

The Retreat Newsletter September/October 2010 Volume 7, Issue 4

# HOW I MET MY MATE

## **BLIND DATE**

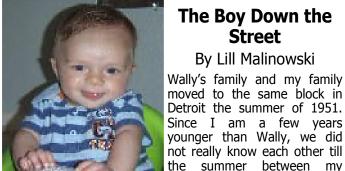
By Chuck Eschenburg

Carole and I met on a blind date. We were both in school at the University of Colorado Health Science Center in Denver but had never really seen each other. My classmate, Jim, had a serious girlfriend, Phyllis, who was Carole's Public Health nursing mentor. At the time, I was a junior in medical school, and she was set to graduate in the next month or so from nursing school. I was discouraged about ever meeting someone special. She was having lots of dates and not too interested in meeting another. We met and (Continued on page 2)

The Boy Down the

Street

By Lill Malinowski



I andon Peter

freshman and sophomore year in college. I was sitting on our front porch as Wally was returning from a night out. He stopped to visit. Soon afterwards, he asked me out. Four years later, we were married.

Although there have been sad times, we have been blessed in many ways. Last October, we celebrated our 40th anniversary. We have wonderful twin daughters and two great son-in-laws. Jody and Dave were married seven years ago on the shores of Lake Huron by our cottage. Jenny and Tommy were married three years ago overlooking the Pacific Ocean in Laguna Beach. Last April we were blessed with our first grandchild, Landon, the son of Jenny and Tommy. Life is good!

LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT BY ROSEMARY WOUNDY

BRUCE AND I MET WHEN I WAS ELEVEN, AND HE WAS THIRTEEN. MY DAD WAS BUILDING A NEW HOUSE FOR US IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE BRUCE LIVED WITH HIS FAMILY. ONE DAY MY OLDER SISTER AND I WENT WITH MY DAD TO SKATE ON THE POND ON THE LOT NEXT DOOR WHICH HE AND HIS PARTNER HAD ALSO BOUGHT TO BUILD ANOTHER HOUSE. AFTER SKATING FOR AWHILE, MY SISTER AND I STARTED EXPLORING AROUND THE POND AND FOUND SOME ARROWS IN THE TREES. WE IMAGINED THAT THEY HAD BEEN LEFT BY INDIANS WHO HAD LIVED THERE. A SHORT TIME LATER, BRUCE AND HIS BEST FRIEND, TOMMY, CAME OVER TO SEE WHO WAS INVADING THEIR ARCHERY GROUNDS. WE DIDN'T ADMIT TO EACH OTHER UNTIL MUCH LATER THAT IT WAS "LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT" FOR BOTH OF US. TOMMY ENDED UP BEING THE BEST MAN AT OUR WEDDING NINE YEARS LATER

## **Our Love Story**

By Carol Stone

Jim and I met the summer of 1966 at Virginia Beach, Virginia. My college girlfriends and I had been sharing a house on the beach and working for the summer making spending money for next year before school started Our greedy landlord kicked us out of our house just before the end of the month because she could get more rent with Labor Day coming up. We scrambled to get a new place and ended up in a house that was divided oddly. Part of the house was upstairs, and one room was downstairs. The rest of the downstairs was another apartment. It was rented to two Navy men.

Jim and his friend, Guy, were in the smaller apartment downstairs. I was curious as to who lived in the apartment so I knocked on the door. Jim had been in the shower and thought it was one of his buddies stopping by so he came to the door in nothing but a towel. I liked what I saw. I invited him up for dinner.

We started to date in August, and had our first kiss on Jim 's 21<sup>st</sup> birthday on August 23<sup>rd</sup>, 1966. Jim was in the Navy on the USS Forrestal and at NAS Oceana.

We were married two years later, also on August 23<sup>rd</sup> 1968—Jim 's 23<sup>rd</sup> birthday. I guess you know our lucky number.

We were blessed with one great son, **Andrew**, who like us, loves boats, traveling, biking, and hiking. We have been BEST FRIENDS and BEST MATES in life, on land and on sea.

We have had happy lives together and lived in Virginia, Maryland, Nevada and now Florida. It will be our 42<sup>nd</sup> anniversary this month.

We would do it all again.

