

# OUR Brookestone Village Family

*"We're Changing the View of a Nursing Home and Alzheimer's Care"*

JANUARY, FEBRUARY  
MARCH 2009

## Jack Hughes and Don Nelsen, Best Friends For Life!



Jack Hughes

Jack Hughes and Don Nelsen have been the best of friends for more than 70 years! They met each other when they were children and their families were friends. When Jack's mother died, Don's family asked him to be

a part of their family.

They went to Tech High School together and graduated in 1939. They decided to go to the University of Omaha and had completed some courses when the United States entered into World War II. They both enlisted in the Army and set sail for England. They will always remember the Lady in the Harbor holding the torch of freedom as they passed her in New York harbor. It brought tears to their eyes and made them think about the freedom that we have. They left from Plymouth, England to go to France. Plymouth, England is the historic town where the Pilgrims sailed for America in 1620. They served in Normandy and 25 miles south of Paris under General Eisenhower's command. They got to see Marlene Dietrich perform through the USO which was a

wonderful experience for them.

After the war, they decided to use the GI Bill to get their degrees from the University of Omaha. Don got his degree in Music and Jack got his degree in Theater. They furthered their education through the University of Southern California and graduated with a Master's Degree in Education. Jack taught fifth grade for 31 years and Don taught eighth grade for 32 years in Omaha.

They enjoyed the years together and did many different things. One big event in their lives was that they got to fly on the Concorde in 1984! The Concorde was scheduled to fly back to England and the official lottery was run by AAA. The trip started in Omaha to New York and then on to England. They were chosen for the trip and were thrilled! It took them three hours to go to England. It was really neat when they passed the sound barrier!



Don Nelsen

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AHCA Quality Step I Award Recipients



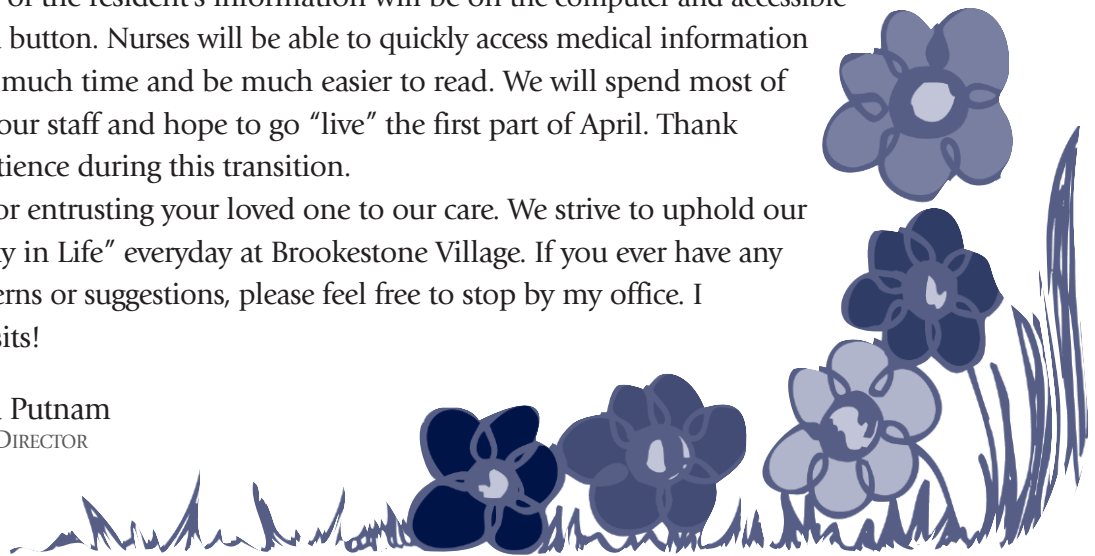
# SPRING

Spring is just around the corner and I believe we are all anxiously awaiting its arrival! We look forward to the baby ducks, beautiful plants and flowers and most of all, being able to spend time outside. The Life Enrichment Department is working on planning fun outings as well as some gardening. Maybe we'll be able to eat some of our success!

As we enter into this New Year and looking forward to spring, we are entering a new era of technology at Brookestone Village. We are converting to electronic charting. This will reduce the amount of time writing in charts and writing things in different places which is time consuming for our staff. All of the resident's information will be on the computer and accessible at the touch of a button. Nurses will be able to quickly access medical information which will save much time and be much easier to read. We will spend most of March training our staff and hope to go "live" the first part of April. Thank you for your patience during this transition.

Thank you for entrusting your loved one to our care. We strive to uphold our mission "Dignity in Life" everyday at Brookestone Village. If you ever have any questions, concerns or suggestions, please feel free to stop by my office. I welcome the visits!

Cassandra Putnam  
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



## Jack Hughes and Don Nelsen, Best Friends For Life!

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Another really great time was when they went on the Orient Express to Paris and Venice. They were accompanied by Don's mother and while they were in France, they showed her where they had been during the war. They also went to the Opera and all the sites in Paris. While in Venice, they enjoyed the gondolas and seeing all the sites of a city reclaimed from the sea!

