

CENTERPIECES

CARROLLWOOD CULTURAL CENTER • 2016 • Vol. 9 No. 1

■ That's Amore

Love can be expressed in many different ways: in a gesture, a kind word, an act of generosity.

We see all of them at the Center. A young boy sits cross-legged, watching his dad sing at the Saturday market. A teacher places a frame around a pupil's first painting, showing it off to the class. A volunteer brings in plates of home-made pastry. Singers and dancers put on a show for older people in a retirement home.

The Center is a community of people who care about culture and about each other. It is the sum of all we do, which reverberates far beyond what happens within its walls.

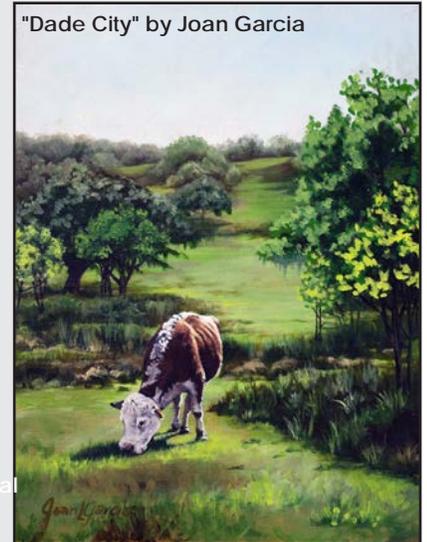
Yes, our building is special; but it is just a building. Our heart comes from you, our community.

A beautiful example is February's art exhibit, "Art from the Heart." The show consists of art works donated by local artists. The art works are a gift from them to you — and to the Center.

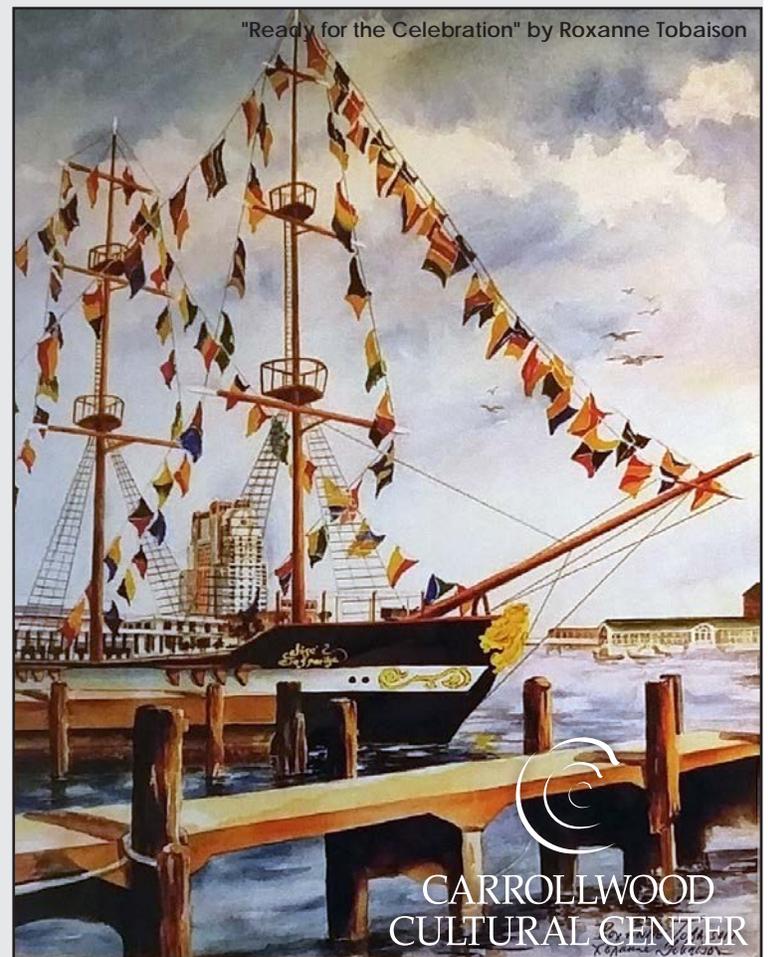
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"Copper Flowers"
by Paul Kreuzinger



