Donald Kneale has been at the helm of Hawthorne's "courtesy bus" for more than eight years. He started driving the 14 passenger mini-bus December 15, 1973, and later, in 1974, the 35 passenger bus. It means he has clocked 75,000 miles of driving on the Tuesday and Friday runs to Leesburg, morning and afternoon. He also drives the bus to the Altamonte Springs Mall twice a month, approximately a 100 mile round-trip. Don says in spite of the many hours of driving time, he still enjoys it.

At the same time, his passengers do appreciate Don's dependability, patience and marvelous sense of humor. His cheerful "Good morning" as each boards the bus, somehow seems to make the day brighter, no matter what the weather is or what problems they may have on their mind.

No one knows the streets of the park as well as Don as he maneuvers the bus around to pick up and return his passengers to their homes. He does have a list of names and addresses provided by the Manager's office, as it is necessary to phone in the day before to reserve space on the bus.

Don was a pilot in SAC during World War II with service in New Guinea, the Philippines, Okinawa and Japan, acquiring the rank of Lt. Colonel. He was also one of the first in the Air Forces occupying Japan after the war. He still makes an occasional flight over Leesburg or to Miami in a Beechcraft, Bonanza or Cessna in order to keep his license current.

Getting down to earth and driving at 55 miles an hour after flying in the sky hundreds of miles an hour is quite a neat trick. But Don Kneale can and does make the transition smoothly and safely. —Margaret Albro
Which came first... the custom of flying kites during the month of March, or the expression, “go fly a kite?” I would like to suggest that the expression preceded the custom... why?... because...

Due to inclement weather we are usually confined to the indoors from about the first of November through April. As most of you know, children become easily bored when restricted to the limitations demanded by “four walls.” During November they manage to stay pretty well occupied with indoor activities that were abandoned during the summer months for swimming, volleyball, etc. -- these revived activities are once again “new and exciting.” However, this newness and excitement soon wears off and around mid-November the children start showing signs of restlessness. Now is the time to preoccupy their thoughts with “wish books” and the anticipation of Christmas -- this will keep them busy right up until Christmas Day when their new toys take over -- these new toys will pacify them until... if you’re lucky... New Year’s Day!

The time between New Year’s Day and April is probably one of the most trying times in the lives of parents of young children -- “What can we do today?”; “What can we do now?”; “We don’t have anything to do.”; “Why can’t we go outside?” These remarks, made on an average of ten a day, seven days a week can tend to “get on your nerves.” So, I, therefore, theorize that...

Once upon a time, in a modest home in one of the northernmost parts of our country, there lived three young children with their loving parents. One windy, cold morning in March, these children romped into the kitchen and, again, charged their parents with the question, “What can we do today?” Whereupon, one parent, by this time being devoid of all patience, turned unmercifully on the unsuspecting children who with wide-eyed eagerness were awaiting the urgently needed suggestion as to what to do with their seemingly infinite spare time and unquenchable energy, and that exhausted, nerve-shattered parent said... “Go fly a kite!”
—Carolyn B. Orme
Let Me Laugh and Dance and Sing

To create a philosophy of life around dancing requires a special talent and zest. By successfully infusing some of this vivacity in her tap dancing classes at Hawthorne, Dorothy Singer has given pleasure and new skills to her students while leading them gracefully along the intricacies of rhythmic steps and beats.

Dorothy, a native of Ohio, received her B.A. from Oberlin College and her M.A. from Teachers' College, Columbia University. Her teaching career began as Director of Physical Education for Girls at Berea High School, Berea, Ohio, followed by an assistant professorship at the University of Tennessee. She then moved to a position at Boston University as Chairman of the Dance Department. During her 15 years at Boston University she successfully directed and choreographed many musicals and festivals.

She left Boston University to become a professor at State University College at Buffalo, New York. Widowed early in her career she devoted herself wholeheartedly to her professional pursuits. She has written many songs and articles and produced recordings and manuals. Her book “Keynotes to Modern Dance” is still in use; indeed, it is now in its third edition. While at Buffalo she also directed many shows, creating original choreographs. Among many honors she is listed in “Who’s Who of American Women,” “The World’s Who’s Who in Education” and “Contemporary Leaders and Noteworthy Americans”.

