



The Retreat Newsletter
November/December 2006
Volume 3, Issue 5



This is the 14th publication of *The Retreat Newsletter*. Over the years, many Retreat residents have contributed

stories, photos, recipes, restaurant reviews, puzzles, committee news, travel reports, jokes, Retreat activity reports, homeowner association news, book reviews, news about visitors, and more. If it were not for these residents' contributions, there would be no newsletter. Who are these folks!?!?!? **Go to page 4 and see if you can find them!**

Thank you to all of you that make this newsletter possible. We ask each Retreat resident for their future support.

Last but not least, a big thank you goes out to our advertisers. The revenue from the ads helps to defray our printing expenses. Thank you!

NEWS FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS
By Bill Cole

Dear Fellow Retreat Homeowner,

We are writing to ask for your help.

We have been asked to change a few of the key areas of our documents...not a total re-write but a clarification of some items that cause the most discussion.

Please send us your list of the top five problem areas in our by laws. Rank them.

We want to work on this project now and have a member vote on changes at the February Annual Meeting.

If you want to elaborate or have questions, please call Bill Cole at 772.546.5353.

Thank you,

Your Board of Directors



Maxine

Received from
Becky Brown

Don't forget to
"FALL BACK"
on October 29th!

**REMEMBER TO VOTE ON
NOVEMBER 7th**



HOME TUNE-UP TIPS

USEFUL COMPUTER LINKS

By "Cybrary Man" aka Jerry Blumengarten

www.cybraryman.com

I admire a lot of my neighbors who are extremely handy. Since everything I know comes from the Internet here are some of my favorite home tune up sites and a listing of holidays I hope y'all will enjoy in November and December.

When I need clear instructions on how to do (just about) everything I log on to ehow.com. They have a very big section for Home Repairs and Maintenance:

<http://www.ehow.com/categorymap-1055-9.html>

Home Repairs and Maintenance - eHow

I know our homes are not that old but there are some useful tips on This Old House – Home Tune-ups page:

http://www.thisoldhouse.com/toh/html/almanac/almanac_071603_tuneups.html

Home Tune-ups - This Old House

You can find some other good repair, do it yourself, handyman, home improvement, housekeeping, cleaning, organizing and remodeling links on my **Repairs and Fix It Tips** page:

<http://www.angelfire.com/stars3/education/repairs.html>

November Holidays and Celebrations

<http://www.suelebeau.com/november.htm>

December Holidays and Celebrations

<http://www.suelebeau.com/december.htm>

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



UNCLOGGING THE DRAIN

By Marlene Boobar

Option #1:

Pour one cup of baking soda down the drain followed by one cup of hot vinegar. Try heating the vinegar in the microwave before adding it to the drain. Wait five minutes before flushing the drain with two quarts of hot water. You can repeat this process a few times if it is necessary. If this is the first time you have cleaned your drain in a long time, it may be necessary to repeat the baking soda flush a couple of times.

Option #2:

Try pouring one cup of baking soda and a half cup of salt down the drain. Let this mixture sit in the drain for several hours. Overnight is best, before flushing the drain with two cups of boiling water.

These methods are environmentally friendly!

OTHER TIPS

By Marlene Boobar

- ✓ A simple glass cleaner is baking soda and water!
- ✓ Need to clean up your glass topped outdoor furniture? Rub in a little lemon juice (can be from a bottle). Dry with paper towels and make it shine by rubbing with a newspaper. If you have scratches on the glass top, try rubbing in some toothpaste and this should remove the scratches.
- ✓ Lemon juice will remove adhesive tape and gum from hands and clothes!
- ✓ A small bedroom will appear larger if you keep the bedspread the same color as the walls.
- ✓ Need a good toilet bowl cleaner? Inexpensive, too! Try this. Get a bucket or pail and add two quarts of water, one cup of hydrogen peroxide and one tablespoon of household ammonia. Mix well. Pour this entire mixture into the toilet and put the toilet lid down. Let the solution set for thirty minutes. Open the lid, scrub with brush and flush! Easy and makes your toilet bowl sparkle.



FRONT DOOR LOCKS

George Rebholz

If the chromium front door lock and handle on your home has corroded, please note that the handle and lock set is a CENTURY and has an "ultima" finish which eliminates tarnish and corrosion caused by sun, salt air and fog. It has a lifetime warranty to first time owners! Call the warranty information telephone number 888.805.9837 and speak to a representative. They should replace the unit. If you have a key with a number embossed on the top part of the key, give that to them, and they will replace it with one keyed the same as your original handle. They replace it BUT do not install it. The installation is your responsibility.