"Dade City" by Joan Garcia



"Ready for the Celebration" by Roxanne Tobaison

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CARROLLWOOD
CULTURAL CENTER

■ Membership

At the Center, being a member is more than a way of showing support and staying involved; it's joining a family. Thank you to all of our members, including our Circles of Giving donors and corporate members listed below. As of February 15, 2016

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■ Centerpieces

Official Newsletter of the Carrollwood Cultural Center
Vol. 9, No. 1

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Centerpieces is produced by volunteers of the Carrollwood Cultural Center. New contributors are welcome.

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■ Center Mission

The mission of the Carrollwood Cultural Center is to create culture through community and create community through culture.



CARROLLWOOD
CULTURAL CENTER



In Memoriam:

■ Kathy Sutton

Kathy Sutton, a friend of the Center and Board of Directors member for four years, passed away this February. We are all saddened. It strikes me that this is one of the ways the Center shows how it is a community. Kathy brought a calm, thoughtful intelligence to MAS theatre and to our Board meetings. She also had a creative flair. I'd like to tell you a bit about her.

Kathy's passion was theatre costume design. She was born in New York City and moved to Florida as a young child. She and her mother, Martha Sutton, co-owned a fabric shop, Couture Fabrics, from 1984-2001. After several years of custom clothing design, Kathy decided to move her focus to costuming for theatrical productions. In 2008 she formed Act 1, Seen 1, which concentrated on theatre costumes.

A costume designer creates the visual signature of characters. It is a skill that requires understanding of a story, characters, the production as a whole and how costumes convey messages to the audience. Kathy was much in demand throughout the Tampa Bay theatre scene, especially for musical theatre. At the Center, Kathy costumed productions such as *The Music Man* and *Hairspray*. She delighted in her work. She loved browsing second-hand stores, finding the perfect accessories for a character. She loved attending live theatre, often taking away new costume ideas.

Kathy was a USF graduate in Interdisciplinary Social Sciences. She also had an MBA. As a Board member, she often took on daunting tasks of research. The Center was fortunate to have her talents; and we were fortunate to know a brave, generous and gifted woman.

The family asks that, in lieu of flowers, donations be made to the Carrollwood Cultural Center in Kathy's name. Martha Sutton will receive friends at a Center reception in memory of Kathy on Saturday, March 5, 1-3 p.m.

Evelyn Bless
Editor



■ This is Your Place

One of the most frequently asked questions we receive from newcomers is, "What is it you *do* at the Center?"

In response, we usually point to our daily programs and activities: classes, events, art gallery, summer camp and community events. One of the lesser known aspects of Center is our rentals program.

Before opening our doors in March 2008, we knew that affordable rental space was needed for groups and special events in north Tampa. Knowing the Center could help meet the demand, we put procedures in place and opened our doors for private events shortly after our grand opening. Since then we have hosted everything: 50th Anniversary parties, office parties, birthday parties, memorial services, piano recitals...we have even hosted a bodybuilding contest!

We see a variety of set-ups and decor: from Dr. Suess-themed baby showers to elegant black tie affairs, giving us the opportunity to view our building through fresh eyes every time.

Last spring, we hosted a wedding in our park. The ceremony was gorgeous: a white gazebo was placed on the outdoor stage and draping was put up for a touch of elegance.

Another event was a video game-themed wedding reception in our Main Theatre. Vintage arcade games were arranged in a semi-circle on the stage. The dance floor was lit with brightly colored squares that would turn the Bee Gees and John Travolta green with envy.

To better serve you, we have been making renovations and upgrades to our facilities. The most notable transformations have been at The Studio. During the last several months, we have installed sound baffling, new carpet and laminate flooring and fresh paint. The interior renovations will soon be complete with upgrades to the rest rooms.

We provide places for people to gather together; it's one way among many that we fulfill our mission of serving community and culture.

