



The Retreat Newsletter
January/February 2008
Volume 5, Issue 1



Patte Kessler, Marlene Boobar, Kay Campbell,
 Gerri Strong at the High Tea Event

**2007 Events
 Committee—
 A Year in
 Review**

By Marlene
 Boobar

The Women's Club
 Events Committee
 had a goal in 2007
 to provide

opportunities for members to socialize. We are proud to announce that we met that goal and exceeded even our own expectations for providing varied events that took place in and outside the Retreat on weekdays, evenings, and weekends. We earnestly tried to offer something for everyone! Mission accomplished! Earlier in the year, we carpoled in the evening and

(Continued on page 12)



**NATIVES IN THE
 YARD**

By Dottie Williams

In this article, I'd like to write about one of Dave's wildlife sightings.

One morning Dave observed a large cat with a long tail walking along the fence behind our home. He thought it might be a **Florida Panther** and after some quick Internet research, he determined it was. These beautiful animals are reclusive and rarely seen by people but as Florida's population grows, the chances of seeing a panther increases.

The **Florida Panther** is a subspecies of the Puma,
(Continued on page 12)

AUCTION

LIVE AND SILENT

Tim Luke - Auctioneer,

"Cash in the Attic" Celebrity

February 24, 2008

2 PM Registration and Preview, 3 PM Live Auction

ALL proceeds go to the American Cancer Society



NOSTALGIA

By "Cybrary
 Man" aka Jerry
 Blumengarten

Every year in December we mail out or email our Holiday Letter to our family and friends. It has become a tradition. It lists the good and bad things that have happened. We did not realize it but it has become a written history of each year's events in our family. Our children and now grandchildren enjoy looking back and seeing what we did each year. It

(Continued on page 12)

THE RETREAT ANNUAL MEETING

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2008, 7:00 PM

Doors open at 6:30 PM

SeaWind Elementary School

Bridge Players Honor Patsy Shattuck

By Sandy Goldfarb

On Tuesday, November 7th The Retreat bridge players honored **Patsy Shattuck**. For the last several years, Patsy has been instrumental in running this game for our community. Members presented her with a gift certificate to Chris D'Anna's Restaurant along with this poem.

POEM FOR PATSY

*Are you going to play?
Is the question of the day.
With tallies and a checklist in her hand,
Patsy certainly is in command.
We all get pleasure from this endeavor,
Making friendships that will last forever.
A minimum hand we all hate,
But being together is really great.
Playing a convention here, two clubs over there,
Patsy continues to allow us to share.
Bridge knowledge at its best,
Is put through The Retreat's weekly test.
To let you know how much we appreciate
Those dreaded phone calls you hate to make.
Setting up can be a chore,
Adding scores is such a bore.
Every Tuesday at 1:00 don't you fret,
We all have fun and that's a sure bet.
And so we tip our hats two by two,
With this gift from us to you.*

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TO ADVERTISE IN *THE RETREAT NEWSLETTER*, CONTACT
CONI MC GUINN AT 545.3465.

Tuesday Bridge Winners

By Patsy Shattuck

Our winter bridge is in full swing! Our snow birds have landed and we are having a lot of fun. Please call Patsy Shattuck at 546-2011 if you would like to be a part of our bridge group. We play 1 – 4 PM on Tuesday afternoon.

October 2:

- 1 - JoAnn Meeker
- 2 - Alan Shattuck
- 3 - Sally Troiani
- 4 - Patsy Shattuck
- 5 - Carol Weller

October 9:

- 1 - Kay Bowen-Smith
- 2 - Patsy Shattuck
- 3 - Maryan Gonzalez
- 4 - Sally Troiani
- 5 - Carol Weller

October 16:

- 1 - Peggy Johnson
- 2 - Muriel Barry
- 3 - Jim Scanlin
- 4 - Lena Rublowsky
- 5 - Ali Kuron

October 23:

- 1 - Laura Rothman
- 2 - Alan Shattuck
- 3 - Ali Kuron
- 4 - Carol Weller
- 5 - Patsy Shattuck

October 30:

- 1 - Kay Bowen-Smith
- 2 - Patsy Shattuck
- 3 - Kay Campbell
- 4 - Alice Bernhardt
- 5 - Maryan Gonzalez

November 6:

- 1 - Nick Falcone
- 2 - Kay Bowen-Smith
- 3 - Ali Kuron
- 4 - Marie Ferrandino
- 5 - Joyce Hill

November 13:

- 1 - Nick Falcone
- 2 - Kay Campbell
- 3 - Alan Shattuck
- 4 - Maryan Gonzalez
- 5 - Ali Kuron

November 20:

- 1 - Kay Bowen-Smith
- 2 - Muriel Barry
- 3 - JoAnn Meeker
- 4 - Anne Falcone
- 5 - Nick Falcone

November 27:

- 1 - Alan Shattuck
- 2 - JoAnn Meeker
- 3 - Ali Kuron
- 4 - Laura Rothman
- 5 - Peggy Johnson



"THEY STOOD IN LINE FOR ART"

By Marsha Mark

The **Seabbranch Art League** is pleased to announce that **Stephen A. Stone** is showing his work at **The Mark Fine Art Gallery**, 47 SW Osceola Street. Stuart. The gallery is open Tuesday thru Saturday, 10:00 AM to 4:00 PM. The premier of this gallery was a tremendous success. Guests waited in line to view the art and meet the artists.

