

River News

January 2011

THE OFFICIAL COMMUNITY MAGAZINE FOR WINDING RIVER



SOME MEMBERS OF THE BACK PORCH STITCHES, l to r...
Terri Hinkle (Brunswick County Project Linus Coordinator), Liz Potter, April Murphy, Jane Schlessner, Jane Hack, Rhonda Kirchner, Denise Bruscatto, Rose Grile, Carolyn Danko, Honey Martin, Ann Scott and Debbie Thorpe. Cover Photo by Frank Aaron



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253-5797	Emergency after Hours
371-3490	Grinder Pump Service 24 Hour Dispatch
253-4177	Waste Management (Garbage Collection)
253-8101	Landfill County Complex Recycling Center

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Debbie Thorpe presents a quilt to Terri Hinkle (Brunswick County Project Linus Coordinator) along with some of the Back Porch Stitchers

Blankets Galore for Project Linus

by Debbie Thorpe

The Back Porch Stitchers is an interest group that started several years ago and meets, not on anyone's back porch, but in the Gardenia Room the first and third Monday of each month. Originally, the group got together to work on personal knitting, crocheting, and needlework projects, as well as to swap patterns, give lessons, and, of course, share a story or two. Several ladies suggested that the group take on some special projects. They have since contributed to causes that benefit young and old and even animals. They have crocheted teddy bears for children's hospitals, blankets for Assisted Living residents, and cozy blankets for the Southport/Oak Island Animal Shelter (S.O.A.R.).

After noticing a newspaper article looking for volunteers and supplies for an organization called "Project Linus" last June, contact was made with Terri Hinkle, the Brunswick County "Project Linus" coordinator. She agreed to give a presentation at the POC. A River Note invited "stitchers" to come to her presentation not only to learn about this worthy proj-

ect but also to learn how to make a "no-sew" blanket. The many curious "stitchers" who came to the presentation absolutely loved learning how to make a blanket that requires no sewing! They also appreciated her suggestions and ideas for other sewing and non-sewing projects.

More importantly, Terri shared the Project Linus mission with the group. "Project Linus" is comprised of hundreds of local chapters and thousands of volunteers across the United States. Each volunteer and local chapter all work together to help us achieve their mission which is to provide love, a sense of security, warmth and comfort to children who are seriously ill, traumatized, or otherwise in need through the gifts of new, handmade blankets and afghans, lovingly created by volunteer "blanketeers." Since its inception in 1995, Project Linus has distributed over three million blankets to children in need.

Terri told the group that the Department of Social Services had advised her that Brunswick County would need around 50 blankets for the Christmas season. The group felt they would be able to provide close to 30 blankets/afghans. Much to everyone's surprise, the group completed and presented 54 blankets/afghans for Project Linus. Nothing sew-sew about that!

The Back Porch Stitchers meet the first and third Monday of each month in the Gardenia Room at the POC. Anyone working on a "needle" project of any kind, at any skill level, is invited.



Standing beneath a Christmas tree of poinsettias are (l to r): Chris and Rich, Roni and Fred, Joan and Chappy, and Pam and Jeff

Nights of a Thousand Candles

by Pam Duncan

On December 3rd, several Winding River couples began celebrating the holidays with a special trip to Murrell's Inlet to visit Brookgreen Gardens' *Nights of a Thousand Candles*. Named as one of the Top 20 Events in December by the Southeastern Tourism Society, Brookgreen's gardens are transformed into magical masterpieces by illuminating trees, sculptures, ponds and walking paths.

Chris and Rich Kitts, Roni and Fred Robertie, Joan and Chappy Menninger and Pam and Jeff Duncan met at Brookgreen for dinner then strolled the gardens enjoying carolers, a bagpiper, sculptures, poinsettia and bromeliad trees, and of course, the thousands and thousands of candles and lights. Good food, great company and magnificent lights!



WNO ladies learn four popular line dances!

The WNO GROUP

Hit the Dance Floor!



Wendy Burroughs and Mimi Benson take a break from leading the dancers.

On November 10th, the Women's Night Out (WNO) interest group hosted approximately 50 Winding River women gardeners, crafters, kayakers, golfers, bridge players, and gourmet cooks for an evening of line dancing! Instructors Wendy Burroughs and Mimi Benson "patiently" demonstrated the moves for four popular dances with plenty of time for us to practice, socialize and enjoy light snacks. WNO events are currently held every other month. The goal is to provide an opportunity for all of the women of the community to socialize and enjoy a fun evening with each other! ***We welcome creative ideas and suggestions.*** Please submit them to Nadine Yurko at naxy21@hotmail.com. Mark your calendars for our next event, "The Price is Right," Thursday, January 27th.

48 Bicyclists Tour Winding River

Cyclists convene for 2nd Annual Bike Tour of Winding River

by Jim Berry



November 13th was the kind of beautiful fall day that reinforced our decision to move to Southeast North Carolina. The sun was bright, the deep blue sky was crystal clear, and the temperature started out in the mid-fifties, promising to reach the upper sixties by the middle of the day—ideal bicycling weather.