In 1977 she retired from teaching in Buffalo and came to Hawthorne. It was here that she met and married Roy Singer. She soon started the Tap Dancing classes that have grown in number and popularity. Dorothy now teaches classes in beginner’s and intermediate tap dancing, choreographing each class so that her students learn countless new steps and gain a well diversified experience. The classes have richly contributed to our annual Vodvill Shows as well as local dance programs. It is interesting to note that she still creates new dances to turn out a professional performance. Best of all, it is the joy and fun of working together.

She sums up her philosophy by listing the letters of her favorite word - DANCE:

D. - Dare to dream and dance!
A. - Act astutely with animation and appreciation.
N. - Nurture creativity in the novel and the new.
C. - Communicate courteously the courage of your convictions.
E. - Experiment with dynamic energy original ideas so you will experience the thrill of excellence.

“Let me laugh and dance and sing
Life is such a lovely thing.”

This paraphrase of a couplet by Hughes Mearns in his book on “Creative Power” succinctly sums up our gracious Dorothy Singer. We all appreciate her valuable contribution to the Hawthorne life style.

—Anna K. Merlino
A Glimpse Into the Future

Few residents who attended the Brown Bag luncheon on February 5, could remain as pessimistic about, indifferent to, or disinterested in the future as they were before Dr. Nanette Rodgers gave her mind-stirring talk about the shape of things to come. Dr. Rodgers, Home Economics Consultant and Futures Task Force member of the Florida Department of Education, electrified those present with her descriptions of trends in future living, the new literacy, and a scenario of the 1980's and into the next century.

Futurists, Dr. Rodgers told her audience, are persons from all over the world who scientifically study and analyze the past, present and future to determine what probable alternative futures exist. Such understanding of tomorrow's world can lead to appropriate choices and the making of wise decisions today.

Dr. Rodgers spoke of the great and rapid change in our society that makes every American over 35 a "marginal" member of two cultures, the culture of 1942 and that of 1982. Changes in the physical sciences are illustrated by the atomic bomb, the computer and television, while in the biological sciences we have the effects of genetic engineering and advances in medicine. As these and other changes continue into the future, there is a need for people to attain a new literacy in five different areas -- emotional, physical, economic, technological and international -- in order to cope with future life styles.

In a composite of trends and projections drawn from numerous individuals and organizations, special reports and publications, Dr. Rodgers gave a few details of life around the year 2000. The tendency toward mass operation will dissipate, with diversity rather than conformity becoming the key to civilization. Businesses that will prosper are those that have customized their products and services. The United States is likely to lose to producers in other countries industries such as steel, automobile, machinery, appliance, textile, shoe and apparel. These will be replaced by, among others, electronics, information processing, oceanography, industrial applications of space, molecular biology.

By 2000, it is thought, robots will do much of the work of the assembly line, and more people will be in service industries dealing with persons instead of machines. Office Employees will be able to do more of their work at home instead of in a centralized office, which will lead to a rise of an electronic version of cottage industries. Rapidly changing technologies will spread job obsolescence so that people will be changing careers three and more times during their lifetime and lifelong education will be the rule.

One of the most pleasant prospects Dr. Rodgers mentioned for the year 2000 and after is a population that is prosperous but less consumption-minded, that places greater emphasis on the quality of life rather than on material things, leading to a simpler life, less demanding in resources and generally less hectic. The limits of what can be done, she said, are only in the minds of the people.

—Marie L. Richardson

Dr. Nanette Rodgers enthralled her Hawthorne audience with talk of things to come in the future. From robots to molecular biology, it was an exciting glimpse beyond the year 2000.
Time for Fine Arts and Flowers

Combining the slightly old and the brand new, the Hawthorne Fine Arts Committee is sponsoring an All Hawthorne Art and Flower Show this coming Sunday, March 7, from 2 to 4:30 p.m., in the Great Hall. Refreshments will be served.

This will be the second year for the Fine Arts Exhibition of paintings, drawings, carvings and sculpture, but a first for the category of “Flower Arrangements,” which will include fresh flowers and greens, dried flowers, artificial flowers and miniatures.