The **Framery** located at 8835 SE Bridge Road has invited Seabbranch artists to exhibit their work from December thru mid January. Retreat residents whose art work will be on display are **Bettyann Dixson, Jeanette Hayes, Chuck and Joanne Kilcourse, Marsha Mark and our new member, Mary D'Avanzo**. Mary and her husband, Tom, have recently moved to The Retreat from Simsbury, Connecticut. Welcome to The Retreat and the Seabbranch Art League.

From January 11 to February 18, **Jupiter Town Hall** will host a juried art exhibit. **Jeanette Hayes, Ken Dara, Dick Lambert, Bettyann Dixson and Marsha Mark** have entered their work. Join us at the opening reception January 11, 2008 6:00 to 8:00 PM.

In addition, **Ken Dara and Dick Lambert's** artwork is currently on display at the **Elliot Museum** on Hutchinson Island.

Congratulations to all! It's been a great year.



Carol and Jim Stone hosted a **Seabbranch Art League** party. A great time was had by all!



3 Snook Night by Ken Dara

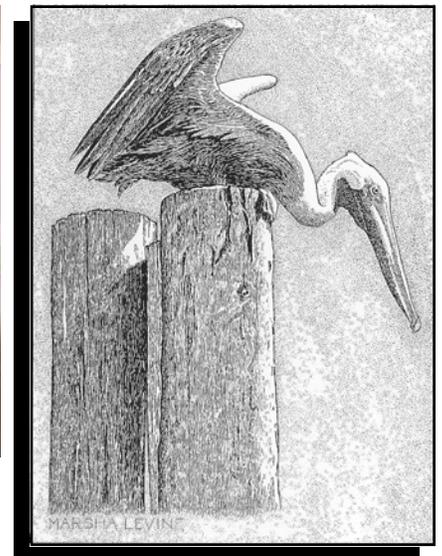
Retreat Artists

Ken Dara and Marsha Levine

Retreat artists, **Ken Dara & Marsha Levine**, have been accepted into the 4th Annual Elliot Museum's juried art exhibit. The theme is "Florida: Old and New". Ken's Japanese fish print, 3 Snook Night, and Marsha's pen and ink rendering of a Pelican will be on display from November 17 to January 6 at the museum.

HONORABLE MENTION

On opening night of the 4th Annual Elliot Museum's juried art exhibit, Retreat resident, **Marsha Levine** was awarded the prize of Honorable Mention for her pen and ink rendering of a Pelican.



WOMEN'S CLUB OF THE RETREAT

By Barbara Farley, 2007 President

Several of our members attended the November luncheon at **Sinclairs** in Jupiter and enjoyed the camaraderie of good friendship. Wreath and centerpiece making workshops were held at **Country Club Florist** in preparation for the upcoming holiday season. Another special event was the spectacular **Christmas Pageant** in Fort Lauderdale followed by dinner. A good time was had by all. I would like to thank all the participants that assisted me in providing all the workshops, luncheons, day trips, events, fundraisers, the high tea and various other activities too numerous to list.

Wishing each and everyone a wonderful, safe and healthy holiday season. Mark your calendars for the first event in 2008, which will be a **luncheon/fashion show at Mariner Sands Country Club** on Wednesday, January 16th.

WOMEN'S CLUB OF THE RETREAT

By Joanne Estes, Incoming 2008 President

The Women's Club is gearing up for 2008 and would first like to express its appreciation to the outgoing officers who did a splendid job: **Barbara Farley, President; Martha Tarquine, Vice President; Carol Stone, Secretary; and Nancy Kislinger, Treasurer.** The incoming officers for 2008 will be **Joanne Estes, President; Audrey Ruggier, Vice President; Lucille Sanchez, Secretary; and Nancy Kislinger, Treasurer.**

We would also like to take this opportunity to recognize the various committee members who gave selflessly of their time and energy, as follows: Outreach Committee – **Joy Currier, Carol Stone, Mary Pratt, Pat Keir, Lorraine Marotta, Nancy Galiher, Bernyce DeRibas, Kay Campbell, Veronica Bartlett, Nancy Lynch, Jo-Ann Dark and Jan Kasuboske;** Events Committee – **Marlene Boobar, Gerri Strong, Patte Kessler and Kay Campbell;** Luncheon Committee – **Marguerite Badcock, Audrey Ruggier, Mary Regan and Pat Keir;** Membership Committee – **Helen Larcom;** Sunshine Committee –

Lois Raska; all the ladies who provided goodies, and last but not least, **Joanie Sofia,** who steadfastly volunteered for KP duty. Now that we have thanked almost everyone but the cleaning lady, please accept our apology if we have unintentionally overlooked anyone.

A warm invitation is extended to **ALL** of the women in the community to attend the first meeting of 2008 on **January 21st,** whether members, non-members or former members. We sincerely hope you will share in the camaraderie of your Retreat sisters and support your Women's Club in the upcoming year. Plans are already under way for 2008.