Forty-eight bicyclists gathered at 10:45 AM in the Winding River POC parking lot to take part in the second bicycle tour of Winding River. Twenty of the riders had come from as far away as Wilmington and Calabash. We split into four smaller groups, with a ride leader assigned to each group. Shortly after 11:00 AM, Mark Dowd and I led two groups and started our tours in the Riverwood and Cypress Ridge neighborhoods. Roger Hiron and John Starr led the other two groups, which toured the Brushwood, Golfer's Ridge, Autumn Chase, Amberwood, and Riverhouse

neighborhoods. After our first legs, we all returned to the POC parking lot and rode the opposite routes.

We set a nice leisurely pace, averaging about eight miles per hour, with stops every two or three miles to take in some liquid, discuss what we have seen, and make sure we were all together before moving on. Because this was billed as a "fun" ride, there was lots of conversation among the riders, which allowed us to get better acquainted.

All four groups finished their tours and returned to the POC parking lot at about 1:00 PM. The total distance ridden was a little over fifteen miles. Everyone was hungry by then and we all reconvened at the Plantation Grille in the Carolina National Clubhouse where a special menu had been prepared by Food and Beverage Manager, George Keil. The food was great, the service was wonderful, and all fifty-five participants, including some who didn't ride, got a chance to relax and chat.

The majority of the non-Winding River participants were "Sunset Cyclists." This club was formed late last year by a group of bicycling enthusiasts in Sea Trail Plantation. It has about sixty dues-paying members and is headed by Charlene Doolittle. They would like to return the favor and invite us to tour Sea Trail and ride across the new bridge to Sunset Beach sometime in the near future. Stay tuned for a River Note with the details.

Right here in Winding River, we have our own little cycling group that was started by Mark Dowd several years ago. We meet every Thursday at 9:30 in the POC parking lot and ride on our area roads, usually for about an hour or so and generally cover about fifteen miles—sometimes more, but rarely less. Anyone is welcome to join us and there are no annual dues. However, we strongly encourage wearing helmets. Ride safely, and remember when driving to "Share the Road!"



Arnie Turner, Bill Proffitt and Paul Buckner

A Gift for the Winding River Community

by John Montalbano



The dedication plaque on the podium

During November's Military Gala a beautiful oak podium in our POC was presented to the community by the Winding River Veterans Association. This essential clubhouse accessory was designed and built by resident veterans Paul Buckner, Bill Proffitt and Arnie Turner with funding from the WRVA. Their efforts have saved the WRPOA over three thousand dollars. There were

no details left unfinished on what appears to be a piece of finely finished furniture—flexible microphone stand, LED lighting for energy savings, hidden casters to make it mobile, built-in shelving, and the most important item for the vertically challenged, a built-in pull out riser step that was used often during our Annual Meeting. Completing the podium's base is a striking engraved plaque donated by another veteran, Dale Peacock, in dedication to all military veterans. Thanks, guys; it is the selfless volunteer spirit like yours, the very soul of this community, which makes Winding River Plantation such a great place to live.



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It took many elves to keep this event challenging!



Tossing the glove – Toni Peters takes it on!



Santa Committee 2nd row - 1st r - Marlene, Sandy, Mary Anne, Rhonda. Co-chair Peggy Alexander and Wendy Cifelli



Partners work to untangle strings tied to their wrists

Reindeer Games a Stomping Success

by Wendy Cifelli



"Dreidel" is a game often played during Hanukkah – win a penny, lose a penny

On December 5th, Winding River residents gathered to play reindeer games at the POC. Sixty athletes competed before a crowd of family and friends. The event "Untangle the Lights" was the most fun to watch. Couples twisted, turned, and twirled trying to free themselves from their partner. Ask someone about the easy solution. The "Snowball Race" consisted of gently blowing a ping pong ball to the center of a target. We discovered many of our neighbors are full of hot air. The people with the nimblest fingers quickly retrieved pennies from the toes of pantyhose in "Stocking Retrieval" and had powerful spins while playing "dreidel." Glove toss challenged athletes both physically and mentally, while "Holiday Trivia" definitely tested our long-term memory. Some of us like to think we are just too young because the events happened before our time!

True to the "eat, drink and be merry" tradition, attendees savored a meal catered by Sal Rubio. Afterwards Santa arrived and only the camera shy people missed an opportunity to sit on Santa's lap and have their picture taken. The jolly old elf, Rick Purtell, laughed and danced his way around the tables, spreading holiday cheer. He presented prizes to the athletes who scored the highest in their group. They were Mary Russell, Paul Dumm, John Cifelli, Geoff Mandly, Peggy Burns, Phil Syracuse, Barbara Caiazza, Mike Williams, and Doug Tarble.

Mike Dolan, Gwen Shaffer, Peggy Burns, Ellen Levinson, and the Blitzen table (Woods, Urgolas, Guidos and Kirchners) all created songs and sang them to the very impressed audience. So wonderful were the performances that a single winner could not be declared. Incredibly talented, fun loving people reside in Winding River.

A scavenger hunt was won by John Starr, who was able to find Christmas jewelry, someone with body piercing, an Alaskan dollar, an out of state driver's license, and a Christmas sock the quickest. The whole group solved some Hink Pink riddles, riddles with a rhyming answer, before heading home. It was a great start to a happy holiday season!