The inclusion of flower arrangements this year is a special tribute to the late John Mattern of Hawthorne, who organized and coordinated a very popular course entitled “Home Beautification.” For last year’s Fine Art Show, held in January ‘81, Mr. Mattern contributed “accents of greenery” to help decorate the Hall. These were so effective, according to committee member Villette Morgan, that the decision was made to include flowers as a formal category in the 1982 show. When Mr. Mattern died suddenly, last late spring, committee members felt they wanted to honor Mr. Mattern in this special way.

The show is open to all Hawthorne residents who would like to share with fellow Hawthornites the results of their artistic interests and endeavors. The entries had to be registered with the committee by February 27.

The exhibit on Sunday had its beginning in the spring of 1980 with a Student Show, in which the participants of the various fine art classes during that 1979-80 year exhibited their works. Impressed by this show, Colonial Penn Communities, Inc., teamed up with the Fine Arts Committee to present the 1981 show, opening it to all residents. Management paid all the costs of that show. Building on that impetus, the Fine Arts Committee, of which Eleanor Yoder is chairman, will finance this year’s show with a portion of the proceeds from its White Elephant Sale of last November. Other moneys from that sale are contributed to various Hawthorne projects.

The 1981 show drew an attendance of over 500 persons, according to John and Villette Morgan, co-chairmen of this year’s event, and had 167 entries. The largest number of entries, 55, was in the category of oil paintings.

Commenting on the variety of other entries in ’81 -- drawings, watercolors, sculpture, acrylics and wood-carvings, the Morgans emphasized that “there is no show without the article. The entries are the show.”

—Nancy Uebelmesser

“I Want to go Down to the Sea Again.”

Do you ever feel as though you must see the ocean? Sometimes, I do. The rolling country around Hawthorne, its slopes bulging with long lines of lustrous trees, has its own charm. The trees, seen close enough for their golden fruit to show, are like illustrations for a fairy tale. But, sometimes, one wants to see the limitless expanse of the sea.

Since the ocean, or, at least, the Gulf of Mexico, is only 50 miles west, my husband and I set out for Crystal River, near the Gulf. An early spring was beginning. By the roadside, groves and fields stretched out, where the new leaves were opening out into sprays and masses of yellow-green and more vivid greens, contrasting with the deep rose of the redbud trees. All of these new colors showed bright against the darker green of the moss-hung live oaks. The bunches of needles on the tall pines had turned more green, and their branches had new, yellowish tips. Occasional wild trees were covered with purplish-pink blossoms.

Between the groves and woods, stretched fields and pastures. The latter were dotted with cattle, grazing or lying on the grass, contentedly chewing their cuds. They contributed to making Florida a large cattle-producing state. Farm buildings were in the distance, and a tractor or two.

We crossed the Withlacoochee River, and skirted the pines, palms, and other trees of the Withlacoochee State Forest. When we got closer to the coast, masses of tall cabbage palms raised their round tops into the sky. The forests of these palms were interspersed with brown seas of marshy grass.

A little south of Crystal River, a narrow road goes down to the gulf. Near the end, by the water, are covered picnic tables. There, one can take a deep breath, spiritually expand with the endless stretch of water, and watch the pelicans gliding over it.

So, next time you get an urge to see the ocean, don’t repress it. Pack a lunch and head for the Gulf Coast.

—Edith Schipper
Who Enjoyed it the Most?

The question is - who enjoyed it the most? Many Hawthorne people have said how much they enjoyed the Cornell Glee Club concert and greeting the members at the sup and sing that followed. The families who were hosts to the men for the night have expressed their feelings in many ways. All of them agree, I am sure, that we have a renewed faith in young people. It was fun to have youth in our hall!

The following quotes are excerpts from a few of the “thank you” letters we received thus far. They were written by the Cornell singers to their host families here.

“What can I say? You ran a superb concert, tremendous dinner, and everyone, Cornellians, Glee Clubbers and non-Cornellians alike all had a great time.”

“I certainly had a great time at Hawthorne. I was really surprised that the folks in the community had so much energy, vitality and vivacity, even more so than some friends my own age.”