In addition to routine business, on the agenda for the January meeting is the installation of new officers and forming of committees, with refreshments and getting acquainted to follow. **The first five women who become new members on that evening will receive a complimentary gift from the Women's Club.** The nominal annual membership fee of \$25.00, which comes due in January, is used to finance our social events and support our charitable activities.

On the menu for February is a tribute to the members of the outgoing Board of Directors officers, **Coni McGuinn, Secretary; and Muriel Barry, Treasurer.** Coni and Muriel have served on the Board since its inception and are stepping down when their terms end in February. Please turn out for this special occasion to give the ladies your best wishes in person.

The March meeting is guaranteed to be a fun-filled time for all. We have scheduled a **professional belly dancer, Satareh,** who will perform and teach a group lesson. As we all know, belly dancing is not only entertaining, but also a great form of exercise. Ladies – please get your veils ready!

We have **Mr. Ed Wilson of the Treasure Coast Humane Society** as our speaker in April. He will give us a presentation and demonstration of dog obedience training. Whether or not you are an animal lover, you will be awed by this demonstration and won't want to miss it.

This is just a sampling of things to come and we look forward to seeing you at the first meeting on January 21st and every third Monday evening thereafter. Please encourage all of your friends and neighbors to participate in making 2008 a successful year for The Retreat Women's Club.

Wishing you a Happy and Healthy New Year.

Women's Club Outreach Committee

By Carol Stone

At last the old cramped **Safe Space** building is coming down. **Douglass Stewart** who contributed the funding for the new building is pictured here on the back hoe enjoying the take down of the old building. The area will make space for the new safe parking lot away from the play area for the children. We are now working on furnishing the new building--also a large task. Operations are not expected to be underway until the end of February or beginning of March.

Our soldier, **Sergeant Steve Holloway** and his family are very thankful for the checks, money and gifts sent by the Women's Club and residents of the Retreat. Joy Currier and I met Steve, Laurie and their two-year old Stephanie. They are a lovely family dealing with a very difficult tragedy in their life. This will change the way they live from now on. They are a quality family, and we pray they will make it over the roadblocks Steve's paralysis will throw in their way. Steve was injured while serving in Iran.



Douglass tearing down the old Safe Space building



Women's Club Christmas Party—all signed the large Christmas card for our military family

Photo by Mickey Vernacchio

"WITH MISS ROSETTA AGAIN"

Received from Helen Larcom

Reference: "Courant" Newspaper, 10/7/2007

Ann Rosetta is the sister of Retreat resident **Joe Rosetta**. Miss Rosetta taught at Charter Oak Elementary School in West Hartford for 33 years. She was named an Outstanding Elementary School Teacher of America in 1974. More than five decades later, her kindergarten class of 1944 (now in their 60s) enjoyed a reunion with the teacher they never forgot, now aged 88. The first order of business at the reunion was fixing an old wrong. None of the classmates could remember taking a kindergarten class picture. So Miss Rosetta sat surrounded by her former pupils while her kindergartners' spouses snapped photos.

Everyone remembered one particular fixation she had. "I had a real thing about shoelaces. They had to be tied." When her pupils moved on to upper grades, they would still check their shoelaces when they scurried past her.

Because she never said it to her first class, Miss Rosetta did at the reunion.

"You're going to grow up," she said; "You'll go to another school, get married, have children, and we probably won't see each other for a long time. But I will always love you."



A PROUD NEW RETREAT GRANDMA!!

Marlene Boobar's daughter, MaryAnna had her first child on Wednesday, November 14th. Little **Annabelle** was 7 pounds! Both

Marlene and Bob are excited to be first time grandparents.

LADIES GAME NIGHT

By Dottie Sacco

We are reserving the clubhouse on Monday nights for the ladies of the community.



Joanie Sofia, Coni Mc Guinn, Nancy Galiher, Margaret Dara, Dottie Sacco and Martha Tarquine

The third Monday of each month is the Women's Club meeting. The other Mondays are "open game night". Bring your game of choice and join us. If you would like the rules we use for Mexican Train Dominos, send me an e-mail at dotsacco@yahoo.com. Please bring a cover for the table if your game is not furniture friendly. All are welcome to join us at 7:00 PM.

NEWS FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

By Bill Cole

- ⇒ **FINANCES** are sound...expenditures are under budget for the year to date.
- ⇒ **MARK YOUR CALENDAR** - Our Homeowners' Association Annual Meeting will be February 11, 2008 at 7:00 PM at SeaWind School. Elections for two directors' positions will be held. Please plan to attend.
- ⇒ The **PALM TREE REPLACEMENT PROGRAM** has started. The palms that are being planted are beautiful. Approximately 2/3 of the homes needing palm trees have sent in their money. If you need a palm, please send your money in.
- ⇒ **THANK YOU** all for your help, ideas and support this year. Special thanks to all our committee members and other volunteers.
- ⇒ We collected **\$2,464.00** from all of you to provide a **THANK YOU** to our **14 Concepts in Greenery redshirts** you see every day. What a wonderful outpouring of kindness from our owners. We know they will appreciate your generous donations. Each worker will receive a Walmart gift certificate for \$176.00 in time for Christmas. Thank you for helping to make a Merry Christmas for them. The Retreat has a big heart.

