



"Our intention is to organize the residents so that they might help each other and help themselves, and provide from their own energy the major part of the cost of their keep."  
James J. Davis



## UPCOMING EVENTS

**Mother's Day  
Luncheon**

**Higher Degree  
Lake City**

**Mandarin  
Dinner Dance**

**Corn Cob Clan  
Dinner Show**

**Memorial Day  
Picnic @ 2020**

**Riverside Arts  
Market**

**District 12  
Picnic**

# Community Service, Family, Fraternity

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## FBMA Mid-Year Conference Success!

The 2009 Florida-Bermuda Mid-Year Conference in Tampa represented many successes for Moosehaven. Congratulations are in order for our Ritual Team who scored in 5th Place for the state! Individual winners were: Marvin Merriam who took 2nd place for Governor, Fergie Ferguson who took 2nd place for Sergeant of Arms, Pete Conn who took 3rd place for Orator and Mel Schmitt who took 3rd place for Prelate. Well done gentlemen, we are proud of you.

Sandy Treffinger had the Academy of Friendship degree conferred upon her on Sunday, April 19th. There were 286 matriculates. The Academy of Friendship is the first degree that you can earn as a member of the WOTM. There are two ways to earn this recognition. You can hold one of the chairs in your Chapter and enroll two new members during the year that you hold a chair. If you do not hold a chair then you need to enroll 5 new members during a one year period. The year begins May 1st and ends April 30th. Sandy belongs to the Lakeshore Chapter #1495, and her Chapter gave her a corsage made of white carnations with blue tint. Only women who have earned this degree are permitted to go to the Academy of Friendship ritual ceremony. Nine of Moosehaven's lovely ladies attended the ceremony and were gracious in congratulating her on earning this degree. The ladies who attended were Verna Wilson, Cris Windsor, Rita Gabbert, Betty Bunn, Rena Croft, Mary Landers, BJ Leger, Lee Peterson, and Judy Kelly.

Verna Wilson also received a very special plaque for 65 years as a member of the WOTM. This occurred at the women's meeting on Friday.

From Left:  
Joseph Vorndram, Joseph Keim, Marvin Merriam, Reggie Parkhouse, Jim Rhodes, Jim Parker, Bob Burlingham, Howard Mathias, Paul Langham, Jan Jansen and John Prete.



## Just John

"Old or young, we're on our last cruise." Robert Louis Stevenson. Let's make it meaningful.

We all want our lives to mean something but meaning is not something you stumble across, like the answer to a riddle or the prize in a treasure hunt. It is something you build into your life.

Doing so requires fuel. Happiness is that fuel. Take it away and nothing happens. Happiness has two frames...the present and the future. To examine this, make a list of the 25 things you need to be happy...don't hold back. A typical list might include: a million dollars, a round the world cruise, a mansion, healthy children, a happy marriage, and a yacht.

I'll admit, there are some great things on this list but will their acquisition make you happy? That depends on what happiness means to you. You're certainly not going to be happy about the things you don't have. How many of the things on your list do you have? If only a few of them or even none, then you're saying, "My happiness depends on getting X, Y and Z." What do you do about being happy in the meantime?

Now, make a second list of the 25 greatest blessings currently in your life. Typical things on this list include: I have hands, I have feet, I have eyes, I am alive, I have children, I have a good friend, I have food to eat, I have a place to sleep, I am relatively sane. Which of your two lists has better things on it? Or to ask this in another way...would you give up your eyes for a million dollars? How about your legs for a yacht? It is probably the second list.

So if you already have a list of incredible blessings and are grumpy and dissatisfied, why should you believe that you would be happy if you had more things? The truth of the matter is that happiness is the natural state of a human being. Watch a baby for a few minutes. They don't seem to have too much trouble being happy. Yet, we are so consistently programmed to look for the bad or to take our blessings for granted, that we become oblivious to all the interesting, pleasurable and good things around us.