“Thank you so very much, also, for dispelling all those thoughts that society has given us about older folks, and helping us to see that “over 40 is beautiful.”

“After performing in another retirement community, might I say that wherever we go, we take back with us very pleasant memories of time spent with special people like you.”

“It was so nice of you to let us do our laundry at your house and for sewing the buttons on. I hope the club has the marvelous opportunity to visit Hawthorne again and stay with all the good people there.”

“I really enjoyed the peace that seemed to engulf the Hawthorne area. Contentment is something that I am really searching for in my life yet, at Hawthorne, for a while I experienced it.”

—Julie Newman - Cornell '38

High Rollers

There are seven bowling leagues from Hawthorne that bowl at the Leesburg Lanes. Over 300 enthusiasts make up the teams. The Earlybirds Bowling League leads off on Monday mornings. Then the Experts and the Toe Stubbers bowl Monday afternoons.

On Tuesdays and Fridays, the Fun Bowlers, the Spare Hawks, the Defrosters and the Snowbird Leagues bowl. The chairmen of the groups are: George LeMay, Harry Taylor, Wade Drake, Jim Warman, Al Nagel, Dorothy Lux and Dot Walker.

They bowl just for fun, exercise and skill in the game. However, an incentive has been added since Colonial Penn, Inc. presented the bowlers here with a plaque. The teams vie with each other in Roll-off Tournaments. The top team will have its name engraved on the plaque.

A Bowler Speaks

It’s bowling time again this fall! I, Hawthornite, have grabbed my ball And rushed to get a strike or two, Which, for me, is a feat to do. Spares, too, are also hard to get, Though with great effort, they’ll come yet, For bowlers are determined souls Who pray and watch as each ball rolls. “Just spot your ball,” the experts say; Oh, how I wish that were my way! I see the arrow where I aim- This is the way to play the game - But, somehow, my ball takes a turn, And that right arrow likes to spurn. I find the gutter with great skill, While ten pins stand, erect and still. No trophy shall I ever earn; For a high score I dare not yearn. However, I have so much fun I’m glad bowling’s for everyone. Let experts knock all ten pins down, Striving to wear the winners’ crown. I still shall roll my funny ball, And have the greatest time of all.

—Betty Crilley
Hawthorne may be heaven for retirees, but it's also a happy haven for many residents still working.

Take John Underwood, for example. To find him at home, just go past the first utility room marked "Hers" to the second utility room labeled "His." Here you'll find the main man of Underwood Industries shuffling paper at the tidiest desk this side of the Oval Office.

This Hawthorne mover sells fans and blowers to move air in commercial and industrial establishments, such as Mercury Marine, Briggs & Stratton and Tropicana. Without any stock on hand, he runs a catalog business out of a downtown Leesburg office and a Milwaukee office in the charge of a daughter, Joan Mattick. John and his wife, Iris, moved here from Milwaukee four years ago.

Hawthorne is also sweet music to Hal Fitch, who plays the organ at the Ramada Inn in Clermont. While spending 20 years as a carpenter, nine as a chemist and 16 as a salesman, Fitch has played organs weekends "for pin money" since 1930, when he began as a church organist in Eddington, Pa. He came here from St. Petersburg (where he played in various combos) with his wife Kitty last April. She works part-time at Mag-Lee Fashions in Leesburg.

Another working couple, Alma and Melvin Dunbar, find Hawthorne the ideal pre-retirement community. Still in their 30's, they moved here a year and a half ago after visiting the park every year since it started, says Alma, adding:

"Hawthorne kept looking better to us every year. Now it's our dream come true."

The Dunbars came here from Hopewell, Va., "The Chemical Capital of the South." She works in the admitting office of the Leesburg Regional Medical Center and he's a maintenance man at Continental Country Club.

Leonard Braddock calls himself a "retarded, retreaded retiree," but he's really been an interior designer at Pugh's Decorating Den in Leesburg for nearly five years and a Hawthorne resident for six.

A Florida native, he studied interior design at Pratt Institute, graduating in the depth of the Great Depression.