# USAGE STATISTICS for www.retreatatseabranch.com

VISITS to our WEB site:

April 2010: Daily Average=32; Monthly Total=986

May 2010: Daily Average=34; Monthly Total=1,056

June 2010: Daily Average=37; Monthly Total=1,133

July 2010: Daily Average=36; Monthly Total=1,128

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

#### (Continued from page 1) Blind Date

went to a local watering place in Aurora. I was impressed but she not so much. Anyway, things clicked, and we became engaged about three months later. Our introducing friends got married, and we did also after I graduated the next year.

We are still in touch with Jim who has remarried after the death of Phyllis, the introducing lady. Lots of memories of the 56 or so years since they arranged our blind date. Thank you, Phyllis and Jim.

## DEAF WIFE ..... "PRICELESS"

#### Received from Carol Stone

A man feared his wife wasn't hearing as well as she used to, and he thought she might need a hearing aid. Not quite sure how to approach her, he called the family doctor to discuss the problem.

The doctor told him there is a simple informal test the husband could perform to give the doctor a better idea about her hearing loss. "Here's what you do," said the Doctor, "Stand about 40 feet away from her, and in a normal conversational speaking tone see if she hears you. If not, go to 30 feet, then 20 feet, and so on until you get a response."

That evening the wife is in the kitchen cooking dinner, and he was in the den. He says to himself, "I'm about 40 feet away, let's see what happens." Then in a normal tone he asks, "Honey, what's for dinner?" No response.

So the husband moves closer to the kitchen, about 30 feet from his wife and repeats, "Honey, what's for dinner?" Still no response.

Next he moves into the dining room where he is about 20 feet from his wife and asks, "Honey, what's for dinner?" Again he gets no response.

So, he walks up to the kitchen door, about 10 feet away. "Honey, what's for dinner?" Again there is no response.

So he walks right up behind her. "Honey, what's for dinner?

(I just love this)

"Ralph, for the FIFTH time, CHICKEN!"

### Carol Stone, Award Winner



In this photo are Jill Borowicz, CEO of Safe Space, Inc. and Retreat resident, Carol Stone. Carol was awarded the Douglass and Patricia Stewart Safe Space Volunteer of the Year Award for 2009 at their May Volunteer Luncheon. This award was presented by the Staff and Board of Directors of Safe Space. Carol received

this award for her unwavering support and dedication to the safety of victims of domestic violence.

"I am truly honored to be chosen for this award. Doug and Patty Stewart are my heroes. We make a difference in life by what we give."

## CONGRATULATIONS, CAROL!!!

## THIS IS A QUIZ

Received from Becky Brown

These are not trick questions. They are straight questions with straight answers. There are only nine questions.

1. Name the one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends.

2. What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backward?

3. Of all vegetables, only two can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons. All other vegetables must be replanted every year. What are the only two perennial vegetables?

4. What fruit has its seeds on the outside?

5. In many liquor stores, you can buy pear brandy, with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and ripe, and the bottle is genuine; it hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle?

6. Only three words in standard English begin with the letters 'dw' and they are all common words. Name two of them.

7. There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name at least half of them?

8. Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form except fresh.

9. Name 6 or more things that you can wear on your feet beginning with the letter 'S.'

Answers To Quiz: In another part of the newsletter!

### History of The Retreat Newsletter

#### By Lill Malinowski

Prior to moving to the Retreat, we leased a home in Lost Lake. I always looked forward to reading the *Lost Lake Newsletter*. It was upbeat and informative. When we moved to the Retreat, a DiVosta employee put together the first Retreat newsletter. It was one page in length but contained useful information. My good friend and neighbor, Bea Kozlowski, and I decided to resurrect The Retreat Newsletter. We met with the editor of the Lost Lake newsletter, Anne Madsen, who provided us with a wealth of information on how to get started.

Our first newsletter was the March/April 2004 issue. This current newsletter is the  $33^{rd}$  edition. Our most important objective was to have residents *wanting* to read the newsletter. We focus on the positive. In the September/October 2005 issue, we started using themes to make our newsletter more interesting.