Paul Berg
Executive Director



We're talking a lot about love and weddings in this issue. Here is a photo from Paul's big day in Pensacola Bay on June 23, 2007. Six months later, he relocated to Tampa after accepting the Executive Director position at the Center, a job he loves. (PS: You might recognize Paul's bride. She's Adrienne Hutelmyer, Marketing Director for the Center.)



"Pawns Keep Watch in Carroll's Woods"
by Peter Stilton

"Art is the highest achievement of any culture or civilization. So what's not to love, as they say. The cultivated and treasured aspect of fine art has always been valued and appreciated throughout history as a tangible sign of cultural and individual identity.

Therefore, to give art is a substantial 'present' that is unique, individualized, and sometimes a financial investment (but even if that is not the case, it stands apart from mass produced or purely utilitarian gifts that seldom bring the long lasting pleasure and luster of gifted fine art)."

— Peter Stilton

"The Center is a really meaningful place to exhibit my art. It offers viewers a non-threatening place to view artwork, without the sales pressure of a gallery. I think The Gallery is a "consciousness raising" experience for people of all ages and backgrounds where artwork of all types and styles can be viewed and enjoyed."

— Gainor Roberts



"From the Balcony"
by Gainor Roberts

■ That's Amore

(Continued from page 1.)

"Art from the Heart" is an initiative started by Tampa artist Mark Gonzalez. In 2015, Gonzalez donated works to 17 local non-profit organizations. Many of the pieces were auctioned, raising more than \$22K for local charities.

In February, the Gallery welcomed back Gonzalez and his program. Once again, Gonzalez displayed works at the Center and donated select pieces to several area non-profits to assist in their fundraising efforts.

Inspired by Mark's program, the Center, in conjunction with Gonzalez, asked local artists to donate works to benefit the Gallery at Carrollwood Cultural Center. The donated pieces became a featured exhibit and the pieces were part of a silent auction with funds benefiting the Gallery. The result was overwhelming and humbling.

Artists who answered the call included: Robin J. Fick, Carole Flagg, Joan Garcia, James Geigan, Mark Gonzalez, Joose Hadley, Debbie Hofer, Annette Keys, Nancy Kirkpatrick,

Nancy Kirkpatrick Sr., Paul Kreuzinger, Nancy Lauby, William Lauby, Gainor Roberts, Ellia Sliwiak, Peter Stilton, Roxanne Tobaison and Sylvie Wittman.

We are grateful to the artists, to everyone who bid, and to Mark Gonzalez, who introduced this concept. "Art from the Heart" makes everyone feel good, and it does good—for each of us and the community at large.

This is one example among many good deeds here. The Center has become a focus of the talent and passion in our community. The arts naturally seek to show themselves, to spread outward, to draw in others. From classes to performances, the acts of love here start with an individual finding his or her "center" and then inevitably lead to sharing—which creates an ever-expanding sense of community. When one bird sings, the others listen; and then they start singing too.

It's a potent combination, and for us at the Center, a constant source of wonder and pride.

Evelyn Bless and Adrienne Hutelmyer

■ Let's Get Married

You're getting married! Your story is about start a new chapter, and we can help you write it. This chapter is titled: *The Wedding!*

It's an exciting chapter, filled with love, intrigue and mystery. The first mystery? Where to have your wedding and/or reception. Facilities Director, Rob Curry, along with staff members Kimberly Rodriguez, Aubry Cochran and Errik Darriba, can help.

■ When & Where

You have three locations at the Center to choose from for the big day: the Main Theatre, where there is always an interesting art exhibit on the walls; our newly carpeted and painted Studio; or the wooded park behind our building. Our Main Lobby is perfect for pre-dinner drinks and appetizers, and there is plenty of free parking as well as dressing rooms to accommodate your wedding party and guests.

■ Chicken, Fish or Pasta?

We have a list of experienced and approved vendors for food and drink who can provide gourmet, southern comfort food or kosher dinners if you need some suggestions. The caterer's kitchen has loads of "cool" storage space and two huge industrial food warmers. Alcoholic beverages can be provided by Spunky Spirits, who will bring what you wish or serve from beverages you provide. If you already have a caterer in mind, we will work with them to make your experience as delicious as a multi-tiered wedding cake.