SATELLITE DISH SYSTEM

By Dave Williams

Residents contemplating or those currently possessing a satellite dish system should familiarize themselves with new restrictions regarding their installation. Visit our WEB site at www.retreatatsebranch.com or call Frank at the Retreat office at 546.6112.

Atlantic Ridge Preserve

By Dave Williams

Retreat Residents: The Atlantic Ridge State Park Rangers ask for your assistance. If you see or hear Jeeps or ATVs tearing around in the preserve area, call **Gail Bogan**, Park Ranger, anytime of the day or night at **263.1246** to report it. Also, you may report suspected problems to the police at 911. They will respond or call the Rangers.



FINANCE COMMITTEE

By Larry Anderson

The **Finance Committee** has had two productive meetings. We have been concentrating on what our reserve requirements should be and how they should be allocated. We have made a list of many replacement and/or maintenance items, breaking them down into short and long term categories. We are now in the process of exploring an estimated dollar value for each item. We have also addressed the need to have available funds for any emergency that may arise. I feel the committee has made progress in these two meetings. We will continue to meet on the second Thursday of each month at the Clubhouse at 7:00 PM but we will not have a meeting in December.



ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

By Stephen Stone

EXPLANATION OF THE ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

- ⇒ THE ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE (ACC) HAS BEEN FORMED TO HELP PROTECT THE COVENANTS, CONDITIONS AND RESTRICTIONS OF OUR COMMUNITY.
- ⇒ THE ACC IS HERE TO HELP YOU MAKE CHANGES AND MODIFICATIONS TO YOUR HOME AND PROPERTY, NOT TO STOP YOU FROM DOING SO.

While protecting the original intent of this development and all its recorded restrictions, specific guidelines have been approved by The Retreat Board of Directors. These guidelines are the standards set for all homeowners to follow should they desire to make some modifications (generator installation, swing sets, pool fences, etc.). The ACC will also approve some landscape modifications. We are governed by the restrictions in the Green Book and try to keep The Retreat as it was originally intended to mature.

PLEASE MAKE APPLICATIONS TO THE ACC FOR ANY CHANGES TO YOUR HOME OR PROPERTY. If you are in doubt whether an application is necessary, call Frank Lennane in the Retreat office (546.6112) or feel free to call Stephen Stone, Chairman of the ACC at 546.9090. We are here to help with your requests! A survey of your property, indicating the requested change, must accompany your application!



CLUBHOUSE COMMITTEE

By Gail Pezzicola

The Clubhouse Committee meets regularly the first Thursday of each month at 6:00 PM at our clubhouse. We are assigned to monitor the clubhouse building, pool, tennis courts, and the gym facilities. Our members are folks who use each of these areas of recreation regularly, and have hands on knowledge as to what is taking place on a daily basis.

Since we began to meet in September, the committee has recommended that the Board of Directors purchase **additional pool furniture** for our community's use and enjoyment. The addition of three new tables and two new umbrellas has enhanced the pool area. Many people have noticed that the four new chaise lounges recently purchased are sixteen inches off of the ground to allow easier mobility getting in and out of the chaise. We thank the Board of Directors for this purchase.

New "**No Smoking**" signs replace the old plastic ones and match other existing signs in the clubhouse area.



We hope you have noticed that our **cleaning staff** is putting more time in to maintaining the shower area by the pool, as well as the cleaning of the overhead fans outside. They can be found wiping down the pool furniture and tennis court furniture on a regular basis. This committee thanks them for their extra effort in these areas. Just a little bit every week helps to keep our public areas "sparkling."

A recent report by one of our committee people informed us about the cost of new nets on the tennis courts, as well as the possibility of resurfacing the courts in the future. We are trying to look ahead and **project future costs** that will arise, and prepare our Board of Directors for what these costs may be.

Our committee is pleased to be working for the betterment of the Retreat. It is a beautiful corner of the world and I know that all of us realize how blessed we are to be a part of it.



COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE

By Joanne Estes

CHANNEL 63

Channel 63 got off the ground last Spring. We encountered a few rough spots at the outset which have been ironed out. One of the difficulties was that Comcast furnished us with a very complicated program, but the extremely competent **Jim Morrow and Gene Gillis** have mastered it and everything seems to be running smoothly. We have received very positive feedback from the residents and feel this endeavor has become a great success and could serve as a model for other communities. We are diversifying by showing art work of the various artists who are residents of the Retreat and this has added another very enjoyable dimension to the program. In addition, we have requested that the residents provide us with their favorite photographs. As a result of much time and effort, Channel 63 has become informative and entertaining. We welcome your feedback and contributions.

We are fortunate to have a new resident by the name of **Gail Bjork** who is a very talented photographer. She has generously contributed some of her work for viewing on Channel 63. Ms. Bjork has expressed an interest in becoming involved with the committee on some level after the Holidays and we feel she would be a great asset.

I have been attempting to recruit residents to train as alternates for Channel 63 for the better part of a year in order to relieve some of the burden placed on the hardworking volunteers. I have just recently been successful in finding one person who is willing to do so. This gracious lady is **Geri Ciocia** and we appreciate her willingness to become involved and give it the old college try.