When Bea retired as Co-Editor in 2007, Dottie Williams took over her position. At this time, Hank Stasiewicz also joined our newsletter staff as Publishing Editor. Other contributing residents over the years are:

- Jerry Blumengarten as our "Cybrary Man" whose column was called Useful Computer Links
- Jan Kasuboske, Sandy Goldfarb, and Dottie Williams as our feature interviewers and writers
- · Dottie Williams whose column is Natives in the Yard
- Committee Chairs
- Our Board of Directors (BOD)
- Women's Club
- Retreat Assistance Network (RAN)
- Relay For Life

Last but certainly not least are the Retreat residents that continually respond to our requests for articles and input to our themes. Major contributors are Marlene Boobar, Gail Pezzicola, Chuck Eschenburg, Mary D'Avanzo, Marsha Levine, Patsy Shattuck, Patti Greaves, and Hank Stasiewicz.

Dottie receives articles and pictures from the committee chairs, RAN, Women's Club, Art League, etc. and edits the articles. I layout the newsletter and receive the BOD article, themed articles and pictures and do the editing on them. Then Dottie and I edit, edit, and edit.

When the Communications Committee was established, the newsletter became part of this committee. The Chairs have been Coni McGuinn and Joanne Estes. After Dottie and I are done with our part of the newsletter, the Chair does the final review before the newsletter goes to Hank. Hank performs his magic on the photos and makes sure the newsletter is lined up correctly. He also interfaces with our printer, Carl Vogel, to make sure the printed copy is perfect. Gene Gillis posts every issue of our newsletters online on our WEB site. Then the printed copy is placed in our mail room.

On the front page, the photo of the Retreat entrance was taken by Hilary Kozlowski. The Sandhill Crane pen and ink drawing by created by Marsha Levine.

Thank you to all that have made this newsletter such a success!



## NATIVES IN THE YARD

## "Strange Creatures"

By Dottie Williams

One morning last month as I was walking along Retreat Drive, I met an excited Becky Freedman. She had just seen some "strange creatures" on Lake 9, the lake between LaCreek Court and Maryhill Place. She had no idea what they were. I promised I would check them out when I walked past the lake. Well, I got a chance to see them too and had no idea what they were. There were about twelve to fourteen mud-colored six to nineinch long fish swimming on the surface of the lake. Their mouths were wide open, and they looked like they were gasping for air or skimming the surface for food. I cut my walk short. I went home and got Dave and his camera to return to the lake. They were still there. Dave was able to get some pictures but the sun was bright and with the reflection on the lake it was difficult to get a good image.

When I returned home, I started to do some research. I began with the Florida Fish and Wildlife website and then visited a few others. I had no luck in identifying these fish. I finally called Florida Fish and Wildlife and spoke to Kelly Gestring, Project Biologist for the Non-Native Fish Laboratory. After a few telephone conversations and emails with pictures attached, he only could **guess** that based on their behavior they might be **Tilapia**. He suggested that if I see them again, I should try to net them. He then would have a specimen to look at. I have seen them a few times more but did not have a cast net in my pocket. I've only seen them on Lake 9. Has anyone else seen these "strange creatures" on any Let me know if you have at other lake? davedottie@gmail.com.

Since I'm talking about our lakes and strange creatures in them, I'd like to share some information with you. Did you know that our lakes have been stocked? The fish (large-mouth bass, blue gill, catfish and mosquito fish) that our lakes management company put in the lakes a few years ago help to absorb nutrients in the water and to control unwanted weeds, insects and The bass consume insects and other aquatic pests. tadpoles helping to keep the frog and toad populations in check. The catfish eat many types of food and scavenge the lake bottoms which helps "clean" the aquatic ecosystem and the mosquito fish eat their body weight each day in mosquito larvae. Not only is stocking a good practice for the balance of the lakes and keeping pests in control, it also provides a another recreational activity - fishing.

## BRIDGE SCORES

Top 5 Scores for each Tuesday

By Patsy Shattuck



It's hard to believe the summer is almost over - at least on the calendar but not for our weather. What a steamy summer we had! Guess our northern residents didn't miss the heat either! Anyway, we are glad that fall bridge is upon us, and we welcome all of you back to "The Retreat." Please give me a call at 546.2011 when you are ready to join us again on Tuesdays.