■ Live Entertainment

Between the Sounds of Swing and Jazz with Jim, we can put you in contact with several live entertainers who regularly perform at the Center. Consider having your engagement party at one of our concerts to see if your ears like what they hear. If you have your own band or DJ, let us know and we will be happy to show them where to plug in. We have a dance floor that can be set up for your special day, or you may bring your own, as one couple did. (Executive Director Paul Berg mentions it in his article, *This is Your Place*, on page 3.)

■ Happily Ever After

You can view more information, photos and prices at CarrollwoodCenter.org, or call us at (813) 922-8167 to schedule a consultation and tour. We will help you determine what day and site location is best for you, as well as discuss linens, set-up, decorations and more.

We will also be here when you are ready to pen more chapters of your life: first anniversary, baby showers, birthday parties, graduation parties, 50th anniversary, etc. As long as you have a story tell, we will be honored to help you tell it.

Pat Keeley and Adrienne Hutelmyer

You are the
Center
of the story.



From the
engagement party
to the reception,
we can help
you tell it.



CARROLLWOOD
CULTURAL CENTER

■ Love is in the Chair

If the chairs in our Main Theatre could talk, they would speak about the incredible performances that they have seen and the patrons who have enjoyed them.

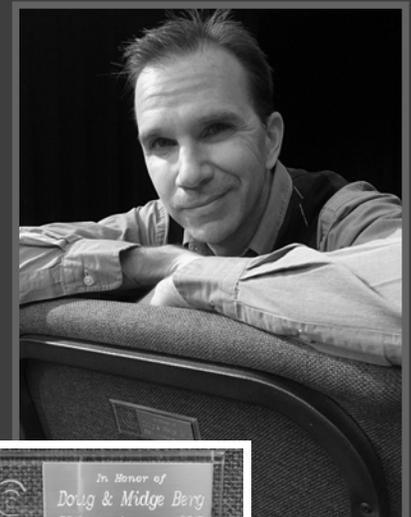
Pictured is Executive Director Paul Berg with the chair he purchased in celebration of his parent's 50th wedding anniversary in December.

"I wanted to do something special for them," he said. "Purchasing a First Chair in their honor made sense be-

cause they have always supported me and my love for the arts."

For \$250, you can sponsor one of these chairs and be a part of each performance. To show our gratitude, your chair will receive a plaque with your name or the name of a loved one you would like to honor.

For more information about the First Chair program, call (813) 922-8162, or email Todd Dunkle, Development Director, at todd@carrollwoodcenter.org.



CARROLL WOOD STOCK

MARCH 19 • 10 AM-6 PM

■ Festival Schedule

- 10:30 a.m. Flying Fanoochi Brothers
Classic Rock & High Wired Act
- 11:45 a.m. George Pennington Band
georgepenningtonband.com
- 1 p.m. The Jonnie Morgan Band
jonnimorganband.com
- 2:30 p.m. Nathan Allen
- 3:45 p.m. Avenue 43
avenue43.com
- 5 p.m. The Lint Rollers
thelintrollers.com

Sponsored by:




Carrollwood
Village

■ Carrollwoodstock

Hey, don't you just love a day when you can bring a blanket or a couple of chairs, park yourself outside in the fresh air, and enjoy some music? Those days are mostly long gone. Well, not in our neighborhood. A chair or blanket...that's all you need to partake of the Center's outdoor music festival: Carrollwoodstock on March 19, 2016.

"We want to bring the community together through great music."

- Aaron Washington

Remember Woodstock? If you do, there's a quiz below for you. If you don't (maybe you're too young), it was the iconic music festival that happened organically by word of mouth in upstate New York. Peace, Love and Rock 'n' Roll!

