

Moosehaven News

Heart of the Community

Retirement at Moosehaven

Over the years, there have been countless opportunities to introduce seniors and their families to our unique retirement community. In our encounters, we've learned no two souls are alike and no two needs are the same. It's quite a blessing representing a community that can provide value to so many various needs. It's one of the reasons Moosehaven is truly a unique retirement community.

For some residents, our abundant activities and social opportunities provide the perfect platform to reconnect and become engaged. Others find security in the conveniences of our Life Care Center's medical clinic and on call features. Some residents have gained renewed strength and confidence through our various therapy and fall prevention programs. Hosting multiple facets of care and amenities on campus, Moosehaven has provided a measure of value for all residents served.

What a revelation to look back over the years and realize the impact Moosehaven has made in the lives of our residents. Witnessing the transformation from a first encounter to present state is nothing less than astounding. There are so many personal stories of recovery and enhancement, and each provides proof of Moosehaven's success in the Fraternity's mission to serve and support seniors.

Gini Turner, Director of Marketing

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**Newsletter Editor:
Marina Mathews**

What's Happening?

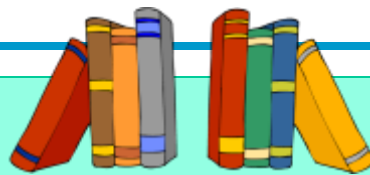
- Dinner Dance at Mandarin Lodge
- Steak Night at Lakeshore Lodge
- Shopping & Lunch in Mandarin
- Hamburger Night at Palatka Lodge
- Baseball Night with Lakeshore Lodge
- OP Kennel Club
- OP Theater
- Golfing at Bent Creek
- WOTM Dinner at Lakeshore Lodge
- District Sports, Meeting & Picnic at Moosehaven
- Ms. Ugly Pageant
- Fried Chicken Dinner at Lakeshore Lodge
- Breakfast at Mandarin Lodge
- Clark's Fish Camp
- Veteran's Social
- John's Social - Island Tropics & Jimmy Buffet!

BOOKS AND MORE BOOKS!

Carol and Nick Mehrtens along with their fur baby Shadow have been Brandon Place residents for the past 5 ½ years and have watched many changes take place in their community. About a month ago, Dean and Ann Blankenship were cleaning out an overabundance of books from their home.

Dean asked Carol what she thought about establishing a library in the Brandon Place Club House. Carol thought it was a great idea and recruited Brandon Place neighbor Brenda Barclay to help get the ball rolling. They thought it was the start of something great. Dean donated two book cases and a friend donated lamps and a rug.

Now all the books are in place and the Brandon Place community is enjoying a new library! The library works on the honor system. Carol said they have something for everyone, so feel free to enjoy. Carol loves that the clubhouse now has a warm and welcoming feeling and as new neighbors move in, feels that it's bringing them together as a community.



**To visit Moosehaven and
schedule a tour, please
contact**

**(904) 278-1200
or visit**

www.moosehaven.org

Just John

It seems that some of our Moosehaven residents have forgotten the meaning of fraternity. While certain unacceptable behaviors have occurred from time to time, they are usually isolated incidents. However, there have been times when negative behaviors became more widespread and troublesome. Several recent examples as well as comments at the recent Resident Council suggest this may be one of those times.

Recent examples include two single residents holding hands as they enjoyed a beautiful day in one of our many swings were told by another resident, "You two should get a room." Really! They were holding hands for Pete's sake! There are also certain continuing negative behaviors by a small group towards another resident in one of our campus halls.

Perhaps some of our residents need to be reminded what being a member of our Fraternity means. Let's start with a definition: **Fraternity**: *A group of people associated or formally organized for a common purpose, interest or pleasure.* OK...that's a good generic definition. However, it doesn't answer the question, "**Why the Moose**" and that's important. The answer lies in the nature of the animal itself. Although the Moose is a large, powerful animal, it is a protector not a predator. Perhaps the Loyal Order of Moose is best defined by the words of our former enrollment ceremony.

"He takes only what he needs nothing more . . . yet for his great size and strength he lives in peace with other creatures. The moose uses his size and power not to dominate but to protect, not to spoil but to preserve. He is a fierce protector, a loyal companion and a generous provider who brings comfort and security to those within his defending circle."