Many thanks to the committee members, Marlene Chinnery, Sandy Brown, Peggy Alexander, Maryann Condi, Rhonda Kirchner and Wendy Cifelli.



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the Armchair traveler

by Loretta Acheson

10,067 Miles – Are We There Yet?

*Traveling west at the beginning of Interstate 40 in Wilmington is a sign—
'Barstow, California 2,554 miles.'*

You might think I would have asked "Are we there yet?" when we left Winding River early one morning on our long-planned road trip. Well, we got to see that sign as well as 24 states, one Canadian province—all while on an adventure lasting five and one half weeks and 10,067 miles! I dubbed it "*Howard and Loretta's Great Adventure and Togetherness Tour.*"

The trip was really amazing. We saw so many different areas and landscapes of this great country—deserts, mountains, the Pacific Ocean, canyons, rivers—the Mississippi, Missouri and Ohio. We saw lakes, some small, reflective, and peaceful and some great—Superior, Huron and Michigan! We saw National Parks with vistas of buttes layered with earth colors that you stood to stare in awe; the great plains with corn as high as—well you know. We drove interstates and back country roads going through cities and small towns with populations as small as zero to 150, and towns with funny names like Hungry Horse, MT! The trip took us through our country's "food basket" with farms and cattle right along the highways as far as the eye could see -- getting set to put food on our tables. We saw wind farms with windmills spinning in the wind, turning to light the cities and towns. We took boat tours taking us through locks and passages that handle ships larger than what go through the Panama Canal. There were brilliant reds, oranges and yellows of fall color on maples and aspens that made you pause and will be a memory in my mind's eye—not just in the camera lens.

The idea was to have sort of a basic plan of where we wanted to go—but no reservations except for one -- so that we could be free as birds to take a side route to something we heard about or to linger in a city or town just because. The one reservation we had made in advance was on the Durango-Silverton narrow gauge steam railroad to be sure we had seats. Our basic plan was to go to many national parks that we've not been to yet and to visit historical sites. But we also got to see quirky things

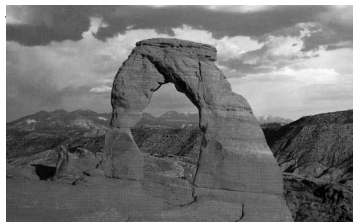
like London Bridge in Arizona where it was 109 degrees, put our feet in four states all at once, see the house where Elvis was born, or seeing true "Americana" with roadside sights like the Cadillac Ranch, where 10 Cadillacs rise out of the ground.

One of the fun parts of our trip was knowing that our six-year-old granddaughter, Lucy Rose, was "mapping" our trip as we went along. We'd e-mail her of our progress each evening and she'd mark the route on a map of the US. We told her that this was a good idea since she studied geography last year. Lucy explained that she didn't study geography in school but she did study maps!

Our first destination was Santa Fe, NM where we arrived on day three. We toured the city, seeing its churches and galleries. Then it was on to Durango and to Mesa Verde National Park with a fascinating look into the lives of the Ancestral Pueblo people in their cliff dwellings dating from A.D. 600 to A.D. 1300. Hard to imagine you are walking in the footsteps on ground of something that old here in the US. Then on to Moab, Utah and the National Parks of Canyonlands and Arches where you stand in awe of scenery and vistas of subtle earth colors in the canyons, mesas and buttes. Next stop was Monument Valley on the border of Utah and Arizona with its clusters of sandstone buttes. You've seen them as backdrops in Western movies—but seeing them in person is the only way.

From there it was Canyon de Chelly where there were more ancient Pueblo preserved cliff dwellings. Then we drove on some of the old Route 66! OK—quick who starred in the TV show? Give up? It was George Maharis as Buz and Martin Milner as Tod traveling across the US in their Corvette.

On Interstate 40, which parallels the Old Route 66 as you approach Barstow, California at the "other end of 40," there was the sign—"Wilmington, NC 2,554 miles!" Had to take a



Arches National Park in Moab, Utah



Lucy Rose Acheson marking the trip on map.



The "Wilmington, North Carolina" sign at end of Interstate 40 in Barstow



The "Barstow, California" sign at beginning of Interstate 40 in Wilmington

picture. Onward to San Francisco. We go there about four times a year since that's where our son, daughter-in-law and granddaughters live—but there's always a new experience and this time it was Chinatown in the City by the Bay. On to Sacramento—Arnold didn't invite us in so we pushed on to the coast of Oregon with the absolutely beautiful scenery of the Pacific Ocean coastline. In a blink you're going through a forest of sequoias and redwoods with elk grazing right next to the roadway.

Seattle was so much fun—Space Needle, Pike's Market, the Chinese Garden—a tranquil, beautiful and educational haven in the heart of the city. We even saw the Oscar Mayer Wienermobile there! Spent a day at Columbia Crest/Chateau Ste. Michelle winery just outside of Seattle and another day at the Boeing Plant where you're in the world's largest building by volume and you watch the 747, 767, 777 and 787 production lines. Really neat and interesting!