An area of concern is that, in some cases, residents are not allowing us sufficient lead time to prepare and upload the slides in a more relaxed manner. We require a minimum of one week for this procedure and we request the cooperation of the residents in this regard. In addition, we are researching to determine whether or not there is equipment we could purchase which would enable our program designers to make changes from their homes in order to eliminate the necessity of

constantly running down to the clubhouse.

WEBSITE

The website has been completely revamped. The obsolete material and photographs have been updated and we also have a brand new format for locating information. You can now click on the main categories and subheadings will appear making it easier to navigate. **Gene Gillis** has done a great job and is open to any suggestions.

We recently began a pilot program which we entitled "**Residents' Showcase**," allowing artists and photographers in the community to submit their work to be shown on the website for the enjoyment of the residents.

NEWSLETTER

The newsletter speaks for itself and has proven time and again to be a significant contribution to the community. The dedicated newsletter team continues to do an outstanding job and should be commended.

We have been successful in obtaining one new advertiser and one partial new advertiser this year. We have sent letters and renewal contracts to our present advertisers for 2008 and await their responses. **All efforts by the community to solicit new advertisers would be appreciated.**

We have been told by people who are in the business of publishing newsletters that **The Retreat Newsletter** is one of the best, if not the very best community newsletter they have seen. Kudos to **Lill, Hank and Dottie**.

BULLETIN BOARDS

There are four bulletin boards in the mailroom: the For Sale board, the Women's Club board, the Community Events board and the Board of Directors/Management business board. The Communications Committee oversees two of those boards: the For Sale board and the Community Events board. Some simple guidelines are posted on the boards and photographs are now permitted on the For Sale board. Since business cards were prohibited, we now seem to have more than adequate space on the For Sale board.

DIRECTORY

We are in the process of updating the information for the **2008 Retreat Directory**. Any additions,

corrections or changes must be submitted by **February 1st**. Residents wishing to make a correction, such as an email address, should complete the Directory form found in the last Newsletter or in the 2007 Directory and place it in the Drop Box in the Property Management office located in the Clubhouse. Please be sure to sign the form.

EMAIL BLASTS

At the present time, **Coni McGuinn and Lill Malinowski** are responsible for sending out email blasts. After the Holidays, both Frank Lennane and I will also be equipped to send out email blasts. If you have not already done so and you would like to receive these notifications, please furnish us with your email address.

Your **Communications Committee** is happy to serve the community and we ask for your support by taking an interest and contributing ideas, articles, suggestions and recommendations. Your participation in all these areas is vital to our continued success. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Our final "at home" event of the year, **Men Who Cook**, held at our Retreat Clubhouse on November 10th was a whopping success. Our "Star Chefs" obviously put their all into their epicurean specialties. Many of the attendees asked for their recipes. They certainly did themselves proud, and all who attended enjoyed a wonderful evening so graciously hosted by our **Men Who Cook**.

A spectacular evening was had by all at **The Retreat Holiday Dinner Dance** on December 3rd at the Mariner Sands Country Club. Festively attired, everyone enjoyed the beautifully presented gourmet meal topped off with Baked Alaska Flambé! With Lucky and the Drifters playing for us once again, the dance floor was always hopping. It was truly a fabulous way to enter into the holiday season and to end what we feel was a fun-filled year of social events at The Retreat.

We leave you with a report of the 2007 social events organized by the committee.

January 13 - **Backyard Barbeque** - attended by 125+ people

February 10 - Paddle Boat Dinner Dance, Lucky & the Drifters Band - 70 people

March 10 - **St. Patrick's Day Dinner** - 60 people

April 19 - **Margaritaville Party** - 66 people

May 5 - **Cinco de Mayo Mexican Fiesta Dinner** - 48 people

July 15 - **Pot Luck Dinner** - 60 people

September 15 - **Italian Feast** - 55 people

October 13 - **Oktoberfest** - 60 people

November 10 - **Men Who Cook** - 52 people

December 3 - **Holiday Dinner Dance** - 123 people.

In addition, once a month for five months, we had "**Movie Night at The Retreat**" on Monday evenings. Popcorn and soda was served as we enjoyed the movie.

Mary, Bev and I enjoyed presenting these fun events for our friends and neighbors. To witness the enjoyment it brought to all who participated made the many hours of preparation all worthwhile.



Photo by Carol Stone

Our 2007 Social Committee Chairs

Geri Morgan, Bev Gregory and Mary Paukstys

Mary Regan is picking up her winning raffle prize.

MEN WHO COOK



Jim Morrow, Joe Rosetta, Hilary Kozlowski, Ron Paukstys



John Galiher, Joe Giordano, Ken Gregory, Mark Morgan

2008 Social Committee

By Gail Pezzicola

The Social Committee of the Retreat is beginning to reorganize for 2008! The new committee has quite a challenge ahead, as they attempt to follow in the footsteps of those from the committee of 2007. A huge thank you goes out to **Geri Morgan, Bev Gregory, and Mary Paukstys** for their time and talent put into every event last year. All of the dinners and outings required significant planning, shopping, decorating, and clean up. These three women did all of that virtually on their own. We are hoping the team for 2008 will have "leaders" and "worker bees" to head up each function. This will allow for the work to be spread more among "many" rather than just a few. Please remember to look for more information about the upcoming social events in the next newsletter, following the new committee's initial meeting in January! Happy Holidays to Everyone!