One property owner regularly waxes their handle with a car wax and the handle showed no corrosion. The person at Schlage also suggested this be done. Having done the replacement, I am now waxing the handle once a month.

DiVosta Home Care Guide

To access the DiVosta Home Care Guide via the Internet, go to www.divosta.com. Then click on "Living in Your Home." Then click on "Home Care." Next click on the part of your DiVosta home that you need to have "care" information. For example, if you need to know about screens, click on "House Exterior" and then "Screens."

If you do not have access to the Internet, dust off your "green book" which you received when you closed on your DiVosta home. Go to the "Preventive Maintenance" section. This information is not as extensive as the Internet data but still helpful.

The following is an excerpt from the DiVosta Care Guide:

House exterior

Screens

The screens on your exterior windows and doors are constructed of quality material.

Screens, which consist of a woven mesh stretched across a frame, allow the outdoor air in while helping to prevent insects from entering your home. The screens on your home will never need paint or other preservatives.

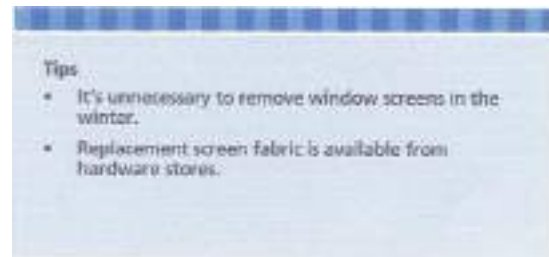
Care and maintenance

Follow these care and maintenance suggestions for your home's screens.

General maintenance

Keep the screens clean to help keep dirt from being transferred to the exterior siding, stucco, etc. Gently wash and hose the screens about once a year.

Remove the screens periodically to clean out the dirt buildup on the sills. A buildup of dirt can trap water on the sills, which may eventually lead to water damage.



To replace screen mesh

1. Remove the splines that are holding the old screen fabric in place by prying them out with a screwdriver that's slightly smaller than the splines.
2. Cut new screen fabric the same size as the outside of the frame.
3. Use the convex edge of a spline tool to push the new screen fabric's edges into the channel on the top and on one side of the frame.
4. Use the spline tool to roll the remaining two edges of new screen fabric into the channel.
5. Use the concave edge of the spline tool to push the splines back into the channel. Pull the screen fabric taut as you do this.
6. Trim off any excess screen fabric with a utility knife.

Security System

By Brenda Frank

The security system box which is located in the laundry room requires a battery. If a service call is made to replace the battery, the charge is \$75 for the service call and the battery. The battery is easy to replace and can be purchased for \$29.65 at the Battery Store located on Willoughby Boulevard and Indian Street.

WORD SEARCH PUZZLE

Created via <http://www.armoredpenguin.com/wordsearch>

Find *The Retreat Newsletter* contributors (listed on next page) in this puzzle!!!! Thank them next time you see them!

Have fun!!!

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MARTIN COUNTY 101

By Bonnie Becker

Martin County offers a class that several of us have taken called **Martin County 101**. This is an EXCELLENT class. The class is offered at:

Wolf High Technology Center - IRCC Chastain Campus

2400 SE Salerno Road, Stuart, FL 34997

\$40.00 per person \$70.00 per couple

It's the year 2006; do you know where you are? Everyone needs a "sense of place" and most of us are from somewhere else, even if that somewhere else is in Florida. Join us in an exciting new endeavor as we explore Martin County through its history, environment, built-in landscape, economic climate and current social issues.

Guest speakers include:

John Wakeman, Martin County Environmental Studies Center

Gary Roderick, Martin County Office of Water Quality

Ted Astoifi, Business Development Board of Martin County

Carol Could Bailey, Landscape Counselor

Dan Martinelli, Treasure Coast Wildlife Hospital

Nicki van Vonno, Martin County Growth Management

Scott Berry, Children's Services Council

Carol Cloud Bailey, Sustainable Martin Alliance.

Call: 772.287.5272

Email: info@fireflyforyou.com

Price includes breakfast and lunch.