As a special treat for all of us, our events coordinator, Aaron Washington, and the Carrollwood Village Homeowners Associations are putting together our very own first Carrollwoodstock sponsored by Benzer® Pharmacy. On March 19, from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. there will be an outdoor music event for all to enjoy. Aaron has been busy lining up local bands: Avenue 43, Jonnie Morgan Band, George Pennington Band, Nathan Allen, headliner The Lint Rollers and more! The bands will play some of your favorite tunes from the 60's, 70's and 80's as well as contemporary hits and some of their own original material. Aaron is planning drum circles, bead-making and other interactive booths and activities to keep the whole family busy on a balmy March day.

In the spirit of the original Woodstock, everyone is welcome and it is free to the public. "We are not recreating Woodstock, but certainly want to recreate the spirit of the event," says Aaron. "We want to bring the community together through great music."

Pack up your blankets and beach chairs and enjoy a day out in the fresh air where our towering canopy of oak trees will shade you from the sun. No need to pack a picnic. We'll have food trucks with all the great food you expect from these roving restaurants. Adult beverages will be on hand, so please leave yours at home.

We're expecting the weather to cooperate for a day of music, food and activities for everyone. For more information, visit CarrollwoodCenter.org.

(Continued on page 10.)



Flying Fanoochi Brothers Classic Rock & High Wired Act



The Jonnie Morgan Band



The Lint Rollers



Nathan Allen



Avenue 43



George Pennington Band

CARROLLWOODSTOCK

"The Center is a true hidden gem in the community."

- Chris Hugues



■ Chris Hugues: A Musician's Tale

Like Robert Frost ("two roads diverged in a yellow wood...") most of us have alternative paths we could take through life. If we're lucky, we have an opportunity to try out more than one path. If we're even luckier, we find our way to the path not-taken-but-always-wished-for. Chris Hugues has been very lucky.

Chris was raised in Glassboro, NJ. He graduated from Lafayette College in Easton, PA, with a degree in mechanical engineering. He married another mechanical engineer, Linda, and they both worked for Exxon Mobil Research & Engineering Company. Linda went back to school for Interior Design; she is now an artist. Chris managed cost control and programs at Exxon Mobil for 15 years, eventually travelling all over the U.S. and to Asia, Europe and South America.

But Chris has also—always—played music. He was exposed to music from an early age. His mother, an avid jazz fan, listened to records of Stan Getz, Stan Kenton and others. His older sister, who favored the classical side, was a flute prodigy. Chris began playing his brother's trumpet in 3rd grade.

Chris played the trumpet and flugelhorn in marching, concert and jazz bands, orchestras and theatre pit orchestras. In his last two years of high school, he was selected for the All-South Jersey Band. "I used the flugelhorn for jazz and the trumpet for everything else," he says. "The flugelhorn has a more mellow sound; the trumpet has more range." He attended summer music camps at nearby Glassboro State College, which also held frequent jazz concerts; he saw trumpet masters Clark Terry, Thad Jones, Jon Faddis, Maynard Ferguson and Don Ellis.

"I really, ideally, wanted to be a musician, but didn't feel I was talented enough," he says. Chris skipped 2nd grade and graduated a year early from high school as class valedictorian. He needed to make basic college career choices. "I was always strong in math and science," he explains. "A friend who was a mechanical engineer talked to me, and it seemed like a good fit."

Chris continued playing music as a hobby. He played trumpet in college bands and then later in community groups. However, by 1987 his career took up too much time. "I have to play every day. There are other players who don't need to do that, but I do." Chris couldn't keep up his *embouchure*, the strength in his lips and facial muscles required to make music through the trumpet's mouthpiece.

He put the trumpet down. But he couldn't stay away from playing music for long. In 1990 Chris bought a vibraphone, which he thought would be easier. He took vibraphone lessons, and they brought a new perspective on music itself. "The vibraphone was harder, in some ways. It was different from what I was used to, on trumpet. I'd never really done a lot with chords. This was a big change, because it got me to using music differently, in a way that applied more to jazz. The chords that I used for vibraphone actually helped to make the music a lot more melodic.

"I wish I could have done it when I was younger in terms of training my ear. I never really tried to figure out how to play what I'd heard on all those records, when I was a kid."