Started eastward now to Glacier National Park in Montana. Snow! 32 degrees! But it

didn't stop us from seeing this beautiful natural wonder as we climbed the Going to the Sun Road. Now on to South Dakota, where we walked the path of Custer at Little Big Horn. On the road again to Mount Rushmore (amazing) and then the mountain sculpting of Crazy Horse about ten miles down the road. Drive on to the Black Hills of South Dakota. Wow! What scenery, each turn of the road just makes you stop for the view then on to Deadwood, SD. Neat town—if it weren't for some cars on main street you'd think it was late 1800's. Down the road "a piece" is Sturgis. Couldn't resist seeing the town where the legendary bike rally is held each August. Can't imagine an estimated 600,000 bikers come to this small town. Must be some party! Miles and miles of road through the plains offer its own simple beauty of fields with hay rolled up and cattle grazing with a red barn off in the distance. Duluth was next to watch 1,000 foot ships going into port carrying ore and grains. Oh Canada (!) and around the top of Lake Superior to Sault Ste. Marie, Ontario. All along the way seeing scenery with brilliant fall colors and interesting things to

stop and see or do—and meeting such great people as we traveled.

Back in the USA into Michigan and Mackinac Island (pronounced Mackinaw) where no cars are allowed—just horse drawn carts or bicycles—even their "waste management" is a horse drawn cart! Now we were starting to head south. We took several days to leisurely go through Michigan, Ohio, Kentucky and Tennessee. We saw the "Welcome to North Carolina" sign and we sighed because we knew we were a day away from home and the end of this great adventure. On the last day while we could have taken a shorter route from Asheville to Winding River, well, we needed to get a photo of that sign... "Barstow, California 2,554 miles!"

So if you've ever dreamed about doing a road trip to see this great country, meet people, do fun things, see our beautiful National Parks and historical sites-- do it! Plan it and you too will have a "Great Adventure and Togetherness Tour."

Winding River Bowling at Planet Fun

by Sally Burner



Winding River Social Committee, was organized by Peggy Burns and Ellen Levinson.

On Sunday, November 14, 2010, thirty-eight residents from Winding River arrived at Planet Fun in Shallotte ready for an evening of bowling and fun. The event, sponsored by the

Planet Fun provided the group with pizza and soft drinks as the bowlers warmed up, anxiously awaiting the start of the competition. Teams were randomly assigned providing an opportunity to meet and play with different people in the community. There were strikes, spares and unfortunately, even more than a few gutter balls. But regardless of their scores, everyone had a great time.

Prizes were awarded for High Individual Score (men and women), High Team Score, Most Strikes, Most Spares, and Yellow Head Pin Strike. The winners of gift cards to Planet Fun for the women were Peggy Alexander, Colleen Brosh, Donna Burns and Bette Fuller. Fred Burner, Jim Condi, Steve Most, Bruce Tingle and Andy Tryfonos brought home prizes for the men. Based on comments from those in attendance the first Winding River Bowling event was a huge success!

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Veteran Voices

A lively USO Club at Our POC

by John Montalbano



Jeff and Merle Alano



Jerry and Debbie Mullins



Dave and Amberleen Britton



Miss USO 1942 Martha Koletar

to the Property Owners Clubhouse, or maybe driving past the POC later that evening and confused by the palm trees twinkling with little white lights, well then you missed a good time. They were there to welcome our veterans and those honoring them to Winding River's Military Gala. The event sponsored by the Winding River Veterans Association was again a huge success thanks to a cadre of volunteers and the leadership of Steve and Joanne Lynch.

As advertised, this year's Gala was "held" at a USO club in Honolulu circa 1942 and the place was jumping with 200 guests, 62 of whom were veterans. Judging by the laughs and gatherings around the floor, there is little doubt a good time was had by all! As one would expect at

If you were walking towards our exercise facility on the afternoon of November 6th and wondered why there was a USO tent, surrounded by sandbags, standing at the entrance

a USO Club on a Saturday night, men in uniform out on a weekend pass were looking for a good time and the local civilian population wearing colorful Hawaiian shirts and dresses were there to help them. The Hollywood contingent in their tuxedos and gowns were also in attendance to lend their support for the troops. This year we were fortunate to be visited by "Miss USO 1942," Ms. Martha Koletar, there in her official uniform to cheer up the troops! Topping off the gathering with a swinging big band sound, the Duke Ladd band provided a great selection of period and current music that put everyone in the mood to get up and cut a rug.

After a fun-filled cocktail hour meeting and greeting new and old friends, the West Brunswick High School ROTC Color Guard stood front and center to open the evening's ceremonies while our own *Mixed Doubles* quartet of Barbara Berry, Bill Fassbender, Sue McCallum and Bob Zinke sang our National Anthem and a few other numbers in four-part harmony. Col. Steve Lynch then introduced this year's Guest of Honor, Col. Robert Graham, a highly decorated US Air Force pilot who has lived part time in Winding River for over four years. After hearing Col. Lynch read Col. Graham's Silver Star certificate detailing the incredible bravery and self-