**Todd A. Sheer MD
LCDR U.S. Navy**

Gastroenterology/Hepatology/Internal Medicine

(Refer to picture on right) This is a picture taken in Nias. I remember this day as being one of the hottest yet and air conditioning is as foreign as MTV for most of these areas. The woman in the photo is an Indonesian general practitioner who assisted as my interpreter.



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
MEDICAL TREATMENT FACILITY
US NAVAL HOSPITAL SHIP MERCY (T-AH 19)
PFO AP 96672-4090

5000
Ser 00/148
3 Jul 06

Dianne Giordano
8943 Se Hawks Nest Ct
Hobe Sound, FL 33455

Dear Mrs. Giordano,

I read the article about your son LCDR Todd Sheer, with great interest. I wanted to let you know that as his Commanding Officer, I too am very proud of the exceptional job he is doing here in South Asia. The hours are long, and the environmental and hospital conditions ashore are often very challenging. There are many patients to be seen, but Todd maintains a cheerful and knowledgeable attitude. The caring and friendly manner he conveys to the needy people we treat on this mission makes him a true Ambassador of our country.

My heartfelt gratitude for all that you have done to make Todd the person he is today. We are grateful for his contribution to our mission, and it reflects on the image of the United States.

Sincerely,

JOSEPH L. MOORE, MD
Captain, Medical Corps, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer
Medical Treatment Facility
USNS MERCY (T-AH 19)

This letter is in reference to an article in *The Stuart News* on July 5, 2006. Diane Giordano "who sees so many negative things in the news, wants people to know about her son and what he's doing on a ship 12 time zones away." Her son "Lt. Cmdr. Todd Sheer is in his third month at sea on the U.S.N.S. Mercy, a naval hospital ship that in in Bangladesh on a five-month mission to provide medical assistance to countries in Southeast Asia. Sheer was practicing medicine in San Diego with the Navy and learned in March that he'd been assigned to the Mercy on it humanitarian mission."

"This has been the most rewarding thing I've done in the Navy. A lot of us feel that way."

"Sheer, a gastroenterologist, has been in the Navy since 1993, when he started medical school."

"...about 75 of the roughly 700 people on board are physicians. Sheer said he thinks the education they passed on to local medical personnel helps, but he knows they need more information. They taught skills such as CPR and basic public health."

HOBE SOUND SNAKE BEHAVIOR

By Hank Stasiewicz

I found this in an article about rattlesnake behavior:

"The attack stance of rattlers is well-known. The snakes rise vertically with their head and neck forming an S, and when ready they thrust with fangs exposed. Another common behavior of rattlers is ritualized fighting among the males. It often occurs in the periods just before mating season. They lift their bodies and wrap themselves around each other, moving back and forth in a swaying motion, trying to pin each other down."

Last Friday afternoon we witnessed two very large (I estimated them at six feet) male rattlesnakes fighting on the grass on the South side of Seabranh Boulevard. Both snakes were wrapped around each other, swaying from side to side with their heads about three feet above ground level.

It was a very impressive sight seeing them so close to the side of the road (about four feet) and the fact that they were so involved in their fight, they did not even notice us or if they did, did not care.

It was weird, all day we had a camera with us on the boat but when we returned home to wash the boat, we unloaded the boat's gear AND the camera and left it in the garage. So, when we were taking the boat back to storage, without the camera, is when we saw this unusual but very interesting act of nature. We were so engrossed in watching the snakes that we totally forgot about the cell phone camera sitting in the console.

RETREAT RESIDENT

KATHERINE FINNEGAN-WHITE

Posted by the Asbury Park Press on 08/11/06

KATHERINE FINNEGAN-WHITE, 50, of Red Bank, New Jersey and Hobe Sound, Florida, passed away Tuesday, August 8, at home, after a long and courageous battle with breast cancer. She died in the arms of her husband and soul mate Kevin, surrounded by her loving and supportive family and friends. She was a graduate of Red Bank Catholic High School and received a bachelor's degree from the University of Florida, Gainesville (go Gators!). Kathy gave so much of herself through numerous volunteer positions with the American Cancer Society, ARC of Monmouth, Clean Ocean Action, the Fresh-Air- Fund, Lunch Break, Meals on Wheels and the Special Olympics. She also devoted her time and energy to coaching and mentoring several youth groups and enthusiastically supported her nieces and nephews in all of their athletic endeavors.

