove all caps and lids then rinse containers. Step on plastic to save space! **Not accepted:** plastic bags, petroleum product containers, pool chemicals, pesticide containers, or food trays.



Metal Cans--Accepted: Aerosol cans, food cans, and beverage cans. Empty aerosol cans and remove plastic lids. Rinse all food and beverage cans and keep metal lids attached for recycling or place them in the bottom of the cans and squeeze the top of the can so they don't fall out. **Not accepted:** scrap metal, paint cans, or aluminum foil.



Glass Bottles & Jars--Accepted: All clear, green, or brown glass bottles and jars. Rinse and remove lids; labels are OK. **Not accepted:** window panes, glasses, pyrex or other dishes.

Big White Bins



Brown Paper Bags & Newspapers--Accepted: Clean, dry newspapers and inserts. **Not accepted:** junk mail or office paper.

Magazines, Catalogs & Telephone Books--Accepted: All magazines and catalogs are recyclable but should be bagged separately from newspapers. Telephone books are collected year-round.

Cardboard Boxes

All cardboard boxes are to be placed inside the trash rooms for daily pick-up.

Golfer? Link up on the Links

If you called it a two-bit operation, the members wouldn't mind. Men's golf at Oak Hammock is rather loosely organized. In fact their most complicated arrangement – a strictly optional one – is setting up a handicap rating for participation in a two-bit-per-person pool.



Which means that all the golfers are in it to have fun. They congregate at the Meadowbrook course on Wednesday mornings. Tee times, at either 7:30 or 8:30, are arranged by signing up on the clipboard in the mailroom. For additional information, members may call Ellis O'Neal at 377-1919.

The women also have their own group. It even has a name: the Lady Swingers. They usually tee off at 9 a.m. on Mondays. For details, call Phyllis Saarinen at 375-1727.

- David Grundy

Pet of the Month



Meeting this pet was really a remarkable event.

Her name is Holly Marie and she's a Shih Tzu. She lives with Carolynne Mobley—or is it that Carolynne lives with Holly?

Holly is five years old. She's a small pet who welcomes visitors, shares toys and bounds up into the chair to lie quietly beside you—loving the stroking of her neatly kept coat and tail.

This pup is a most adaptable pet. She loves the maintenance crew and welcomes a chance to ride with them.

Oh, I neglected to say that her attractive appearance comes from the fact that she has her very own personal groom who visits regularly!

Since this little gal loves people and human activity, Carolynne had a full length glass front door installed so Holly can watch all the delights of the atrium garden areas and passersby. She frequents the Dog Park and seems to enjoy it, but not as much as areas where there are more human encounters. Visitors in the apartment will often feel her seated on their feet as if their visit is much appreciated and needs to be retained.

If you have a need for company and the warmth of a friend, call Carolynne and Holly Marie and invite them for a visit! Oh!-- be prepared to melt when Holly's big, dark eyes look straight into yours as she gives her full attention to all your words of adoration!

-- Thelma Holmes



Oak Hammock
— at the University of Florida —

Oak Hammock at the University of Florida

5100 SW 25th Blvd
Gainesville, FL 32608
Tel: 352.548.1000
(Toll Free) 888.311.6483
www.oakhammock.org



The Oak Leaf

Produced at Oak Hammock at the University of Florida

Editorial Staff:

Bill Castine, Chair, Newsletter Committee
Katherine Osman, Oak Hammock at the University of Florida
Newsletter Committee Members: David Grundy, Thelma Holmes, Donna Isler, Betty Kramer, Bert Miller, Jo Ann Pierce, Gabriel Rinzler and Martha Webb

Graphics:

James Janke, Oak Leaf Logo Design
Sara Lynn McCrea, Layout

Contributors:

As listed per story

Upcoming Events:

The Movies at Oak Hammock

Continuing weekly based on room availability. The Oak Room

Oak Hammock Singers Practice

Mondays at 3:30 p.m., Oak Room

Bridge Club

Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m., Upper Level Commons

Poker

1st & 3rd Wednesdays at 3:00 p.m., Billiards Room

Duplicate Bridge

Thursdays at 7:00 p.m., Multipurpose Room

Mahjongg

Fridays at 1:00 p.m., Building Two, Third Floor Sitting Area

Oak Hammock Social

Sunday, May 21st, 6:00 p.m., Oak Room

Memorial Day Bar-B-Q

Monday, May 29th,
11:00—1:30 p.m.



Travel Presentation Wine & Cheese

Wednesday, June 7th, 4:00 p.m.

What do you know about Tai Chi ?

“Tai chi (pronounced ‘tie chee’) is an ancient Chinese exercise of continuous slow movements. For people who practice regularly, research shows that tai chi appears to improve balance and strength, as well as burn calories that can lead to body fat and higher risk for cancer.

“Tai Chi is so gentle that it’s hard to believe it is actually a martial art or that it is helping you. The names of some of the exercises are poetic: ‘waving hand in the cloud’ or ‘pushing the mountain.’ Tai Chi’s commonality with other Asian martial arts, such as judo and karate, is its calm focus of the mind on breathing correctly while doing the forms or exercises.”

--- from the Newsletter of The American Institute for Cancer Research

This gentle form of exercise is reputed to ameliorate the effects of aging. Along with Yoga, it is one of the fastest growing fitness and health maintenance activities. Interested Oak Hammock members are invited to attend classes held in the Aerobics Room on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Times are posted on the bulletin board in the Fitness Center.

More about Tai Chi in the next issue of *The Oak Leaf*.