



**MOOSEHAVEN
PRESENTATION TO THE
INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION
ANAHEIM, CALIFORNIA
JULY 3, 2011**

**JOHN CAPES
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

Present on stage:

**Pilgrim Robert Elliot, Past Supreme Governor; Brother Marvin Merriam, Moosehaven resident; Co-worker Ruth Wingard, Moosehaven resident
The Moosehaven Board plus Rodney Hammond**

Ron Sweetman:

Introduction:

“...it is my pleasure to introduce John Capes, Moosehaven’s Executive Director.”

John does not appear.

Organ: *gasp* riff

Ron Sweetman:

“Moosehaven Executive Director John Capes”

John does not appear.

Organ: *louder gasp* riff

Ron Sweetman:

Ron turns and looks at the residents, shrugs his shoulders with a what’s going on attitude.

Ruth:

Goes to Ron and whispers in his ear.

Ron Sweetman:

“What!”

Ron and Ruth:

Ruth leans towards the microphone and says loudly to Ron “We can’t find him anywhere.”

Ron Sweetman:

With an exasperated look, says, “WHAT?”

Ron and Ruth:

Whisper for a moment with Ruth saying loud enough for the microphone. “Kidnapped.”

They whisper for a moment.

Then Ron says loud enough for the microphone. “Ransom?”

Organ: *mystery riff*

Ron Sweetman:

Ron steps to the podium and says, “Brothers and co-workers, our Executive Director is missing. Foul play is a possibility. However, the show must go on. So, to begin, I’d like to introduce Past Supreme Governor Bob Elliot”

Bob Elliot:

Good afternoon brothers and coworkers.

Well, this is sort of unexpected because John is always where he’s supposed to be when he’s supposed to be there. He’s a MARINE and you know how that goes. “Once a Marine ALWAYS A MARINE!” In fact, his Administrative Assistant is Marin(e)a Mathews. By the way, he can still give a textbook salute.

But, let’s get this started.

They say. “What goes around comes around!”

In 1992, then Director General Paul O’Halloran asked Supreme Governor Gene Smith for an opportunity to make a motion – when this happened, I said to the guy sitting next to me, “This is going to be a bunch of bull.”

Well the motion was to make me a Past Supreme Governor and the guy sitting next to me was Ross Fleet.

Now, let’s fast-forward a couple of years. The value of our investments declined significantly during the recent recession...a loss of almost 40% in one year. Our son, a retired Army Colonel, asked what we would do if it never comes back up.

I jokingly answered. “Go to Moosehaven.”

Well, I’ve only known John a few years, but I’ve known Ross Fleet for many. So, when Fran and I really began to consider going to Moosehaven, I asked our son to contact Ross. Although he is a Life Member, our son was unaware of all that Moosehaven has to offer. He called Ross and learned about the new program where Moosehaven uses the funds in your Moosehaven Retirement Account to provide for your care.

We found this to be a perfect solution. So we started the application process.

Yes, “what goes around comes around!” After 16 – 18 visits to Moosehaven, most of them hosted by Ross Fleet, here I was applying to him for admittance to Moosehaven.

We arrived at our new home on October 5, 2010 and I am very pleased to be here to represent the residents of Moosehaven.

Moosehaven is not a poor farm. It is a warm, clean place for seniors. It smells good, the food is good, and we are proud to call it home.

It has 24-hour, 7-day-a-week care for the men and women who suffer from Dementia and other memory problems. A new facility, the Katherine Smith Special Needs Hall will shortly begin construction. It will serve men and women suffering from Alzheimer’s disease with the finest of professional care in a building specially designed to meet their needs. My wife Fran is being treated at the present.

Moosehaven is a great place, a grand place and Ross Fleet along with John Capes has taken care of our every need at Moosehaven. Yes, we are very happy we made the decision to move to Moosehaven.

“What Goes Around Comes Around.”

Ron Sweetman:

Well, John still has not been located and our concerns continue to grow.

Organ: *concern* riff

However, I’m sure he would want us to move along as the search continues.