Dancing the night away

The traditional cake cutting ceremony celebrating the 235th birthday of the US Marine Corps was met with a rousing cheer as was the announcement by Col. Lynch that Dr. Jennifer Sapia, a relatively new Winding River resident has recently enlisted with the NC National Guard. Also being honored were three veterans, Paul Buckner, Bill Proffitt, and Arnie Turner for building the beautiful podium that the WRVA has donated to the

less sacrifice he displayed on a ground support mission over Vietnam, the audience erupted in a standing ovation. To the grunts on the ground, brave men like Bob Graham were our guardian angels and I know I'm speaking from the heart for all of them when I say, "Thank you, Bob, for helping to get us home safely."

community. After the ceremonies, the dance floor filled to the strains of Jimmy Dorsey while a fabulous dinner was being served by the catering staff of Carolina National Golf Club. The rhythm of the evening continued to rise after all of the formalities and when not eating, laughing or dancing, attendees were placing bids on beautiful merchandise for the silent auction. Later in the evening the winners were announced including Judy Russi who received a new set of golf clubs and Cheri Turner who held the winning raffle ticket for the Grand Prize - a romantic weekend for two in Charleston, South Carolina. Through the generosity of anonymous donors and those in attendance, we were able to collect \$6,000 that has since been donated equally to the Wounded Warrior Fund, the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund, and the USO. Due to the benevolence of our residents over the past eight years, the Winding River Veterans Association has been able to donate over \$26,000 for our men and women in uniform and those who have served our country. *Thank you all for your continued support and God bless our troops.*

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The
Ryder Cup
Tournament
2010

by Jerry Mullin



Bill Jones, Captain of the European team, and John Broadhurst, captain of the USA team.

The Winding River Men's Golf Association held its annual Ryder Cup Tournament on December 1st. In winning the 2010 title, the European team successfully defended their 2009 title. The tournament is a match play event with 50 two-man teams in six flights, representing the United States and Europe. The teams play 27 holes to determine the winner: nine holes of best ball, nine holes of scramble and nine holes of modified alternate shot. There is one point available for each nine-hole format for a total of three points per match, so it takes 38 points for one of the sides to win. Europe's winning margin was 39 to 36. The European team was captained by Bill Jones and the USA team was captained by John Broadhurst.

The European team of Richard Curwen and Bob Collins charged out of the gate in the first match of the day. They won their first seven holes and went on to post a sweep of all three points. Their teammates also played well and Europe led 8 to 4 after the first flight completed play. Tony Vinciguerra and Gene Pessetto led the USA to a 7½ to 4½ total with a three-point sweep in the second flight. After two flights Europe led USA 12½ to 11½. Flight 3 was much closer. Kash Mukoda and Lee Peters brought home the 3 point sweep for USA, but Europe still won the flight with 6½ points to USA's 5½. This increased Europe's lead to 19 over USA's 17 total. Chappy Menninger and Dave Bergerstrom led Europe to a 7½ to 4½ advantage with their two- and-a-half-point total in the fourth flight to put Europe five points ahead, Europe

26 ½, USA 21 ½. USA flight 5 came back with Skip Brosh and Dennis Black's three-point sweep leading the way to 8 for USA against four for Europe. Now, with one flight to go, it was Europe up by one; Europe 30 ½, USA 29 ½. With USA hoping for a comeback the teams split the first two matches. It was still Europe by one with three matches to go, but the balance of the day went to Europe after Rick Lenneweber and Joe Butera's two-and-a-half points and Dick Stone and Bill Steele's two points dispatched their opponents to give Europe enough points to insure victory over a gallant USA team.

Flight winners were: Flight 1- Marc Greenfield and Dave Lurix 1st place; Pete Desloge and Steve Becroft 2nd place; long drive Richard Curwen; closest to the pin Tom Goodwin. Flight 2- Tony Vinciguerra and Gene Pessetto 1st place; Ed Rich and George Andrew 2nd place; long drive Bill Kerner; closest to pin Tony Vinciguerra. Flight 3- Kosh Mukoda and Lee Peters 1st place; Lee Godfrey and Rick Gutierrez 2nd place; long drive Rick Gutierrez; closest to pin Lee Godfrey. Flight 4- Chappy Menninger and Dave Bergstrom 1st place; Rusty Burch and Bob Miller 2nd place; long drive and closest to pin Bob Seekamp. Flight 5- Skip Brosh and Dennis Black 1st place; Joe McNeil and Frank Paolicelli 2nd place; long drive Joe McNeil; closest to pin Heinz Stapelfeldt. Flight 6- Walt Williams and Bill Fassender 1st place; Eric Wizzer and Carl Schmitt 2nd place; long drive Eric Wizzer; closest to pin Paul Scott.

Neither RAIN, Nor SLEET, Nor SLOW!

by Mike Dolan

Those of us who were in the community last year recall the bitter winter we experienced. At a social gathering after a particularly chilly morning the weather was the main topic of conversation. Bonnie Guerra was asked what her walking group did when it got cold and she advised that they walked. As an avid walker myself I was impressed.

Since that time I have witnessed or heard comments about this group walking in the rain, the humidity, the heat and under almost any condition. Who are these super sisters and how do they muster up the discipline and the fortitude to venture out regardless of the elements? To find out I got myself invited to join them on one of their early morning treks.