We are the Loyal Order of Moose and the moose represents us for very specific reasons. Unfortunately, it seems that some have forgotten that when they joined this Fraternity, they accepted certain values - to live in peace with others, not to dominate but to protect, to bring comfort and security to those within the defending circle.

While it is true that each of us is entitled to live according to our own values, it is also true that we should not impose them on others especially when they reflect bigotry, prejudice and/or jealousy. Perpetrators of these behaviors create turmoil instead of peace. Instead of protecting a brother or coworker, they attempt to dominate by virtue of perceived superiority. Instead of bringing comfort and security within the defending circle, they victimize individuals, harm organizations and society and sometimes cross boundaries of morality and even legality. Unfortunately, despite these sad outcomes, these attitudes and behaviors are similarly found in lodges, at work and indeed throughout society. Even more unfortunately for the Moose, they cause members to leave.

The world is changing at an ever-increasing pace and often in ways that contradict old practices, long held beliefs and values. Indeed, sometimes it seems as if all that we hold dear is being stripped away. In the midst of this change, it is incumbent upon each of us to hold one value firmly in our hearts. That is the value of human dignity and respect for each individual, no matter their size, shape, color, race, creed, preference or any of those other meaningless prejudices.

While we may not be able to individually instill civility into society, we must not let the behaviors of a few define our campus or our Fraternity. Moose brothers and coworkers must demonstrate our fraternal values by standing against bigotry, prejudice and jealousy. We must extend to all members the greatest strength of our Fraternity - the defending circle. It must be more than a slogan or part of a ritual. It must be a defining characteristic of the Moose. Each of us must be a *"fierce protector, a loyal companion and a generous provider who brings comfort and security to those within the defending circle"* even for those, no - especially for those - who are different, if we truly wish to demonstrate our fraternal brotherhood.

Psalms 133:1 Behold, how good and pleasant it is when brothers dwell in unity!

I'm...

Just John

My daughter and I recently watched the movie *The Shack* based on the book of the same name. I would recommend this movie /book to anyone, I absolutely loved it. Whether or not you agree with the “religiousness” of it, the basic principles laid out are so fundamental that it could apply to anyone and any situation.

The basic premise is to trust in God and forgive freely. Trusting that God has a bigger plan for each of us, one that we can’t see mired in the clay, in life circumstances, as we are most of the time. Freely forgiving those that do us harm, that’s a tough one. The story shows that God is orchestrating the good for all of His children, not just us. It explains that sometimes the good for another of his children conflicts with what we deem as good for us. It is not that simple....we must look at the bigger picture, not just our own circumstances.

We must forgive and trust that He has our life planned out and, although we can’t possibly see the good in some circumstances, He is always with us and is always working for our good. How simple. How lovely to be loved that much. Can you imagine having a world full of children that you love equally just like we love our own? I can’t begin to imagine the love, the pain, the disappointment, the pride He must feel on a daily basis.

The two children I do have keep me busy and worried and proud and a million other emotions on a daily basis....I can’t imagine having millions of children, my mind shuts down at the thought. As parents we advise our children to forgive others, to be nice, to love, to respect and to have trust in us, their parents. God is asking no less from you and I, His children.

This story brought all of that into perspective. God is our Father, Jesus is our Savior and the Holy Spirit is our Comforter. In the movie the character playing the part of Jesus was asked why he didn’t just command people to love Him and He replied, “I don’t want slaves, I want friends, I want family.” How profound I found this answer. He wants a real relationship with us, just like the ones we allow our family and friends to have. A relationship. That’s all He ever wanted, trust, respect, love and communication. Sounds easy enough.

Walking with God is simply having a relationship with Him. Your own relationship, not predicated on anyone else’s relationship, it is your own. It will be different from any other person’s just as your relationship with your own children differ slightly. Differs because each child has his or her own personality, so it is with us as God’s children.

Marina D. Mathews

Director of Admissions , Moose Life Program



The Shack

Mooseheart Boys & Girls Visit Moosehaven!



**Kids and Senior Adults.
It's who we are.
Moose Proud!**



SIMPLY HELEN

Secrets at Moosehaven?

I thought everyone tells me anything and everything at Moosehaven, that is until our Executive Director, John Capes, gave his report at the International Convention in Tampa, FL. In his report he spoke of Moosehaven business and gave thanks to the many employees who contribute on a daily basis to the operation of Moosehaven who are all heroes to our residents and then comes a picture of me plastered upon the screen followed by beautiful words from residents and staff congratulating me on being named their “Hometown Hero.”