"Who wanted an interior designer then?" he asks. Someone eventually did, however, for he was an interior designer in New York before moving here and taking his present part-time job.

"I have an ideal job," he says. "If I don't want to work on a project, I tell the boss I don't. And if I disagree with him, I tell him off. I'm very independent!"

Allan Summers, who with wife Lois has been helping Hawthornites put their best feet forward in ballroom dancing classes since 1975, has even more important things to do four days a week: He's a title examiner at Lake Abstract & Guaranty Co. in Tavares. He's very proud of his firm's history and says it was instrumental in creating Lake County out of parts of Sumter and Orange counties in 1887.

Allan became an accredited appraiser while working for the state of Ohio years ago and came here as a title searcher in 1973 from Highlands, N.C., where the Summers still spend their summers in "a little cottage in the mountains."

Another not-so-retiring retiree is the Reverend George L. Kress, minister of visitation at the First Presbyterian Church in Leesburg. For four years he has been calling on the sick members of that congregation of more than 900. That takes about four days of his week. In addition, he preaches once a month.

In 1968 he retired from full-time duties at the Florence, Alabama Presbyterian Church and moved to Mount Dora where he spent five years. He also was minister of visitation at the Eustis Presbyterian Church before coming to Hawthorne.

And what does he think of his current assignment?

"It's very pleasant work -- altogether satisfying." Which is a pretty good way of describing life at Hawthorne.

—Don Dornbrook
Eleven amateurs, including yours truly, represented the Hawthorne Players in two one-act plays, *Give and Take* and *Ten Flights Up*, in January.

Under the nurturing eyes of Director Jo Ferguson for *Give and Take*, and Jennie Miltenberger for *Ten Flights Up*, the whole creative process was as full of activity as a pan full of popping popcorn! Ever-active actor-director Bill Lacy stage-managed (with help from thespian Bob Winther). Bill said, “This’s fun. All I have to do is turn lights on and off.” But don’t believe it! Capable producer-prompter Martha Stewart acted as ‘go-fer’ and prompted us when we forgot cues.

We struggled to learn our lines - and EVER IMPORTANT CUES. And we listened, with awe, to a story of Walter Smoyer jogging all around Hawthorne early every morning, reciting his 460 lines in the last play!

Rehearsing was great fun - at first. Then we realized a Last Rehearsal Deadline! We all found ourselves living with hard knots-in-the-stomach. We thought it was because we were amateurs. (I remember how up-tight my son got when preparing for a musical presentation.) And veteran trouper Ann Albers told us everybody gets nervous. She said, “My mouth gets dry. Fred Adams always sets a glass of water backstage for me to drink before I go on stage.”

As Villette and Mac Morgan, Ruth and Bob Syster and Dar and I argued over a rosebush, supported by Eric Brady and John West, in *Give and Take*, we found some words gave us diction problems. Eric Brady was heard muttering, “slovenly, slovenly, slovenly,” over and over.

Meanwhile, experienced actress Abby Lacy supported Marj Carley, Yvonne Knifley and Louise Paquette in *Ten Flights Up* rehearsals.

Yvonne and Louise practiced their frolicky song and dance.

And then came the real thing! Dressed and fully painted, we entered the stage door as an audience that totalled 500 filed into the auditorium. On stage, all of us found the true delight of acting: the audience infuses life into the performances, as surely as sunshine makes a stained glass window glow. To hear laughter as a funny line or appreciative handclapping makes all the effort worth while. “Applause, Applause,” Lauren Becall sings in that famous musical. How true.

After the performances, at the Afterglow backstage party, we were informed we’re now “card-carrying Hawthorne Players!” How about that!

—Rosalind MacRae Sykes

Curtain call was a time for smiles from thespians (left to right) Bob Syster, Ruth Syster, Villette Morgan, Mac Morgan, Rosalind Sykes, Dar Sykes and John West.

Getting the Morning Paper

Stroll out in that stunning housecoat with which you were Christmas gifted
And there won’t be a soul to see you
nor a single eyebrow lifted,
Sneak out in that ancient bathrobe
you just won’t throw away
Then half of Hawthorne will wander by
to ruin your whole day.

—Ethel McQuillan