Remember Kathy when you visit a lighthouse, find that perfect piece of sea glass or seashell, when you see kids blowing bubbles, when you find the ultimate bargain, or hear a song about angels. She touched us all with her enthusiastic love of life, her strong spirit, her adventurous nature and heroic fight! She was determined to make a difference in the lives of others and for all who knew and loved her, she did!



ART NEWS

By Marsha Levine

The **Seabran** Art League will meet on Thursday, November 16th, and Thursday, December 7th, at 6:30 pm at the Retreat Clubhouse.

Our first **Fine Art Exhibition** will take place on Saturday, November 18th from 10 am to 4 pm at the Retreat Clubhouse. The show will be a multi medium event. Everyone is invited. Please join us in celebrating our first event and see the talent that is in The Retreat!



MORE MORNING FOLK

By Chuck Eschenburg

Carrying two large Disney bags, an unsung hero of the Retreat is **PAT PEZZICOLA**. Pat rearranges the furniture around the pool into groupings of two chairs or two chaises with one table. Pat grew up in Tom's River, New Jersey. His tidying grew, when as a high school principal, he observed the custodians resting about, so he started picking up and cleaning the school as an example to inspire the custodians as well as the students. He believes his efforts here have paid off as he notes less disarray around the pool. "To take pride in our surroundings" is his motivator.

On Labor Day, I spotted **MARK CAMPBELL**, a native of Long Island, New York, wielding a large wooden paddle inscribed with **ZENA**. Across the green was a seven-year old blue-eyed Australian Shepherd, named Zena, the princess, awaiting a tennis ball to be served and then retrieved to Mark. Mark was off that day from his large crane at the port of Palm Beach. A happy dog and pleased master--out for a morning romp.

On the corner of Hawks Nest Court and Glacier Terrace, where **VICTORIA** holds her "court," **SHERLIE and PAUL CARLS** were gathering wisdom from Victoria. SHERLIE is a buckeye from Ohio now living on Hawks Nest by way of California. Her daughter lives next door, but her two sons still reside in California. She enjoys the peace and quiet of the Retreat except on Saturday mornings when garbage pickup mars her day when she is expecting guests. Her husband, PAUL, is a native born "cracker" having been born and raised in the Tampa Bay area. He was in the car rental business and consulting before switching to an East coast ocean. Paul suggests switching the name of his street to "Dog's rest" instead of Hawks Nest.

"She enjoys the peace and quiet of the Retreat..."



HALLOWEEN TIME

By Lisa Rothenberg

It's Halloween time again! All of our little ones are looking forward to a night of fun on **Tuesday, October 31st**. They will be trick or treating from **6:00 to 8:00 pm** in the neighborhood. If you are welcoming trick-or-treaters, **please turn on all of your exterior lights**. If any families want to trick-or-treat as a group, let's meet on the corner of Nicolete Lane and Retreat Drive at 6:00 pm. Contact Lisa at 546-6131 if you have any questions.

As we stressed last year, it is a big neighborhood and it is hard for the younger kids to make it to all of the participating houses. Some families have indicated that they will be staying closer to home this year, so the more kids on your block, the more trick-or-treaters you will have! But we know that the older kids will try to make it to as many homes as possible. We thank you in advance for your participation and your help in making Halloween such a fun and safe neighborhood event!

The Moms' Group is also planning a Halloween themed family night. Look for more information in the mail room or contact Lisa at lisarotherberg@gmail.com or Katrina at sckc@aol.com. We always welcome new members and we organize almost all of our events through email, so if you are new to the Retreat or perhaps just a new mom, please contact us to be added to our email list for upcoming activities. We have monthly family nights and a monthly Mom's Night Out. Playgroups are usually scheduled on an ad hoc basis via email, so make sure to sign up! Look for other great upcoming events like our annual Mom's Holiday Shopping trip!



SECOND HOLIDAY HOME TOUR

By Lill Malinowski

Our community is putting the wheels in motion for our annual **Relay for Life** for the American Cancer Association. The Retreat will be again hosting a fund raiser for this cause called the **Holiday Home Tour**. Several residents in the Retreat will open their homes for viewing on Sunday, December 3rd, to raise money for the Relay for Life.

This tour will give people a chance to see and share some ideas in not only holiday decorating but great ideas in enhancing our beautiful DiVosta homes. The **Holiday Home Tour** will also bring our community closer together. Many of our loved ones and neighbors have been touched by this devastating illness, and we would like to do our part in eradicating this disease.