RELAY FOR LIFE

By Lill Malinowski

What a great day we had at the **2007 Holiday Home Tour!** The eight homes were fabulous! The refreshments were yummy. The attendees had a great time. The “honey-do-lists” got longer.

The chance drawing prizes were all donated by **Carmine’s Gourmet Market and Restaurants in Palm Beach Gardens.** We thank Carmine’s for their generous donations. The lucky winners were:

- ⇒ Carol Stone won the two dinner tickets to see Jon Secada. Carol and Jim will be driven to the event and back in a Rolls Royce!
- ⇒ Marilyn Perrelli won the expensive bottle of wine and \$100 gift certificate to Carmine’s.
- ⇒ Emily Mussatto won the \$350 gift basket.

Last but not least, we have **\$3,335** to contribute to the American Cancer Society’s Relay For Life!!!

Thank you to all those who opened their homes and their hearts to this fundraiser as well as those that attended. We thank our wonderful team for all their hard work in making this event so successful.

We will host another fundraiser on February 24, 2008—a **Live and Silent Auction.** Retreat resident and “Cash in the Attic” host, **Tim Luke** will be our auctioneer! Bring your checkbooks—the auction items will be great!



Anne Cole and Marlene Boobar selling Holiday Home Tour tickets and Chance Drawing tickets

Photo by Wally Malinowski

Chance Drawing ticket winners (Marilyn Perrilli was not present)



OUR HOLIDAY HOME TOUR HOSTS

HOME TOUR PHOTOS BY WALLY MALINOWSKI



Barry & Emily Mussatto



Donna & Ken Ryan



Ottavio & Michieley



Jim & Carol Stone



Barry & Elaine Anderson



Joanna Rosaita



Blumengarten Jerry & Gail



Tim & Judith

John Schulte

WANTED

Donated Items and Services

New and "gently used" items...and *sought after* services (Nail, Hair, Spa, etc.) will be offered for sale at our **Silent and Live Auction.**

Items for donation can be dropped off at the Malinowski's home / garage on the Friday and Saturday before the auction.

If you have ideas for Live Auction services / experiences....please let me know?

If you know an individual or a business owner who you think might like to donate goods or services and you are reluctant to contact them yourself... please let me know?

marleneboobar@hotmail.com or

545.1043

Sunday, February 24 Clubhouse

2 PM Preview and Registration

3 PM Live Auction Begins

Tim Luke from Cash in the Attic, Auctioneer

Sponsored by:

"Retreat Remembers..." - Our Relay For Life Team

Checks payable to: **American Cancer Society**

CARMINE'S

By Helen Larcom

Earlier this year, we were the lucky winners of the gift basket **Carmine's Restaurant** donated to the **Relay For Life**. Included inside was a \$50 gift certificate. We decided to use it towards a nice dinner. The restaurant is located at 2401 PGA Boulevard, #172, Palm Beach Gardens. The phone number is 561.775.0105.

The atmosphere was very elegant. The food was superb from start to finish. Paul had the veal marsala, and he could cut it with a fork. I had a very nice pasta dish. The service was excellent. Afterwards we had coffee on the patio and enjoyed the singing voice of Franco Corso, "The Voice of Romance." If you enjoy classic love songs, you will love listening to Franco. He sang songs like Con Te Partiro (Time to Say Goodbye), Volare and many other beautiful songs. It was truly a wonderful evening.

This is a special occasion place to take someone very special or to enjoy a great evening with friends. We thank Carmine's for their support once again to our Relay team. For the Holiday Home Tour this December, they supplied an even larger basket, an expensive bottle of wine with a \$100 certificate, and two dinner tickets to see Jon Secada.



RELAY FOR LIFE

By Lill Malinowski

The **Relay For Life of South Martin** will take place on **April 18 to 19, 2008** at The Pine School which is on US 1 just South of Bridge Road. Please mark your calendars!

In addition to being the Captain of the Retreat Team, I have agreed to Chair the event for two years. It is my goal to make this the best Relay For Life of South Martin. The Relay Committee is searching for additional adult teams, there are several committee chair positions that need to be filled, and we are in need of sponsors. If you have any recommendations for me, please let me know.

Pictured with me is **Kelly Vega**, our community representative for Martin County from the American Cancer Society.

(Continued from page 1) EVENTS COMMITTEE

afternoon to both the Blake and Morgade Libraries to attend several **Chautauqua Series lectures**. With the help of the Luncheon Committee, we provided a Ladies **Mardi Gras Luncheon** in March at the Clubhouse. In April, we carpooled to the **Flagler Museum** and enjoyed a wonderful tour of the museum and participated in a High Tea. What fun it was to enjoy a **Historic Walking Tour of Palm Beach** in May! Here at the Clubhouse in late October, we gathered to make fun hats in preparation for our own **High Tea Luncheon** in early November.