Needless to say, I was surprised by the honor and as much surprised that I wasn’t “told” about it. Not one word, not one hint of something good to come, nothing! I found out at convention the filming for the presentation was done while I was at a Moose conference in New York and John swore them to secrecy! For those of you in attendance at Convention, yes, I was speechless and that doesn’t happen very often.

I am humbled by the accolades on the video and from so many members following the presentation at Convention, Facebook comments and by my hometown heroes – our Moosehaven residents and staff! I thank you all from the bottom of my heart for allowing me the privilege of serving you each and every day.

I preached the 7:30am Sunday sermon at Convention and I spoke about honoring our heroes. I spoke first of Christ being the greatest hero of all time and also recognized our military men and women and our first responders for their bravery and willingness to keep our Country and our neighbourhoods safe. I ended the service with honoring each and every Moose Hero for their contribution in changing the lives of children and seniors.

When I was hired at Moosehaven way back on May 8, 1985, I was happy to get a “job” at a nice place. It probably took me 10 years to come to the full realization that I didn’t just get a job, I got people! People to serve, to love and to grow with at a very important time in their lives – the golden years! Because of all of you Moose Heroes, their lives are enriched because the pressures of life are less and the pleasures of life are more; simply because of the freedom of living a worry free lifestyle.

A HUGE thank you to all of you, our heroes, for making life at Moosehaven a ride to remember!

Simply Helen

THANKS TO ALL OF YOU.



BILL'S BOARD

Come and listen to my story about a man named Gordius, he was a poor Greek peasant who barely kept his family fed. Then one day he was riding in his ox cart with his wife and they drove into the town of Phygia where they wound up right smack in the middle of the public square. All the people gathered around and they up and made him king. It seems that the Oracle (that's like a fortune teller only better) from Phygia told everybody about a vision that prophesied their next king would come riding into town on an ox cart and the next day old Gordius showed up doing that very thing.

Now Gordius was pretty smart and he recognized that being made king was a big step up for him so he pondered on how to celebrate. After a while he reckoned it was fitting for him to make an offering of his ox cart to Zeus. In due course Gordius dedicated the ox cart at the temple and he tied it all up with a very special knot that had no beginning or end. All the people were very impressed.

The Oracle made another prophesy (apparently Oracles did that a lot back then) that only the man destined to rule all of Asia could undo that special knot of Gordius. For years and years people came from all around but none could unwind the knot. Finally around 330 BC a 23 year old general and his army marched into town. The general's name was Alexander and he had a hankering to conquer the world or as much of it as he could find.

Alexander figured if he could unravel this knot it would go a long way toward convincing people he might just be the ruler of Asia and they would help him in his ambition. Alexander walked right up to the old ox cart with a crowd of people watching his every move and he studied on how he could undo that knot. To his consternation no way to unravel the knot could he find. Alexander got vexed and shouted, "It don't make no difference how I get this knot loose." With that he pulled his sword and cut the knot clean through. All of a sudden out of nowhere up came a great big thunder storm with more lightning than anybody had ever seen. The Oracle said that storm was Zeus himself showing his admiration and approval. After that everybody thought Alexander was pretty great and they did help him with his conquering.

If you look really hard you might recognize that story as the myth of the Gordian Knot. Over many centuries the Gordian Knot has been a symbol for unsolvable problems. It may be where we got the phrase dealing with a knotty problem. Alexander's solution has been thought of as problem solving through unconventional means or "out of the box thinking". I agree with this but I don't think it goes quite far enough. Some misguided people think Alexander's actions indicate that when there is no other solution you should resort to drastic or even violent action but I don't think that is the message at all. To me the message is about finding bold solutions to complicated problems.

The philosopher Henri-Frederic Amiel is quoted as saying, "To be always ready a man must be able to cut a knot, for everything cannot be untied, he must know how to disengage what is essential from the detail in which it is enwrapped for everything cannot be equally considered. In a word he must be able to simplify his duties, his business, and his life."

Finding the bold solutions to our problems great and small begins with recognizing and separating what is important from what is not. As difficult as this may be it simplifies insurmountable problems into workable pieces.