## NEWS FROM OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

### By Bill Cole

1. Retreat and Seabranch Boulevard are operating within budget...no problems.

2. The Retreat grass is taking a real beating in this unusually hot, dry weather. We have a fungus and chinch bugs attacking...thus, the brown patches you see. One Source is battling away. These conditions are all over South Florida. Hopefully, the One Source chemical applications and rain and cooler weather will bring everything back to normal.

3. You will be receiving a mailing soon about our Comcast contract...really exciting.



RAN RETREAT ASSISTANCE NETWORK By Sally Troiani

There have been a number of national articles recently about communities that help their residents remain in their homes with a bit of volunteer help. The Retreat at Seabranch is one of these. Although many of the aforementioned have hefty buy-ins involved, our community is run strictly without cost by community volunteers. There are a number of unsung heroes in our midst and the following is a testament to them.

May 25, 2010

Dear RAN Coordinators and Volunteers,

We would like to thank you all for the assistance provided this season. We can't begin to express how grateful we are to the volunteers who gave up their time to graciously help and to the coordinators who managed our individual assistance needs.

RAN is a remarkable program and one that The Retreat residents are so fortunate to have in place. This is just another reason why The Retreat is such an attractive and inspiring community in which we live.

God bless you all and may you have a delightful and safe summer. Looking forward to seeing you all in the fall.

With Sincere Thanks,

Bea and Hilary Kozlowski

## RAN

## Retreat Assistance Network

Neighbors Helping Neighbors

# Volunteers always available to assist you with:

## **Prescription Drug Pick-Ups**

Transportation to Medical Appointments

**Grocery Shopping** 

Companionship and Check-In Phone Calls

Other services available upon request

## Always Accepting New Volunteers

## Contact any RAN Board Member:

Muriel Barry, Alice Bernhardt,

Virginia Darcy, Marie Ferrandino,

Carol Flynn, Sandy Goldfarb,

Peggy Johnson, Allison Metcalf,

Lena Rublowsky, Sally Troiani

## WOMEN'S CLUB OF THE RETREAT

#### By Mona Wiley

## What's Up at the Women's Club??

If you participated in May's event to Lake Okeechobee, you should have come back feeling like a real Florida Cracker. After a lot of boat switching, the group was off on the lake with guide, mosquitoes and sun block in hand. The ladies had an informative tour about the seventh largest lake in North America. Okeechobee means "big water" in Seminole. Although it is a large lake, it is only about 9 feet deep. It is one of the best largemouth bass fishing locations in the U.S., and with a permit, you can hunt gator during the season. In the 1920's two hurricanes caused damage to the muck levee that had been built around the lake. More than 2000 people died when a major breach occurred at the south of the lake. Now the Herbert Hover Dike surrounds the waters. This lake is most important to the Everglades and all of the South Florida ecosystems. Look at the pictures and see if you recognize anyone here. IF you do pretend you don't know them!!!

June had us playing **B-I-N-G-O** and then July and August were dinner get-togethers at a local restaurant. September 20<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. will find us getting together for another fun game of B-I-N-G-O. October brings many of our snowbirds back – so WELCOME back!! Someone from the House of Refuge will give us a power point presentation at our October meeting. Also, Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup> is the big bus trip to the **Festival Flea Market** in Pompano Beach for an all day shopping extravaganza!! Be sure to look for the sign up sheet in the mail room for this event. The bus will leave from the Clubhouse at 9:00 a.m. and return at 4:00 p.m. **The cost for members is \$15.00.** 

A welcome back breakfast will be held in the Clubhouse November 13<sup>th</sup>, so watch and listen for details on this event.

**House of Hope** food donations topped **10,500 pounds** this summer!! Thank you everyone for your contributions of food and money toward the purchase of food.

Does anyone know what a "Florida Cracker" is? No, it's not a cracker in the shape of Florida. Details next time. Join us in September and October!!