Details will be posted in the mail room.

REMINDER

Monday, October 23

BOD Meeting

6:30 pm

at Retreat Clubhouse

**Town Hall Meeting
follows**

7:00 pm



SOCIAL COMMITTEE

By Elaine Quinter

Come and enjoy an evening of Doo Wop music and fun with your neighbors at the Retreat Clubhouse on **Saturday, October 28, 2006 at 6:00 pm**. Please bring an appetizer to share and your own beverage and glasses. Bring your favorite Doo Wop CD.

Make plans to join your friends and neighbors at the **Retreat Holiday Party on Friday, December 15, 2006**. It will be held at the Clubhouse at Mariner Sands Country Club with music and singing by Retreat resident, **Gino!** Cocktails are at 6:00 pm and dinner is at 7:00 pm, with a cash bar available. The cost is \$50.00 per person, NO REFUNDS! **Tickets will be sold at the Retreat Clubhouse on November 4, 2006 from 10:00 a.m. to noon**. Please make checks payable to "The Retreat Social Committee." Checks only, please! The dinner choices will be Snapper or Prime Rib.



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

By Len Freedman

Because the Retreat is one of the safest communities in the county, it is normal to become complacent as it concerns securing our homes and vehicles. Unfortunately, over the summer, there were a few incidents of theft in the community. All could have been prevented. One concerned a theft of a generator from a garage. The others were vehicle burglaries. It is important not to leave your garage door open and to lock your vehicles. If you can park your automobiles inside your garage, that will provide the greatest deterrent to theft.

As it concerns crime in general, all should take appropriate precautions not to be a victim in a crime of opportunity. When you are out and about, do not leave anything in plain view in your parked car. When you go shopping or to the beach, secure your valuables in the car's trunk. Don't take the family jewels or all your credit cards, only take what is needed.

Florida is the insurance fraud capitol of the United States. There is an insurance scam that is preying on people in South Florida. Criminals are watching for people with nice cars backing out of parking spaces at the shopping malls. A youth will slap the blind side of your vehicle to make believe you hit them. A bogus insurance claim will be filed against your insurance policy. A victimless crime, except that it goes on your record and probably a premium increase for you.

The Martin County Sheriff's office has a program to combat auto theft. It is called C.A.T. The Sheriff's office will register vehicles and place a sticker in your auto window. This will allow a deputy to stop your vehicle between the hours of 1 am and 5 am, when most vehicles are stolen. If you would like to register for the program, please call the Sheriff's Community Programs Unit at 772.220.7000.

The Florida Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles now offers an emergency contact information registration. The idea being that if you are ever in an accident and are injured and unable to speak, the officer will be able to type your driver's license number into his computer and if you are registered at the DHSMV website, they will be able to pull up your contact information immediately. By having access to this information, the police will be able to save time, if you are seriously injured, by being able to contact someone who can make decisions about your care.

The website is: <https://www6.hsmv.state.fl.us/dlcheck/findcustomer>

Finally, safety is a team effort. Everyone needs to be a player.

RULES OF THE ROAD

By Len Freedman

Last year I wrote a piece for the newsletter concerning vehicle safety within the Retreat. Most residents took the article to heart and do drive safely and are quite courteous to the people who are biking, walking, or jogging. Unfortunately, a small number of individuals have not taken the rules of the road seriously, and they have made our community less safe. As a year round resident, I have been able to enjoy the wonderful environment through numerous daily walks with Beau, my overly friendly Labrador retriever, and to have a morning bike ride each day. These activities have provided me the opportunity to witness the drivers, walkers, joggers, and bikers from early in the morning into the evening hours.

Some of the things, I have personally experienced and observed have been disappointing and down right dangerous. After conducting research and speaking with the Martin County Sheriff's Office, I would like to pass on some rules of the road. These road rules are mandated by the State of Florida and violations can result in citations by the police.