On a perfect fall morning in front of Cheryl Syracuse's house I met up with Bonnie Guerra, Carole Loof, Mary Shreffler and Cheryl. Roni Robertie, another regular, was traveling. When I arrived at the dot of 7:30 they were waiting and lined up in a row by height. This was a message that a good workout was ahead of me. After a cheery good morning we were off at a brisk pace with a quick right onto Heather Run Court. Their quick step didn't interfere with their ability to carry on a conversation. After the short jaunt in and out of the street I learned who had dogs, who lived in what house and who was away. Soon we were back onto Springwood Drive and making a quick right onto Meriweather Lane. One of the local residents, Ralph Peck, says he can pick up the tenor of their conversation in the early morning air on most days. My knowledge of dogs on the street and those away was brought up to date.

The group generally walks four days a week and alternates the routes among Riverwood, Cypress Ridge, Amberwood and Riverhouse. They go in and out of every cul de sac and cross street and it amounts to three plus miles on an average. Some of these streets, including Mute Swan, Turnberry, Quail Point, Plantation Passage and Candle Ridge are very long and would be daunting to less mobile walkers.



Back on our walk the quick pace continued as we headed onto Mute Swan Lane for the longest loop in the Riverwood section. By now I was able to judge that this group really enjoyed walking and fed off each other in many different ways. They were equally conversant and walked at a similar pace. Carole Loop had a longer stride but Cheryl and Bonnie had a quicker pace to compensate, Mary Shreffler appeared to be a good athlete and adjusted accordingly. I was with a cadre of mentally and physically fit women.

Once in sync I was able to contribute to the conversation and advise them which houses were on the market, which ones had sold and for how much and this gave me some community "creds" to hang with them. The weekend football games or recent UNCW men's basketball victory never came up; on the other hand we didn't discuss doilies and sewing so I was comfortable with the flow of conversation. By the end of the walk I was the only one sweating. That was okay; I was the only one who could take off his shirt.

This group has been walking for about four years and several participants have come and gone for various reasons. In addition to the absence of Roni Robertie, Marcia DellaRocca is nursing a leg injury and they hope she will be rejoining them. They welcome one and all in the community to join them. Mary Shreffler is a relatively new resident and the newest member of this group.

Getting any type of group going is not an easy task and a walking group is harder than others. I can attest from personal experience. Last year I sent out an email to a group of guys suggesting a walking group; so far no one has responded. There are some other formal and informal groups that walk in the community. Keeping the group going is equally difficult because the walks may be deemed too fast, too slow, too long, too often, too early in the day or personal issues may arise that may interfere with the schedule. In spite of the many obstacles that can occur this group has managed to stay together and bond. We all know people who can talk the talk, now we know women who can walk the walk.

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Organizing Your Closets

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Save time getting ready in the morning by organizing your outfit the night before. It also reduces the stress of deciding what to wear when you're on a deadline to get out the door.

Put a shopping bag in your closet for items you don't like anymore, can't wear anymore because of size changes, or items you just want to purge. It's also a good way to train others you share your closet with to purge their items as well. At the end of every month take the clothing and other items you purged to your local church, Goodwill or Salvation Army and get a receipt for a tax deduction.

Creating a Home Communications/Command Center

If your family's life is chaotic due to everyone having a different schedule, set up a communications center in the most commonly used area of your home, usually in the kitchen, which is the heart of the home. But not on the outside of your fridge, because there's really not enough space there for a family calendar, mail bin, and bulletin board... not to mention it looks cluttered. A separate communications center in your kitchen will help keep clutter from building up. It will also cut down on being late or forgetting important events.

Let your children take ownership of the fun activities they enjoy and let them help you put those on the calendar. This will help teach them organization and hold them accountable for their schedules too!

Post the meal planning guide to your communication center so everyone knows what to expect for dinner. This will alleviate uncertainty, minimize complaints and help with time management in regard to preparation.



Tonia Tomlin is the Founder and President of Sorted Out™ and Sorted Out Publishing. Tonia is an author, publisher, speaker and mother of twin girls. She has been featured on HGTV's, Mission: Organization, and is the author of the book Chaos 2 Calm: The Mommy-of-Multiples Guide to an Organized Family. Tonia@SortedOut.biz www.SortedOut.biz



Our friendly wait staff—Lauren Schwab, Jennifer Ustonski, Jennifer Szot



Left, Jerry and Meg Dellinger and Bill & Cheryl Jones



Right, Diana & Brian Schaar and Frank & Gail Aaron

RESIDENT RESTAURANT *Review*

The Plantation Grille
The Tradition Golf Club, Carolina National

Over 30 residents of Winding River had dinner in their backyard!

Yes, right in your backyard is the Plantation Grille at Carolina National. The evening started off with much jovial banter and some very yummy and spicy shrimp and bacon, savory chicken skewers and various varieties of cheese and vegetables. A traditional or Caesar salad started the evening's menu. The entrees were diverse and created a well-rounded meal – just a few menu highlights – blackened mahi mahi with a Creole butter served with Spanish rice pilaf and vegetable medley, char-grilled NY strip finished with herb butter served with baked potato and vegetables and sautéed chicken breast on a bed of garlic spinach with a Fontina cheese cream sauce.

