TO: The Lakeland Foundation Board, Alumni & Friends  
FROM: Greg Sanders  
DATE: July 7, 2023  
SUBJ: The Lakeland Foundation Friday Update

Happy Friday, everyone! Greg is on vacation this week, so this is Nancy from the Foundation staff with a guest post for today’s Friday Update.

As you may know, The Lakeland Foundation moved its offices earlier this year from the C-Building to the second floor of Mooreland Mansion. Having hosted many events and meetings at Mooreland over the years, our staff felt confident that we knew the house and its history as the summer estate of industrialist Edward W. Moore, Sr. pretty well. But knowing a set of facts and being able to connect with them in a personal way are not always mutually inclusive.

Last week, we had the distinct pleasure of welcoming the family of David Forbes-Watkins for a visit to Mooreland on June 27. David is the son of Elizabeth (Moore) Forbes-Watkins, who was the youngest of Edward Moore, Sr. and Louise Chamberlin Moore’s five children. David had reached out to the Foundation a few months prior and asked if he might bring his own children and grandchildren to visit their ancestors’ estate. We were thrilled for the opportunity and excited to meet David and learn about the time he spent at Mooreland as a child.

The last time David and his wife, Eileen, visited Mooreland was about 12 years ago, but their grown children, Andrew and Lindsay, were still very young when they came to Mooreland for their great-aunt Margaret Moore Clark’s funeral in 1982. They remember the rooms on both floors of the east side of the house being curtained off and used for storage, full of “stuff” and old furniture covered in sheets “like you’d see in a movie.” But their father’s memories of the mansion as a family home and working estate are still vivid.

Now in his 80’s, David had stories to share from the moment he stepped out of the car. He recalled mowing the grounds directly across from the mansion, on which the estate’s nine-hole golf course was situated and is now thick with foliage. The former swimming pool outside of the east wing was perfect for his fraternity’s parties, and younger family members sometimes held dances in the huge attic that stretches the entire length of the house. David took us through the mansion from top to bottom and across the grounds and gardens, sharing his memories of features still present and those long gone.

It was such a treat for us to welcome David and his family, who came together from New York, California, and Texas, for this special and very personal visit. David was so appreciative of all the work done by college staff, the Mooreland Restoration Garden Club, and volunteers who continue to work diligently to keep the property beautiful and thriving, much in the spirit for which it was intended. And the time we spent with David allowed us to see Mooreland through his eyes for what it truly was – a family home.

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If you’re as intrigued by Mooreland and its history as we are, you’ll want to stay tuned for the upcoming release this month of our alumni e-magazine, The Link. We’re planning a featured article on this story with more of David’s memories that we think you’ll enjoy.

On behalf of Greg and our entire Foundation staff, "thanks for all you do for our community college."

Have a great weekend!

Nancy