- Vehicles must come to a full stop at a stop sign.
- Bicycles can ride either on the side walk or road. Bikes on the road are considered vehicles and must adhere to the same rules as a motor vehicle.
- Bicyclists on the road are required to ride in the same direction as vehicle traffic and stay in the right lane, approximately three feet from the curb, except when changing lanes to make a left turn.
- Motor vehicles when passing a bicycle must leave a three foot gap. If you are driving on Seabranh Boulevard, that means you overtake in the left passing lane. If there is traffic in the left hand lane, the vehicle must follow the bike at a safe distance until it is safe to pass.
- Bikers should always look over their shoulder when changing lanes to insure it is clear of oncoming traffic.
- Bicyclists riding in the early morning or evening hour darkness, must have a front and rear light. The rear light should be blinking red.
- Walkers should always use the side walks.
- Joggers have the option of running in the road against the flow of traffic. The jogger stays close to the curb and is required to give way to motor vehicles.

The above is to clarify some rules of the road. It is not to be a substitute for common sense. It does not matter if you are driving a motor vehicle, biking, walking, or jogging, what matters is **safety and courtesy**. No one wants to be in an accident. We all have a responsibility to our neighbors to maintain the wonderful Retreat experience and ambience of living in a most wonderful community.

WOMEN'S CLUB OF THE RETREAT

By Karin Ryan

Calendar of Activities:

Oct. 21—9am to 3pm	Retreat Cookbook Sales at Blake Library
Nov. 9—Noon	Luncheon at Waterway Cafe
Nov. 18—9am to 2pm	Bake Sale at the Clubhouse
Nov. 19—4pm to 6pm	"Taste of the Retreat" at the Clubhouse
Nov. 20—7 pm	Meeting at the Clubhouse
Dec. 2—2pm	<i>The Taffetas</i> at The Lyric Theatre
Dec. 4—7pm	Tree trimming and Christmas Party at the Clubhouse
Dec. 14—Noon	Luncheon at The Gazebo

OUTREACH COMMITTEE UPDATE

By Marlene Boobar

Although a lot of our sister "snowbirds" have not yet returned for the winter, the Outreach Committee has been very busy. Donations for the Women's Safe Space Shelter were collected among committee members, as well as from many other generous members of the Women's Club.

Can you believe two car loads of baby items: baby food, formula, diapers, etc. as well as two car loads of linens: sheets, towels, etc. were delivered to the Safe Space Women's Shelter? Our community at the Retreat continues to open their hearts and pocketbooks to help those in need.

Besides much needed items purchased and given, Stephen Stone and Bob Plourde donated their time and expertise to install a dishwasher at the Shelter. Carol Stone, Mary Pratt, and Boshia Stone, along with a professional cleaner worked to help clean the kitchen and re-do the shelters storage area. Among other plans for helping this shelter, there will be a cleaning, painting and furnishing of a new play living room to accommodate the residents.

The women and children coming to this shelter are filled with fear and discouragement. Having people that show that they care means so much and goes so far. We, as a community, have contributed in ways that we will never fully realize. We have touched the lives and hearts of people we will never meet. The Retreat is a community who cares. We live in a community that is so special.

Thank you one and all for all you have done and all you continue to do to support our efforts to make a difference!



RETREAT LICENSE PLATES

By Boshia Stone

The **Retreat License Plates** can be purchased via Mary Pratt at 545.0704. Selling dates at the Clubhouse will be Thursday, October 26, Wednesday, November 1, and Tuesday, November 14 from 4 pm to 6 pm. Thank you to all who have purchased them already and for supporting the Women's Club and their charities.

Mangia Goes Greek

By Boshia Stone

We will be selling the Retreat Cookbook at "**Mangia Goes Greek**" at the Blake Library on Saturday October 21st from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. Come join in this festive event of a European Market with great foods, flowers, plants, books, cooking celebrities, demonstrations, belly dancers, and more.

Sunday, November 19th

4 - 6 PM @ The *Retreat Clubhouse*

Come join us for a **complimentary** "tasting"!

Recipes taken from the 1st Retreat Community Cookbook

The Women's Club will be sponsoring this event.

All residents are welcome to attend!

Baked items will be available for purchase.

Cookbooks will be available for purchase, too!

The books make a great stocking stuffer or house warming gift.

\$10 PER COOKBOOK

Checks payable to: Women's Club of the Retreat

HOPE RURAL SCHOOL

By Mary Pratt

Hope Rural School Library is an ongoing project for volunteers from the Women's Club to work in the library processing books. The days are now Tuesday and Thursday. We leave the Clubhouse at 9:30 am, drive 40 minutes to school, and then work for three hours. The library is in the process of computerizing. The card catalogue has been sent to the computer company to process as the data base for book information. It should be back some time in January 2007. Then we will start the next steps to implement the system.