When he moved to Tampa in 2004, Chris worked as a project manager on construction sites for a landscape architect. This led to a second career in landscape design. He became interested because he wound up doing landscaping for his building sites. "I wanted to give clients

■ Chris' Concert Schedule

You can see Chris perform in several concerts at the Center in the coming months:

On Broadway

with the Carrollwood Winds
March 12 • 4 p.m.

Big (Jazz) Band Day

part of the Jim Burge Jazz Festival
April 24 • 2 p.m.

It's All About the Brass

with the Carrollwood Brass
April 30 • 8 p.m.

A Special Mother's Day Event

with the Sounds of Swing
May 7 • 8 p.m.

Daddy & Daughter

Dance
with the Sounds of Swing
June 18 • 8 p.m.



what they wanted at a cost they could afford. I learned a lot about plants, took a couple of online classes from the Florida Nursery, Growers and Landscape Association." He worked for the landscape architect and then ran his own landscape design and project management business for the last 11 years.

You could argue that Chris is a lucky man: he was successful in a second path that used his skills and new knowledge in new ways. But there was always music, that itch that needed to be scratched—until just a few years ago.

What changed was the opening of the Carrollwood Cultural Center. When the Center started its community band (now called the Carrollwood Winds), Chris brought out his old trumpet. He became a founding member. After meeting Jim Burge (of Jazz with Jim), Chris was inspired to do more. He signed up for the Center's jazz improvisation classes. He became the first trumpet player to join the Center's Sounds of Swing big band. With Jim's encouragement, Chris has attended the Jamey Aebersold Summer Jazz Workshop for the last two years.

One thing has led to another. At the end of 2014, Chris founded the Carrollwood Brass, a seven-piece brass ensemble. "I originally formed it because in school we always did Christmas carols; everybody remembers groups that played carols out of these little green books." They've played with Jazz with Jim and at local schools and venues. The Carrollwood Brass will perform a concert at the Center on April 30.

In 2015, Chris founded a jazz combo. "In the summer workshops, I found out that a combo, which can have as

many as nine people, is hard to do but it's the best way to learn and is fun." His combo has seven members, all with different levels of experience.

Let's see...that's four music groups: Carrollwood Winds on Monday, Carrollwood Brass on Thursday, jazz combo on Friday, Sounds of Swing on Saturday. On other days, he practices by himself.

Chris has recently retired. He needs the time for his music.

Chris made this choice deliberately. "I decided that when I retired, I wanted to fill my time with music." And he's done so. He may also walk the formal path that he turned away

from, so many years ago: he's thinking about going back to school to get his degree in music. Chris laughs, "It makes me nervous, partly because the schedule might interfere with other things I want to do. But I am actively looking into it."

Does he consider himself lucky? "Do I ever! Absolutely!"

One more thing we need to share with you about Chris and Linda. One of the items on their bucket list is to attend all of the tennis Grand Slam events. This has taken them to what Chris describes as "a double check-off on the bucket list": Australia for the Australian Open and New Zealand.

"The final Grand Slam on the bucket list is Wimbledon—the hardest of the four slams to get tickets to see." If you have an "in" for these tickets, Chris would love to meet you!

Judy Schiavo and Evelyn Bless

"I decided that when I retired, I wanted to **fill my time with music.**"

- Chris Hugues

■ Wedding Customs

Weddings are an old and cherished tradition in almost every culture in the world.

A wedding is the public, communal celebration of a marriage. In former eras, marriages may have been for economic or political reasons more than for love, but we have always been captivated by weddings. Histories give us details about past wedding ceremonies: what the bride wore, what entertainment was provided, how people behaved. We are excited when family and friends become engaged; we want to know every detail about the weddings beforehand. We are fixated on celebrity weddings. A perfect example was the worldwide public obsession with the fairy-tale wedding of Prince William and Kate (similar to the endless coverage of Prince Charles and Princess Diana). Our fascination is reflected in popular movies: *The Wedding Singer*, *My Big Fat Greek Wedding*, *The Wedding Planner* and a host of other wedding-themed stories. A wedding is a huge draw!