Everyone in attendance had great things to say about their overall dining experience. "The food was extremely tasty and well presented," the service was outstanding and friendly, and "the black lagoon filet (mahi mahi) was wonderful – a keeper!" A few people in the group even commented on how they already had many excellent lunches and dinners at the Grille, especially steak or Italian night – "keep up the good work, we like the changes!"

The atmosphere at the Plantation Grille is casual traditional dining with a full service bar and wine menu. Executive Chef George Keil, who joined Carolina National as the food and beverage manager, has culinary expertise of 28 years. Catering of special events and private parties are also part of the consistent level of service the club desires to offer.

So, if the question arises, "*What's for dinner?*" and the answer is "*Reservations!*" your neighbors highly recommend you give the Grille a try – you will definitely be pleased with the experience!

DISCLAIMER: The business reviewed in this section provided products and/or services free of charge in exchange for this review



Left, Bill Upham, Tom Hetherington, Joan Hetherington and Randi Upham



Claudi Peruggi and Gail Aaron



Right, Rose & Parker Southerland and Bob & Eileen Allen



Before dinner enjoying appetizers – Randi Upham, Joan Hetherington, Diana Schaar



Karen Entwistle



Sylvia and Gary Knapp



Judy Taylor and Ron Uhrig

Future Winding River Events... Save *the* Date!

Progressive Event – A FUNDO with FONDUE!

SATURDAY, JANUARY 22 – Watch River Notes for details

The College of Winding River – Picture Perfect

MONDAY, JANUARY 24 – 7:00PM – POC

Award-winning photojournalist Jamie Moncrief's lecture is one that will leave you looking at life differently...through the camera lens that is! *Bring your digital camera and questions.*

Garden Club Meeting – Topic - Pruning

WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 26 – 10:00AM – POC

Presentation by a representative from the Brunswick County Extension Service

The Price is Right! – Women's Night Out Event

THURSDAY, JANUARY 27 – POC – Watch River Notes for details

Amberwood Neighborhood Party

SUNDAY, JANUARY 30 – 5 TO 8PM – POC

Watch River Notes for details

Annual Super Bowl Party

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 6 – POC

Sponsored by the Social Committee – come root for your team or against their team; watch River Notes for details

Valentine's Day Party

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 12 – POC

Sponsored by the WR Veterans Association; watch River Notes for details

Garden Club Meeting – Landscaping Principles

Wednesday, February 23 – 10:00am – POC

Presentation by landscape architects Kathy & Tom Fitzgerald

Mardi Gras Festival

TUESDAY, MARCH 8 – POC

Sponsored by the Social Committee – start collecting your beads and costumes and be ready to celebrate; watch River Notes for details

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Southport Shopping featuring - Cattail Cottage

When Cattail Cottage's proprietor Pamela Sexton moved from Pennsylvania in 2006, she realized that Southport was missing just one thing – a country store. "I grew up surrounded by early-American and folk art décor, but living on the coast, I love the coziness of cottage décor. Fusing them together is what makes my store unique."

Tucked delicately among the many brick buildings in downtown Southport is a little cottage with a white picket fence and white awnings. As you walk toward the front door, you are welcomed many times from its garden before you make your way inside. Upon entering Cattail Cottage, you are greeted with a warm smile as your senses come alive with such wonderful aromas as rosemary, verbenas, antique spice, and white lilac; soothing sounds, colors, tastes, textures, and an occasional touch of whimsy. It is a relaxed atmosphere with a surprise around every corner.

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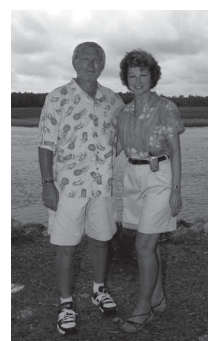
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Real Estate RESOURCE

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Address	Neighborhood	Sale Price	Sold Date	DOM
2820 Harborside Way	St. James Plantation	\$556,000	11/19/10	220
2854 St. James Drive SE	St. James Plantation	\$470,000	11/18/10	251
348 Cypress Ridge Drive SE	Winding River Plantation	\$440,000	11/30/10	152
2913 Legends Drive	St. James Plantation	\$375,000	11/12/10	217
4214 Ashfield Place	St. James Plantation	\$369,500	12/03/10	220
4211 Silverleaf Drive SE	St. James Plantation	\$325,000	12/03/10	294
3280 Moss Hammock Wynd	St. James Plantation	\$312,900	11/22/10	51
3041 Irwin Drive	St. James Plantation	\$215,000	12/08/10	485
2495 St. James Drive, L-6 S-12	St. James Plantation	\$125,000	11/19/10	53
3646 Wingfoot Drive, L-37-23	St. James Plantation	\$100,000	11/19/10	58



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River News JANUARY

JANUARY River News

Resident BusinessGuide | 33

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Brunswick County Schools

2010-2011 TRADITIONAL SCHOOL CALENDAR

Approved by the
Board of Education
February 1, 2010

AUGUST 2010		JULY		AUGUST		SEPTEMBER	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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SEPTEMBER 2010		OCTOBER 2010		NOVEMBER		DECEMBER	
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How To Choose A Financial Professional

As you navigate the financial world, you'll most likely deal with a wide array of investment choices, constantly changing tax laws, estate-planning issues and other areas. And then, to make things even more complex, you'll have to consider your own risk tolerance, time horizon and individual goals. If you're like most people, you don't have the time and expertise to create, monitor and adjust your investment strategy by yourself, so you'll need to get some help. But how can you choose a financial professional who is right for you?