Now, let me introduce Moosehaven resident Ruth Wingard.

Ruth Wingard:

Good afternoon, I am so excited to be here...when John asked me if I would like to tell you about Moosehaven, I said. “I would love to. I could talk about Moosehaven all day.”

He said, “Well, you have five minutes.”

So, I better get started.

My husband and I became residents on February 2, 2004...he was 68 and I was 65. He had some artery problems a few years earlier. So, we thought it was a good time to make the move. He has always enjoyed working with wood so he spends most of his day at the wood shop with several other guys.

We had lived here for about four years when he had trouble breathing. So, we pulled the cord in our room and the nurse and security were here in minutes. They called 911 and sent him to the hospital. He had some surgery. They also said he had a stroke. He was only in the hospital a few days. Then, they brought him back to Moosehaven. He stayed in the LifeCare Center for about six weeks. I could just walk over and see him anytime. Our wonderful therapy

department worked with him until he was back to our room and back to the wood shop.

There is a doctor here every day, Monday through Friday. We have our own pharmacy...just take in your empty bottle and pick up the filled one the next day.

I drive a bus along with two other girls. We have a very busy activities calendar. We go to shopping centers and malls. We also go to Walmart (that takes two full busses). We go to local Moose Lodges for dinner dances, Karaoke and breakfasts. We attend District meetings every month and Moose Legion meetings and Higher Degree meetings quarterly.

Everyone enjoys going out to eat occasionally. So, we visit a variety of restaurants. However, the food at Moosehaven is very good. We have an entrée, potato or rice or pasta, vegetable, dinner roll and dessert. We have a huge fresh salad bar at lunch and dinner along with a different soup...and the best part is we don't cook or do dishes.

When I am not driving I enjoy going to the pool. We have fitness equipment, two pool tables and a shuffleboard table. We also have a four-lane bowling alley with league bowling every Monday evening.

You all know that Moosehaven is located on the beautiful St. Johns River and it truly is beautiful. In the morning, we get a cup of coffee and sit on our patio to watch the most wonderful sunrise...we are blessed. We also have a nice pier to go out and sit at the end and fish or watch the boats and barges go by.

You know, Moosehaven is kind of like the Grand Canyon – you can see pictures of it and hear about it – but you have to actually see it to appreciate it. Make your next trip a Florida vacation. Spend a few days in Jacksonville. Come see our campus, our beautiful chapel, the Michigan building where we have our dances and socialize, visit your Sunshine Grandparents. Then, go back to your Lodges and Chapter and tell that man or woman who is living alone or that couple that have trouble seeing about the life they could have.

Oh...one more thing. I am the Moosehaven Angel Pin Chairman. Every year we have a new angel. They are still just \$5.00. Come see us while you are here. We are next to Opportunity Lodge...they have pins, too. Ross is next to us with information about Moosehaven and Sandy is there with information about the new Brandon Place at Moosehaven.

I better go. I think my time is up.

Thank you.”

Ron Sweetman:

We have notified the police about the mysterious disappearance of Moosehaven's Executive Director.

I think that's them now. Next, I'd like to introduce Moosehaven resident Marvin Merriam.

Marvin Merriam:

My wife and I came to Moosehaven on October 11, 2006. We live in Buckeye Hall with a beautiful view of the St. Johns River. Both my wife and I have Sunshine Jobs in the Michigan Building Snack Bar. My wife also volunteers to keep the plants in Buckeye Hall where we live, watered and well-taken care of, and I volunteer in the Video room where we loan out movies for Moosehaven residents to watch on their DVD and VHS players.

We enjoy the dances that "Opportunity Lodge" sponsors 8 times a year, and their weekly Bingo games as well as the many other dances and social events sponsored by Moosehaven throughout the year.

The fishing pier that extends out into the St. Johns River attracts a number of residents who enjoy fishing with bait donated by the fraternity.