In between carpooling to events or enjoying events taking place right here at the Retreat, many took advantage of several bus trips offered. These trips included a trip to **Gulfstream Race Track**, two different trips to **Mt. Dora - one for the Craft Fair** in October and one to see the **Christmas Lights** in December. Several women also enjoyed a shopping trip to Sawgrass Mills and a performance of the Rockettes. Let's not forget that seventeen enjoyed a wonderful trip to see the **Christmas Pageant** down in Ft. Lauderdale.

Last but not least, the Sunday before Thanksgiving, the Events Committee and the entire Women's Club, with the help and participation of the Relay for Life Team sponsored the **2nd Annual Taste of the Retreat**. The entire community was invited to join us for a food sampling and genuine good neighbor hospitality.

The Events Committee would like to thank everyone who participated in any of our activities. It is so rewarding to us, when folks enjoy what we have planned!

(Continued from page 1) NOSTALGIA

brought me to the idea that nostalgia is fun. In that vein I have the following websites that hopefully you will enjoy. To make it easy for you I have all these links right on my homepage: <http://www.cybraryman.com>

The #1 Song on This Date in History – Those were the days my friend!

<http://www.joshhosler.biz/NumberOneInHistory/SelectMonth.htm>

Television Theme Songs – It includes a fun "Name That Theme" game.

<http://www.televisiontunes.com/browse.html>

Way Back Machine – Remember that old website you used to view.

<http://www.archive.org/index.php>

(Continued from page 1) NATIVES IN THE YARD

otherwise known as a mountain lion or cougar. It is the last subspecies surviving in the wild east of the Mississippi River. They are mainly found in the Big Cypress National Preserve and Everglades National Park in southern Florida but have been sighted as far north as Flagler County. They have brownish yellow colored backs with light gray underbodies. Found in hardwood hammocks, pine flatwoods and swamp forests, their favorite prey is the white-tail deer. A single panther can consume 35 to 50 deer a year. Wild boar, armadillos, birds, raccoons and rabbits are also part of their diet. They need a lot of space to hunt. Males have a range of 160 to 200 square miles with some of the larger males needing 500 square miles. The female's range is about 60 to 75 square miles. They usually walk 15 to 20 miles a day in a zigzag pattern from one hunting area to another. They travel day and night in the winter and only at night in the summer.

These great cats were nearly hunted into extinction. In the 1960's they were listed as an endangered species by the United States government and the state of Florida introduced recovery programs in the late 1970's. Florida elementary school students voted to make the panther the official state animal in the early 1980's. Since 1981, scientists have studied the panthers in Florida with the use of collars with radio transmitters. **Biologists now estimate that there are 80 to 100 panthers remaining in the wild.** Sadly, the biggest threat to the panthers today is land development. As more hardwood hammocks and forests are torn down to build homes, the panthers lose more of their habitat and space for hunting. This is one of the reasons why today most of the Florida Panthers are found in national parks and preserves but there is always the exception. Make sure you look carefully out your back window or sliding doors. You might be treated to a rare sighting of our state animal, the Florida Panther.

We all get heavier as we get older because there's a lot more information in our heads. So I'm not fat, I'm just really intelligent and my head couldn't hold any more so it started filling up the rest of me!

That's my story and I'm sticking to it!

RECIPE CORNER

Sunny Lemon Bars

Received from Marlene Boobar

Editorial Comment: Marlene baked these treats for the **Women's Club High Tea** and everyone raved about them.

1 ½ c. plus 3 T. all -purpose flour, divided
2/3 c. powdered sugar
¾ c. butter, softened

3 eggs, beaten
1½ c. sugar
¼ c. lemon juice
Garnish: powdered sugar

Combine 1 ½ cups flour, powdered sugar and butter; mix well. Pat into a greased 13" x 9" baking pan; bake at 350 degrees for 20 minutes. Whisk remaining flour, eggs, sugar and lemon juice together until frothy; pour over hot crust. Bake until golden, about 20 additional minutes; cool on a wire rack. Dust with powdered sugar; cut into bars to serve. Make 2 ½ dozen.

Place cut bars in a freezer bag and freeze up to one month. Thaw, Covered, in the refrigerator before serving.

PLUM CAKE

Received from Helen Larcom

Editorial comment: Helen made this cake for **Oktoberfest**. Many asked Helen for the recipe.

9 ripe plums quartered. Sprinkle in 2 teaspoons of cinnamon and 5 tablespoons of sugar - set aside.

3 cups flour
2 cups sugar
1 cup cooking oil
4 eggs
1/4 cup orange juice
2 teaspoons baking powder
2-1/2 teaspoons vanilla
1 teaspoon salt

Beat until smooth sugar, oil, eggs and vanilla. Add flour, juice, baking powder and salt, mix until smooth. Pour 1/2 into a greased angel food pan. Arrange 1/2 plum mixture over it. Pour in remaining batter and top with the rest of plum mixture. Bake at 350 degrees for 1-1/2 hours. Done when top is golden brown. Cool in pan 25 minutes.

Note: Any fresh or canned fruit can be used. This is especially good with peaches or apples.