They love New York City for all the Broadway shows, the Metropolitan Opera and the tremendous amount of site seeing that is available. They have never forgotten the Statue of Liberty when

they went off to war and what she symbolizes.

Don was very active in the Omaha Community Playhouse doing musicals and plays. Jack was in melodramas playing the villain and hero with the Florentine Players. Jack has also been the voice of Brookestone Village in radio commercials on KFAB and KGOR for the past two years.

We are very fortunate to have both Jack and Don here at Brookestone Village. Jack came here in November, 2005 and Don came here in October, 2008. We are glad to have you both here!

## Life Enrichment

The Life Enrichment Department is hosting an Easter Egg Hunt on Easter Sunday, April 12, 2009. Easter eggs will be hidden in the Chapel for ages 0-3. Ages 4 and up will have eggs hidden around the facility – but not in

resident rooms. Participants will receive candy from the eggs as well as some special prizes for those participants who find numbered eggs. We

encourage and invite all resident families with children to bring

their children to participate

in this event. The Easter Bunny will be available for pictures with the children during the event.



### National Nursing Home Week

is coming up the week of

**May 10 – 16, 2009!**

The theme of this year's celebration is  
**"Nurturing a Love That Lasts."**

Brookestone Village is pleased to announce that we will be hosting a "Senior Prom" on Friday, May 15, 2009, from 1:30 – 3:30 PM in the Great Room. Our Life Enrichment Coordinator is putting together a slide show of pictures of your loved one at a formal event. You can either bring them into Cameo Rogers – Life Enrichment Coordinator, for her to scan into her computer or you can E-mail them to...

[brookestonevillage@vhsmail.com](mailto:brookestonevillage@vhsmail.com)

We are also encouraging families to bring in formal clothing for their loved one to wear to the event and families/friends are welcome to attend and dance with their loved ones.

Life  
*Enrichment ...*

## MARK YOUR CALENDARS FOR Upcoming Events

MARCH 12

**Men's Breakfast**

8:30 A.M. – Great Room

MARCH 17

**St. Patrick's Day Social &  
 Celtic Wind Performance  
 (Harpists/Soloists)**

3:00 P.M. – Great Room

MARCH 21

**One Voice Children's Choir**

3:00 P.M. – Great Room

MARCH 28

**Violin Recital**

10:00 A.M. – Great Room

APRIL 7

**Primary Election**

8:00 A.M. – 8:00 P.M.  
 Great Room

APRIL 10

**Resident Easter Egg Hunt  
 All Day**

APRIL 11

**Easter Buffet**

11:00 A.M. – Great Room

APRIL 12

**Easter Sunday Service**

10:00 A.M. – Chapel

**Easter Mass**

3:00 P.M. – Chapel

**Easter Egg Hunt**

1:30 P.M.

APRIL 23

**Johnny Ray Gomez  
 Merry-maker's Association**

3:00 P.M. – Great Room

APRIL 24

**Volunteer Recognition &  
 Kirk Neble Piano Performance**

4:00 P.M. – Great Room

APRIL 25

**Piano Recital**

3:00 P.M. – Great Room

## Dementia Training Enlightens Staff

In January, several team members from the Life Enrichment and Nursing Departments attended a two day Dementia Training Seminar put on by the Nebraska Health Care Association at the Vetter Learning Center in Lincoln. The course was taught by Rita L. Spak. The staff returned very enlightened with many new ideas to communicate more effectively with individuals who have dementia.

Validation Theory is an important example. If an individual with dementia states "I want to see my mom!" a proper validation technique would be to say "Tell me about your mom." This gives them a chance to talk.

The seminar also emphasized finding what helps the resident with dementia become calm and engaged. For example, if a resident likes to tear paper, you would give them a box full of newspapers, magazines and scrap paper to tear. After they are finished, you could donate the torn paper to the Humane Society for cage lining.

After taking the course, the staff can become a Certified Dementia Practitioner by registering. The staff in attendance included: Cameo Rogers and Kirsten Putnam, Life Enrichment; Don Ellefson, LuAnn Harr, Trish Davis, Anna Day, Rhonda Lageman and Susan Noblin, Nursing.

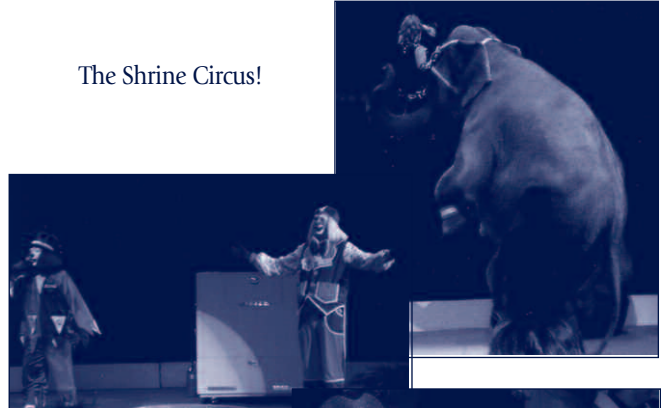
## Power Strips in Resident Rooms

Please be advised that power strips and extension cords are not permitted in Long Term Care Facilities in the State of Nebraska. We are installing four plex outlets to help make it easier for our residents. If you see power strips or extension cords in a resident's room, please report them to Maintenance as soon as possible. Thank you!