*Bill Tippins, Chief of Operations
Life Care Administrator*



UP CLOSE AND PERSONAL WITH RUTH SCHRAEDER

This month we get up close and personal with Ruth Schrader. Ruth was born to Levi and Hazel Everhart on December 4th in Wayland Township, MI. Ruth graduated from Wayland High School and she said there were only 28 people in her graduating class.

She married her first husband in 1948 and they had four children, two boys and two girls. Ruth married her second husband Bill on February 14, 1980. She was married to him for 32 years until he passed away in 2012. She worked for Abbott Laboratories & Pharmaceuticals, retiring after 26 years of service.

At some point we all dream of what our retirement will look like. For some it's a condo on the beach, perhaps spending more time with family or maybe getting into a new hobby. For Ruth it was hitting the open road in a recreational vehicle. Ruth and Bill traveled for 9 ½ years enjoying the open road until Bill got sick and passed away. They stayed in every state at least one night some longer. Ruth said that they also played golf all over the United States she recalled that they even played in 106 degree temperatures while in Arizona.

One of her most memorable trips was an archeology trip to The Four Corners area in the South-western United States, where the states of Arizona, Colorado, New Mexico, and Utah meet. Ruth loved being adventurous and outdoors. She's climbed every tower, light house and mountain she visited.

Ruth remembers when she wanted to go skydiving; she attended all the classes and was ready to go. Unfortunately, she suffered a heart attack and was told by doctors see could not go. She said she was so disappointed that she decided to go parasailing. She said with a smile, "Well the doctors didn't say I couldn't do that."

She decided to come to Moosehaven after the death of her husband Bill. Ruth said that coming here was the best decision she has ever made, especially since her recent illness. She said that there would have been no way she could have taken care of all the medical bills that would have come with her recent medical scare. Ruth has gained peace of mind and a lot of wonderful friends here at Moosehaven.



Ruth's advice for the next generation is, " NEVER forget to pay your Moose dues and come to Moosehaven when you're young and can enjoy it. Find your passion, be a positive influence to others and learning from your failures is your key to success."

*Donna Minigh
Resident Services Assistant*



The Centennial Building



Making Progress....

Another Successful American Pride 4th of July!



Hometown Heroes...Going The Extra Mile

We recognize residents and staff who go over and above and who, in their own way, are Moosehaven's own Hometown Heroes.

- ⇒ **The Therapy Department**, is recognized for the wonderful job they do in assisting residents at Moosehaven.
- ⇒ **The residents working the Country Store and Gift Shop**, are recognized for working long hours while touring Moose members were on campus.
- ⇒ **Bob Dusinger** is recognized for providing cold water for a visiting Moose puppy dog.
- ⇒ **The Resident Tour Guides** are recognized for their hard work in making sure our visiting Moose saw Moosehaven and all the amenities and services we provide.
- ⇒ **Security Staff** are recognized for making sure the Tour Guides had plenty of water available.

If you would like to add someone's name for our Raise The Roof column, please contact Marina Mathews, Director of Admissions at x1214 or Helen Taylor at x1217.

Resident Birthdays In August!

Bob Acor	Terry Bailey	Thyra Beaudrot	Donald Bell
Lorene Benz	Ann Blankenship	Jacqueline Bramblett	Lester Budz
Patricia Chisholm	Buddy Dunkle	Elsie Frisk	Anita Gettings
Margaret Janson	Patricia McFarland	Margaret Neloff	John Pimental
Delores Rockwood	Sheryll Sherman	Margie Walter	Ingeborg Westmoreland

Resident Anniversaries In August!

Donald & Joyce Bell	Robert & Carolyn Cox	Bill & Patricia McFarland
Nicholas & Carole Mehrtens	Albert & Marlys Shallbetter	

Make sure you visit the Moosehaven website where you can see information about all of our Upcoming Events and Campus News. Copies of the monthly newsletter are also kept on the website under the Moosehaven News page!

MOOSEHAVEN.ORG



Staff Birthdays

Anthony Jackson	Nancy Gaffney
Nieves Latuch	Gloria Shaver
Denise Blair	Carmen Tzan
Vennette Rouzard-Barnett	Michael Thompson
Robert David	Helen Taylor
Breanna Burrell	Alison Emry
Sarah Hapner	Augusta Breval
Christina Monte	Christina Gill
Shane Cassata	Faye Johnson
David Thornton	Ramona Suarez
Sawako Park	Laura Askew
Edith Doe	Conchita Garrett
Colanna Simon	