# Women's Club





Welcome Back Breakfast ! Saturday, November 13<sup>th</sup> 10 AM Clubhouse Please sign up Mailroom November 1<sup>st</sup> Women's Club Bus Trip A day of shopping at America's Largest Indoor Flea Market ! Festival Flea Market Sample Road, Pompano Beach Festival Flea Market is a shopping paradise and is a guarter-mile long with over 500 shops, restaurants, fragrance outlets, cosmetic stores, shoe stores, clothing shops, jewelry stores, home furnishing stores and gift boutiques. Saturday, October 30<sup>th</sup>

Bus leaving Retreat @ 9:30 AM, returning @ 4:00 PM

\$10 Member—\$15 Non-Member

All Welcome! Sign up sheet in Mailroom October 20th

E-mail: marleneboobar@hotmail.com





## **ALL ABOARD!!!**

Retreat residents, friends, relatives, neighbors, acquaintances....all welcome!!

## **Relay For Life Fundraising Cruise**

7 Nights on the new beautiful Carnival "Dream"

## Saturday, March 19 -Saturday, March 26, 2011

Port CanaveralSeaCozumelIsla RoatanBelizeCosta MayaSeaPort Canaveral

Prices starting @ \$760/p

(Includes ALL taxes, port fees, gov't fees)

## PLUS

Group Cocktail Party

## PLUS

\$100/person to the American Cancer Society

40 people on cruise...\$4,000 to ACS;

60 people on cruise...\$6,000 to ACS WOW!!!

Cruise Questions and Bookings:

Ray McGill (Bob & Lois McGill's son)

#### **Nittany Travel**

www.nittanytravel.com

1-800-326-9342

Retreat Contact: Jan Kasuboske @ kasuboske@gmail.com



The Retreat Remembers... Team did an outstanding job in fundraising this year. We raised over **\$16,000** thanks to help of our enthusiastic team and the entire community! We had numerous FUNdraisers during the year—the Holiday Home Tour, brunch, selling of Enjoyment Books and Retreat logo items, the cruise, "Running For Bob," the live and Chinese auctions, Duffy Days, and individual donations! We cannot thank all of you enough for all your support in our fight against cancer.

We had a great time at the actual Relay. Numerous Retreat residents showed up and walked the laps with us. Our camp site theme this year was CIRCUS as you can tell from the Relay pictures. Our Dottie Sacco entertained us with her beautiful singing at the Relay.

For the 2011 Relay For Life, we will again be selling Enjoyment Books in the fall which are great holiday and hostess gifts. The 2010 Holiday Home Tour will be held on Sunday, December 5th—please mark your calendars. In February, we will have a SIMPLE SUPPER at our Clubhouse. More information will be available as we firm up our plans. Duffy's Days will continue to be included in our team's fundraisers. Our cruise this year will take place on March 19th to 26th. See the flyer on this page for more details.

Thank you for all your support!!!!



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## Answers To Quiz on Page 3

1. The one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends: Boxing.

2. North American landmark constantly moving backward: Niagara Falls.

(The rim is worn down about two and a half feet each year because of the millions of gallons of water that rush over it every minute.)

3. Only two vegetables that can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons: Asparagus and rhubarb.

4. The fruit with its seeds on the outside: Strawberry.

5. How did the pear get inside the brandy bottle? It grew inside the bottle.

The bottles are placed over pear buds when they are

small, and are wired in place on the tree. The bottle is left in place for the entire growing season. When the pears are ripe, they are snipped off at the stems.

6. Three English words beginning with dw: Dwarf, dwell and dwindle...

7. Fourteen punctuation marks in English grammar: Period, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation point, quotation mark, brackets, parenthesis, braces, and ellipses.

8. The only vegetable or fruit never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form but fresh: Lettuce.

9. Six or more things you can wear on your feet beginning with 'S': Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, slippers, skis, skates, snowshoes, stockings, stilts.



Dear Retreat Residents,

We hope that you have enjoyed this newsletter. Since the staff is located in different states for the summer, this entire newsletter was done via the Internet.

Everyone is invited to submit their articles to our community newsletter. That is what makes it so interesting!

Our November/December newsletter theme will be *MILITARY SERVICE*. In honor of Veteran's Day, we would like to hear from our Retreat Veterans. What branch of the service where you in? Share some of your experiences with us.

As always, we appreciate hearing your comments regarding the newsletter. In the spirit of continuous improvement, let us know what needs to be changed and/or added. Thank you!

Your Newsletter Staff