Meanwhile all the books that have been donated need to be processed and put on the shelves so that the children will have access to the new books immediately.

European Riverboat Trip

By Becky Brown

We had a wonderful trip to Europe. The first three days of our trip were spent in Munich. We have German friends there that the whole group knew, and they met us in Munich. We also went down to Garmisch while there.



Pope Benedict XVI

The unexpected happened when we arrived in Munich on the 10th of September. The Pope was in town. Our limo driver (BMW limo provided by our tour agency, Uniworld) had trouble getting us to our hotel from the airport because they had roads blocked for the Pope. Pat actually saw a glimpse of the Pope as he went into the church where he was going to say mass. There were large TV screens set up all over the square where the church was and we could all see him. It was quite exciting.

On the 13th, we left Munich by bus and traveled to Passau, Germany where we boarded The River Baroness. The boat was great and everything so well organized.

We went from Passau, Germany to Linz, Austria (where we sampled the wonderful Linzer Torte, I actually bought one in the town and took it back to the boat to share with our friends, but the boat had one too (ours was better).



PASSAU, GERMANY

We went from there to Melk, Austria, then on to Durnstein which was an old walled town with lots of interesting buildings and also famous for the Durnstein Roll (dinner roll). We bought enough for our whole group (20) to have at dinner that night.

Then we went to Vienna, the crown jewel in our itinerary. It was just lovely to look at, so many beautiful buildings. We went to a Strauss and Mozart concert one night in a lovely building there, the Kursalon. There were also two ballet dancers and two opera singers that performed part of the concert. It was absolutely delightful. We had "Sacher Torte" while there and of course it was delicious (chocolate.)

Then it was on to Bratislava, Slovakia. It was rather a disappointment. Very poor. The tour guide warned us to be on the lookout for Gypsy thieves. She said they were very clever and you never even felt them when they took something. Most of us put our necklaces under our blouses and took earrings off, etc. Still, one of our group, had her small purse taken that she was carrying in her fanny pack! She had taken it out to buy something and then put it back and took her camera out to take some pictures and when she was putting the camera back, she realized that the purse wasn't there. They were still with their guide and she took them right to a bank where they could notify Visa to cancel her card. She had about \$100 in Euros and \$20 US, plus all her traveler checks. Of course, they couldn't cash the traveler checks without her passport anyway. So it wasn't a big loss, and it didn't seem to affect her mood at all for the rest of the trip. I guess it's "no use crying over spilled milk" kind of thing. Plus her husband had a different credit card on him so they could use that. ATM's everywhere too and the rate is better than if you go to a bank to change.

Then it was on to Budapest. It, too, is a beautiful city, but it was pouring rain while we were there. We still went on city tours and really enjoyed it. We just didn't have enough time there. I did manage to buy a hand carved wooden Santa to add to my collection and some paprika! We arrived there the day after they started having demonstrations against the Prime Minister who had apparently lied to them about some things. We didn't encounter any of them though. All appeared to be very peaceful.

Then it was back to the USA, always nice to come home!

RETREAT BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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RETREAT PROPERTY MANAGER

Office Hours: Monday, Wednesday, Friday 9 am to Noon	Don Lifland, LCAM	Clubhouse Office: 546.6112 Fax: 546.1699 Capital Realty for Work Orders, General Questions, Emergencies: 1.800.940.1088	retreathoa@adelphia.net
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HELP WANTED

SeaWind Elementary is in need of volunteers! We would love to benefit from the **wisdom**, the **life experience** and the **love** that our friends at The Retreat have to offer. Just **1 hour** a week could mean so much to a student at SeaWind but the reward to you would be so much more, guaranteed! Please call Lauriel Damm, the Volunteer Coordinator at SeaWind, at 219.1625 if you can help. Thanks so much!



WANTED

Old pots and pans needed for my grandson Alexander's scout troop. Please call Helen Larcom, 545.0737. Thank you!



**HAPPY
NEW
YEAR!!!!**

RECIPE CORNER

ENGLISH TRIFLE

RECEIVED FROM CONI MC GUINN

THIS IS MY FAVORITE CHRISTMAS RECIPE. I MAKE IT EVERY YEAR.