We have 3 Moosehaven residents, 2 Lakeshore Lodge 2020 and 1 Palatka Lodge 184 Moose Legionnaires who practice in our Auditorium for the Moose Legion Seminole #81 Conferral Team. We have bowling teams that bowl every Monday night in our own bowling lanes. There is the New York Exercise Building with its swimming pool and exercise classes, pool tables, exercise machines, shuffle board, dart, a beauty shop for men's hair cuts and lady's hair cuts and permanents.

We have bus trips to local restaurants and for shopping at Walmart or other stores such as the Winn Dixie food store and Walgreen Drugs.

We have excellent medical care with doctors and nurses on call and, if we have a special need, we are transported to whichever doctor is a specialist in that field. We receive our medicines from our own Pharmacy. All of this is provided without cost to us.

The local area Moose Lodges give us picnics and furnish the food and beverages, and their Moose Legionnaires help cook the pancake breakfasts that are open to the public. They also give Moosehaven residents free meals at all District Meetings.

We truly live in a "City of Contentment", with no bills - like house payments, car payments, insurance, medical, etc.

Don't wait until you are unable to enjoy this great place of retirement, and live out your life in "The City of Contentment." The best kept secret in the fraternity!

If this all sounds too good to be true, believe me it is true. We at Moosehaven thank each of you for your support that makes it all happen.

Ron Sweetman:

**Thank you Bob, Ruth and Marvin.
And, there's still no sign of John.**

Organ: *ah oh riff*

So, let's watch a video.

Video:

This is Moosehaven Video (16:42)

Ron Sweetman:

Brothers and co-workers, we've come to the end of the presentation and Mr. Capes still has not been located. So...

John Capes:

**"Hold on, I'm coming."
John hurries to the stage, trailing toilet paper and stands beside the podium.**

Organ: *galloping music*

Bob Elliot:

Whispers to John as he arrives on stage.

John Capes:

John turns his back to the audience and pretends to pull his zipper up.

Marvin Merriam:

As he does so, Marvin dramatically removes the toilet paper from John's waist and tosses it aside.

John Capes:

"I...uh...had some paperwork to finish up. But, I'm ready now. So, let's get started."

Bob Elliot:

John, we're done. Everything is in order.

John Capes:

Looks at Bob disbelievingly for a moment and says, "We're done?"

Bob Elliot:

Bob nods his head

John Capes:

"Very good sir!"

Well, our goal today was to "Create Some Interest" in what's going on at Moosehaven. We've had fun doing that and I hope that you all can see that Moosehaven is a vibrant, active and fun place full of vibrant, active and fun seniors. While we don't mind shaking things up occasionally, we are always focused on our goal to provide the very

best retirement option possible for our members. Whether you come to Moosehaven on the Traditional Plan or to Brandon Place at Moosehaven, I'm sure you will find the accommodations, security and fraternal environment that you seek. I trust that the resident presentations and the video have "Created Some Interest" and invite all of you to come visit us and enjoy "a day in paradise."

Now, since Past Supreme Governor Bob Elliott did such a thorough job of taking care of everything, there's only one thing left for me to do. That is to introduce the Moosehaven Board of Directors. Board members, as I call your name, please stand to be recognized. I ask the audience to please hold your applause until the introductions are complete. Patricia Mancuso (Atlantic City, NJ Chapter 340), Jeanenne Lautzenheiser (Van Wert, OH Chapter 6), William Pierson (Topeka, KS Lodge 555), Robert Spingler (West Nashville Lodge 2221), Robert Sypnieski (Auburn, CA Lodge 2264), John Sipes (Galion, OH Lodge 303), and Board Chair - Past Supreme Governor Ronald Sweetman (New Castle, DE Lodge 1578). Please join me in thanking them for their service.

I also want to introduce outgoing Moosehaven Board member Rodney Hammond (Kissimmee, FL Lodge 2056). Please join me in thanking him for his service on the Moosehaven Board.

John faces audience and says. "Brothers and Co-Workers...our Moosehaven residents."

Residents join John at the podium

John Capes:

"Thanks Bob and Ruth and Marvin. God bless Moosehaven."