It is a ceremony that not only focuses on the two principals (they perform a duet in this performance) but cheerfully and happily invites guests to participate—to be part of the couple's joy. A wedding is a community event, bringing together the circles of friends, family and associates surrounding the bride, groom and their families.

Even in our age of innovation, weddings are surprisingly traditional. They share many characteristics across cultures. Some interesting facts about weddings:

■ Banns

In the Middle Ages, banns were an announcement of the impending marriage between two persons, read three times in the parish church. The custom originated with the Church of England. Banns are still called today. And today we have a more secular version: the engagement announcement, which may be published, mailed or celebrated with its own party. (We even have what might be called a pre-bann: the "save the date" announcement.)



Volunteer Coordinator, Ruth Levy,
with husband Allen.



Education Director,
Beth LaBaren-Root,
with husband Will.



Centerpieces
photographer,
Bob Kerns,
with wife Jean

■ Dowry and bride price

The dowry is a transfer of parental property by the bride's parents to the groom or his family. The bride price is a payment by the groom or his family to the parents of the bride (such as the American Indian practice of giving horses to the bride's parents). Both may be in the form of land, currency, crops or animals, and both have existed since ancient times. They are a way of exchanging wealth and creating alliances between families. The Code of Hammurabi mentions bride price. The Bible mentions dowries. Dowries are still given today in Asia, North Africa and the Balkans. In modern times, the dowry led to our tradition that the bride's family should pay for the wedding.

■ Wedding dress

Brides wear a special dress, usually with rich fabrics. When marriages were alliances, the bride was expected to show her family's wealth. In any wedding, the bride's dress will be unique and may have details that derive from the wedding's history in her culture. In the West, we have the garter and "something borrowed, something blue." Western brides had no particular dress color until the mid-19th Century, when Queen Victoria started the tradition of Western brides wearing white. In Eastern cultures, brides often wear red, the color of good luck and prosperity.

Most weddings have a traditional sequence of events. Every culture is unique, but they all spotlight the bride and groom, signify the formalizing of the union, and follow a ceremony with celebration. Even if you haven't been to a wedding recently, you can in general predict what will happen. Where would our weddings be without the elegance of the bride and groom, their entourage, the blessing, the special music ("Here Comes the Bride," instantly recognizable in the West, is from Wagner's "Wedding March"), a special meal, toasts, dancing, cutting of the cake and the departure for the wedding night?

Janet Bucknor



■ High Five!

Here are five things to look forward to in the coming weeks (sign up to receive our weekly e-newsletters, or visit us at CarrollwoodCenter.org for details):

■ What exactly DID the Butler see?

MAS Community Theatre will present *What the Butler Saw*, a farce by English playwright Joe Orton, on April 8-17. (Directed by Keith Eisenstadt and produced in association with Samuel French, Inc.)

■ The Inaugural Jim Burge Jazz Festival

Join us for a weekend dedicated to jazz with three amazing events: High School Jazz Special (April 23 at 2-5:30 p.m.); Jazz with Jim with special guest The Jazz Cellar Underground Orchestra (April 23 at 7:30 p.m.); and the Big (Jazz) Band Day featuring Encore IV Big Band and Burge Surge (April 24 at 2 p.m.).

■ Student Showcase

Center students and faculty will perform, present and display their work on April 29 at 7 p.m.

■ Summer Camp Early Bird Discount

Forget the worm, we want the early bird to save some money! Camp registrations received on or before April 29 will receive a 15% discount.

■ SpringFest YouthFest

HEY KIDS: This event is just for YOU—and your family and friends, too! Come out to the Center on April 30 for a day all about (and for) kids and youth. (Presented by the Carrollwood Village HOAs.)

■ Featured Art

The art featured on the front and back banners of this issue is from *Red Berries* by Joose Hadley. *Red Berries* was one of the pieces donated for the Art from the Heart exhibit in February.



**CARROLLWOOD
CULTURAL CENTER**
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