THE IDEAL DO-AHEAD DESSERT FOR CHRISTMAS DINNER. THE RECIPE REQUIRES THREE BATCHES OF CUSTARD, AND WE RECOMMEND THAT YOU PREPARE EACH BATCH SEPARATELY TO AVOID BURNING OR LUMPING.

10 SERVINGS

36 1 1/2-INCH ALMOND MACAROONS

1/3 TO 1/2 CUP AMARETTO LIQUEUR

1 12-OUNCE JAR SEEDLESS RED RASPBERRY JAM

CUSTARD (MAKES 1 1/4 CUPS)

4 EGG YOLKS

3 TABLESPOONS SUGAR

10 TABLESPOONS MILK

1/4 CUP WHIPPING CREAM

2 1/2 TEASPOONS CORNSTARCH DISSOLVED IN 2 TABLESPOONS MILK

1/2 TEASPOON VANILLA

1/8 TEASPOON FRESHLY GRATED NUTMEG

1 12-OUNCE POUND CAKE, CUT INTO 1/4-INCH SLICES (ABOUT 16 TO 17)

1/2 TO 2/3 CUP CREAM SHERRY

4 10-OUNCE PACKAGES FROZEN RASPBERRIES, THAWED AND THOROUGHLY DRAINED

2 CUPS (1 PINT) WHIPPING CREAM

2 TABLESPOONS SUGAR

1/2 TEASPOON VANILLA OR TO TASTE

BRUSH FLAT SIDE OF 12 TO 15 MACAROONS WITH LIQUEUR. ARRANGE FLAT SIDES AROUND SIDES OF 12-CUP GLASS BOWL, THEN LINE BOTTOM FLAT SIDE UP. SPREAD GENEROUSLY WITH RED RASPBERRY JAM; TRY NOT TO CRUSH MACAROONS.

FOR CUSTARD: WHISK YOLKS IN MEDIUM SAUCEPAN. GRADUALLY ADD SUGAR, WHISKING UNTIL MIXTURE IS THICK AND LEMON COLORED, ABOUT 1 TO 2 MINUTES. BLEND IN MILK, WHIPPING CREAM AND CORNSTARCH MIXTURE. PLACE OVER MEDIUM-LOW HEAT AND COOK, STIRRING CONSTANTLY, UNTIL MIXTURE THICKENS, ABOUT 3 TO 5 MINUTES (DO NOT BOIL OR MIXTURE WILL SEPARATE). REMOVE FROM HEAT AND STIR UNTIL SLIGHTLY COOLED. BLEND IN VANILLA AND NUTMEG. TRANSFER TO BOWL. REPEAT TWICE, FOR A TOTAL OF ABOUT 3 3/4 CUPS CUSTARD.

SPOON 1 1/4 CUPS CUSTARD OVER RASPBERRY JAM LAYER. COVER WITH SINGLE LAYER OF POUND CAKE

SLICES. USING PASTRY BRUSH, SOAK CAKE GENEROUSLY WITH 1/4 TO 1/2 CUP SHERRY. SPREAD THIN LAYER OF RASPBERRY JAM OVER CAKE. TOP WITH HALF OF DRAINED RASPBERRIES. CAREFULLY SPOON ANOTHER 1 1/4 CUPS CUSTARD OVER BERRIES. REPEAT LAYERING WITH REMAINING POUND CAKE SLICES, SHERRY AND JAM. COVER WITH REMAINING BERRIES. CAREFULLY SPREAD REMAINING CUSTARD OVER TOP.

BRUSH 8 OR 9 MACAROONS WITH LIQUEUR AND ARRANGE OVER CUSTARD FLAT SIDE DOWN. PLACE PLASTIC WRAP DIRECTLY ON SURFACE OF TRIFLE. REFRIGERATE OVERNIGHT. (CAN BE PREPARED UP TO 2 DAYS AHEAD.)

ABOUT 3 TO 4 HOURS BEFORE SERVING, WHIP CREAM IN MEDIUM BOWL UNTIL FOAMY. ADD SUGAR AND VANILLA AND CONTINUE BEATING UNTIL STILL BUT NOT DRY. SPOON OVER MACAROONS, SWIRLING TOP. CRUSH 10 TO 12 MACAROONS. SPRINKLE 1-INCH BORDER AROUND OUTER EDGE OF CREAM. REFRIGERATE UNTIL SERVING TIME.

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