## Our Family Photos

Every day is a special day at Brookestone Village. Please enjoy the pictures that reflect the spirit of happiness and love that are so very much part of the Brookestone Village family.

The Shrine Circus!



James Lawson and Marjorie Funk enjoyed the Shrine Circus events.



Emily Jasa and her mother Cindy enjoyed the circus with Cindy's father, Bill Coffman.



James Lawson enjoys a chance to play the drums!



Brookestone Village's Christmas Boutique



Residents were able to choose 2 gifts for the holidays.



# BROOKESTONE VILLAGE



Thank You!

## Christmas Card to Brookestone Village

*Just a little story  
in case you were not aware...*

The year before Mom entered Brookestone Village, Dad took her to the building site each week explaining to her that her new home was being built. As the building progressed, Dad would tell Mom her new bedroom and kitchen would soon be ready for her to move into. This was his way of easing her into leaving their home of thirty years and entering Brookestone Village. Her bedroom was in blue and her bathroom in peach so he requested her room to be in peach and blue. Her first room on Cottonwood and her second room on Silver Maple were the colors he requested. Dad passed away after living at Brookestone Village for nine months. He had joined her one month after he settled Mom into "her new home." The transition for Mom was flawless thanks to my Dad.

I am taking this "Greetings for the Season" opportunity to thank you all again for the wonderful care you all gave my mom during her nearly eight years at Brookestone Village. Words cannot express my appreciation but if my heart could talk, you would know you were all loved for your care and concern. God's blessings to you all.

**Carol Zuther,**  
DAUGHTER OF GERI COY



## Family News

**Brookestone Village  
Welcomed our  
1,000<sup>th</sup> Resident  
on February 03, 2009!**



## Chaplain's Corner

### YOU HAVE ETERNAL LIFE...

"I write these things to you who believe in the name of the Son of God so that you may know that you have eternal life."

1 John 5:13

*Some people hope that they  
will receive eternal life,  
but John says we can know we  
have it, based on  
God's promises.*



# Brookestone Village

PRESORTED STANDARD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
OMAHA, NE  
PERMIT NO 421

4330 South 144th Street  
Omaha, Nebraska 68137  
administrator-oma@vhsmail.com  
www.brookestonevillage.com  
(402) 614-4000

Return Service Requested

 This Care Facility is a Proud Member  
of the Vetter Health Services Family

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## Our Mission

is to provide...

Dignity in Life

Quality Life

Quality Care

Excellent Teams

Outstanding Facilities

Quality Reputation

Stewardship

- Nondiscrimination Policy -  
It is the policy of Brookestone Village  
that no resident or employee be discriminated  
against because of age, sex, creed, race, color,  
religion, national origin, or disability.

## BROOKESTONE VILLAGE CONSULTANTS

Dr. Brenda Keller  
MEDICAL DIRECTOR

Camy Wilson  
PHARMACY CONSULTANT

Senior Vision Services  
OPTOMETRY SERVICES

Esther Dietrick  
CLINICAL DIETICIAN

Ellen Hauptman  
BEAUTICIAN

Jeff Hauptman  
BARBER

Melody Chapman  
BEAUTICIAN

College of Nail Design  
MANICURES & PEDICURES

Delivered Dental Services  
MOBILE DENTISTRY

## LEADERSHIP Team

Cassandra Putnam . . . . . Executive Director  
Dani Cox . . . . . Business Services Coordinator  
Erin Young . . . . . Guest Relations Coordinator  
Patsy Hack . . . . . Director of Nursing  
Mary Murren . . . . . Memory Support Coordinator/ADON  
Traci Gudenrath . . . . . EnduraCare Therapy Manager  
Mikeal Loneman . . . . . Social Services Coordinator  
Kathy Hicks . . . . . Human Resources/People Development  
Kathy Chadderdon . . . . . Community Relations Coordinator  
Cameo Rogers . . . . . Life Enrichment Coordinator  
Wanda Haston . . . . . MDS Coordinator  
Cindy McManus . . . . . MDS Coordinator  
Pat Drews . . . . . Staff Development Coordinator  
Jeanie Krambeck . . . . . Admissions Planner  
Carol Palmier . . . . . Payroll Coordinator  
Jerry Kee . . . . . Building and Grounds  
Support Coordinator  
Shannon Lane . . . . . Environmental Services  
Coordinator  
Kristin Ellison . . . . . Dietary Manager  
Don Lerdahl . . . . . Executive Chef  
Pastor Joe Lape . . . . . Chaplain