The trick of it is to get into the habit of looking for good things, instead of griping all day about what's going wrong. In boot camp, I was taught how to instinctively do things I'd never done before. Perhaps, we need a boot camp to form the same habits in happiness. Human beings live in time. It's not enough for people to just feel good about the present moment; they also need to feel optimistic about the future. This optimism is called "joy."

Joy comes from feeling that we are doing something with our life that will give it meaning forever. This kind of joy comes when you feel that you are growing in wisdom, making a difference in other people's lives or contributing to something good.

When people think they are just cogs in a machine or that their existence makes no difference to anyone, they cannot feel a sense of joy, therefore, we need to feel that our relationships have permanence, and that our knowledge and good deeds have lasting value.

Finally, many people feel -- and I am one of them -- that belief in God and in an afterlife are a helpful part of this feeling of optimism and joy. Have a great day!

*Just John*

## Up Close And Personal With Owen Jones

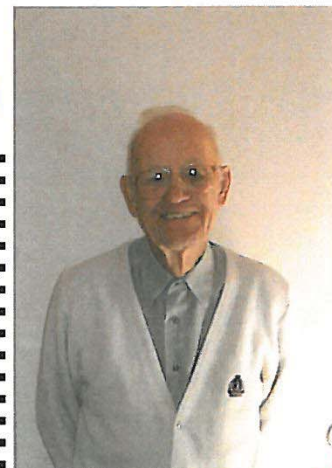
Owen Evan Jones was born on April 29, 1910 in Wales to Jane Ellen and John Jones. When Owen was very young, his father came to the United States and worked at a factory in New York State. When Owen was 4, he and his mother arrived here (through Ellis Island), and the family settled in Ilion, NY. His parents had another son and a daughter. His brother, Thomas, lives in New York and is 92 years old. There were two big factories in this small town—Remington Arms (they make guns and are still in business today after 150 years) and Remington Typewriters (who went out of business when the computer was born).

When Owen was a senior, he helped start the track team at his high school, Ilion High. He ran the 220 relay and also the 100-yard dash. Owen was a right halfback on the school's football team and says he remembers scoring a few touchdowns.

After graduation, Owen said he didn't want to work in either of the factories in town, so he was looking for a job. He ran across a want ad in *The Ladies Home Journal* for a job with the Davey Tree Expert Company. He contacted them, and started at their school because he had to learn the business. He also had to do ten lessons at home. He passed all of their tests and became a tree surgeon. Owen worked for them traveling all over the country. They sent him to the Dallas-Ft. Worth, TX, area to build up a new territory for the company, and it was here that Owen quit working for the Davey Co. and started his own business, Owen Jones, Arborist. He had his own business for 36 years.

During this time, he met his future wife, Leigh, and married her in 1937. They had no children. Leigh passed away in 1981.

Owen was a right halfback on the school's football team and says he remembers scoring a few touchdowns.



After giving up his business in 1986, Owen sold his home and moved back to Ilion. He said he could only take three winters there, so he moved back to Texas and moved in with his niece. He lived with her until 2006. On May 17, 2006, Owen came to Moosehaven.

Owen joined the Arlington, TX Lodge #1932 in 1968. He holds the Fellowship Degree and is a Legionnaire. His wife was also very active in the WOTM. He said he is glad he had enough sense to join the Moose when he did.

When Owen arrived in Moosehaven, he said he just wanted to take it easy because he had worked so hard all of his life. So that's exactly what he is doing. He likes everything about Moosehaven, enjoys all of the food, enjoys looking out his window in Peeler II at the vehicles, birds, etc. with his field glasses. He says his life has been very full, he has been very lucky, he wouldn't change a thing, he feels fine (mentally and physically), and he has no secrets to share.

*Bea Harman*

## Simply Helen

Smiling is infectious,  
you catch it like the flu,  
When someone smiled at me today,  
I started smiling too.  
I passed around the corner  
and someone saw my grin,  
When he smiled I realized  
I'd passed it on to him.  
I thought about that smile  
Then I realized its worth,  
A single smile, just like mine  
could travel round the earth.  
So, if you feel a smile begin,  
don't leave it undetected  
Let's start an epidemic quick,  
and get the world infected!

*Helen*