Pork Chops A La Dijon

Received from Hank Stasiewicz

INGREDIENTS:

4 boneless pork chops
1/2 cup dry bread crumbs
3 tablespoons Dijon mustard
3 tablespoons lemon juice
1 tablespoon crushed capers

PREPARATION:

Heat oven to 375 degrees Fahrenheit.

Trim the fat from the pork chops.

Spray a 13 x 9 baking pan with non-stick cooking spray and set aside.

Place the bread crumbs into a shallow dish or pan.

In a separate dish, mix the mustard, lemon juice, and capers.

Dip both sides of the pork chops into the mustard mixture and after that dip it in the bread crumbs.

Place the coated pork chops into the baking pan and bake at 375 degrees Fahrenheit for 20 minutes. Turn the pork chops and keep baking for about 20 more minutes, until the meat is no longer pink.

Orange Glazed Sweet Potatoes

Received from Kay Campbell

Editorial comment: Kay made this for the **Taste of the Retreat**. Many wanted the recipe.

6 large sweet potatoes
2 navel oranges sliced across in thin slices
2/3 c. brown sugar (firmly packed)
2 c. orange juice
2 tbs. grated orange rind
2 tbs. cornstarch
2/3 c. white sugar
Pinch of salt
6 tbs. butter

Cook potatoes in jackets until tender, about 30 minutes. Combine orange rind, cornstarch, sugars, salt, orange juice, and butter in saucepan. Cook, stirring until smooth and slightly thickened. Grease a 9" x 12" x 2" pan.

Slice each peeled potato into 3 sections lengthwise. Place evenly in bottom of pan. Cut each slice of orange in two and arrange over sweet potatoes. Pour sauce over. Place foil over top of pan. Bake at 350 degrees F. for 20 minutes. Uncover. Bake 15 minutes longer. Yield: 12 medium servings



Wilted Spinach Salad with Warm Feta

Received from Hank Stasiewicz

Note from Hank: This goes well together with the Penne with Three Tomato Sauce. With the addition of a loaf of homemade garlic bread and a wine or adult beverage of your choice, you are good to go.

- 1 9 oz bag fresh spinach leaves
- 5 TBSP olive oil, divided
- 1 medium red onion, halved, cut into 1/2 in. wedges
- 1 7 oz feta cheese (do not use crumbled)
- 2 TBSP sherry wine vinegar

Place spinach in large bowl. Heat 2 TBSP oil in heavy pan over high heat. Add onion; sauté about 7 min. until brown. Transfer to bowl of spinach; remove pan from heat. Add remaining oil & cheese, stir to melt, about 1 min. Stir in vinegar. Season with S & P. Pour over spinach; toss to coat.

Penne with Three Tomato Sauce

Received from Hank Stasiewicz

- 1 tsp olive oil
- 1/2 C. chopped onion
- 4-6 garlic cloves, minced
- 1/4 C chopped oil packed sun-dried tomatoes
- 1 tsp sugar
- 4 plum tomatoes, chopped
- 1 (14.4 oz) can diced tomatoes undrained
- 12 oz penne
- 1/2 C goat cheese (4 oz)
- 1/4 C chopped parsley
- Chopped fresh basil to taste

1. Heat olive oil in large non-stick skillet over medium-high heat. Add onion, sauté 4 min or until tender. Add garlic, sauté 1 min. Add sun-dried tomatoes, sugar, plum tomatoes, and diced tomatoes. Reduce heat to medium and cook for 20 min, stirring often.

2. Cook pasta. Stir goat cheese into sauce, add parsley & basil.

Combine only as much sauce & pasta as you will be using. Pasta will be dry the next day if it is combined and let to sit.



Italian Sausage Soup

Received from Jim Morrow

Editorial comment: Jim made this soup for the **Men Who Cook** Social Committee gathering. I heard it was yummy!

Ingredients:

- 1 lb HOT Italian Sausage
- 1 lb SWEET Italian Sausage
- 1 chopped/diced onion
- 1 diced green pepper
- 1 diced red pepper
- 4 cans chicken broth
- 1 lg can crushed tomatoes
- 1 3/4 cup Red Table Wine
- 2 -3 diced cloves of garlic
- 1 Tbsp Oregano, parsley, basil
- 1/2 box Ditalini (pasta)

Steps:

Remove sausage casing.

Make little balls of sausage or little clumps and sauté.

In large pot – sauté in olive oil oregano, parsley, basil, garlic, diced peppers and onions.

Using a blender – mix crushed tomatoes.

Sauté all sausage with the diced onion, peppers, etc.

Add crushed tomatoes, chicken broth, red wine and simmer for 1 – 2 hours.

Add pasta to pot the last 15 minutes.

Notes:

Use these basic proportions to make larger pot of soup. Feel free to add more broth, wine to make soupier.

You may want to boil pasta separately and add when ready to serve – don't keep pasta in leftover soup – it tends to absorb all the juices.

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***Taking
Action***

The theme for the next edition of the newsletter will be **“Taking Action.”** If you’ve faced a personal challenge, taken on a cause, or made a difference in someone’s life, please share it with us. Send your article to any of us on the newsletter staff. Thank you to **Amy Wexler** for the suggestion.

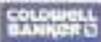
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