You'll need to do some research, possibly by interviewing a few candidates. Here are a few questions you may want to ask:

times a year will you meet to review your progress? Can you have face-to-face consultations whenever you need them? These are the types of questions you'll want to ask any prospective financial advisor.

- Do you have experience working with people like me?** Ideally, you'd like to work with someone who has experience in helping people like you — that is, people with similar income and asset levels, family situations, goals and so on. The more familiar a financial professional is with people like you, the better that person will be at helping you identify the appropriate investment moves.
- Do you have a particular investment philosophy?** Look for someone with a thoughtful, reasoned philosophy on investing. As a general rule, be suspicious of anyone promising you big, quick gains. The best financial professionals seek to help their clients achieve positive long-term results through disciplined, persistent and sensible investment moves.
- How often will you communicate with me?** If you're going to entrust your hard-earned financial resources with someone, you'll want that person to communicate with you regularly as to how you're doing and what changes you may need to make. How often will you receive investment statements? How many
- What services do you offer?** If you want your financial professional to help you create a unified investment strategy, you'll also want that person to help you implement it — which means he or she needs access to a full range of investment and money management products and services.
- How are you paid?** Financial professionals are compensated in any of a number of ways. They may work on a fee-only basis, with the fee either agreed upon in advance or based on the level of assets under management. And some financial professionals work in a combined fee-and-commission arrangement. From an investor's point of view, one method of compensation may not be "better" than the others; nonetheless, it's important for you to fully understand how your financial advisor will be paid.
- By doing your homework in advance, you can develop a solid relationship with a qualified financial professional — someone who will be with you far into the future.
- Article provided by Edward Jones*

Article provided by Edward Jones

LOCAL EVENTS

January

Now- Feb. 16

Sea Trail Canned Food Drive

Where: Sea Trail Golf Resort

Sea Trail is helping those in need during the holiday season again for 2010/11 with its Canned Food Drive. You can get one round of golf on any of our three signature Courses of Distinction for just \$35 per person with a donation of three cans of food. Price includes green and cart fees. This offer is good through February 16, 2011.

For more information: (910) 287-1122

Friday, Jan. 14-16

146th Anniversary of the Battle of Fort Fisher

Where: Fort Fisher State Historic Site, 1610 Fort Fisher Blvd. S, Kure Beach, NC 28449

"Glory Enough for All: 146th Anniversary of the Battle for Fort Fisher," focuses on how Fort Fisher and the Civil War were remembered in post-war years. The highlight of this year's program will be the debut of a new temporary exhibit on that subject, including a reunion button from the Fort Fisher reunion of 1907. The program will also feature infantry and artillery demonstrations.

For more information: 910-458-5538 or www.nchistoricsites.org/fisher/fisher.htm

Saturday, Jan. 15

12th Night Renaissance Celebration

Where: Angelo's Steak and Pasta 2100 S. Kings Hwy., Myrtle Beach

When: 6-9pm

The Long Bay Symphony Guild announces its 12th Night Renaissance celebration with medieval music, meal and merry making. Music by Musica Milenio. Costumes optional. Cash bar. Proceeds support the work of the Long Bay Symphony.

For more information: 448-8379

Wednesday, Jan. 19

Jump Start Speed Networking

Where: Starz Grille at Planet Fun 349 Whiteville Road, Shallotte, NC

When: 7:30-9:30am

Got a Minute? Then you've got time to tell all about yourself at the 2nd JumpStart Speed Networking Event! Get your "Elevator Speech" ready and bring plenty of business cards!

For more information: 910-754-6644 ext. 105

Saturday, Jan. 22

Blood Done Sign My Name, the play

Where: Thalian Hall Main Stage, 310 Chestnut St.,

Wilmington, NC 28401

JANUARY River News

When: 8pm

A powerful and riveting multi-character portrayal by playwright/actor Mike Wilkey in the theatrical adaptation of author Tim Tyson's best-selling memoir of the 1970 racial murder in Oxford, NC before Tyson's father, Rev. Vernon Tyson and his family, relocated to Wilmington.

For more information: 910-632-2285 or www.thalianhall.org

Friday, Jan. 28

Betty LaVette—The Show-stopping Queen of R & B

Where: Thalian Hall Main Stage, 310 Chestnut St.,

Wilmington, NC 28401

When: 8pm

With her unforgettable performance of "A Change Is Gonna Come" with Jon Bon Jovi at the 2009 Presidential Inauguration, and her visceral, jaw-dropping "Love Reign O'er Me" that brought Pete Townsend to tears during the Kennedy Center Honors, Bettye LaVette has commandeered the world stage.

For more information: www.thalianhall.org

Saturday, Jan. 29

Las Vegas Night

Where: 101 Stone Chimney Rd. (Brunswick County Association of Realtors), Supply, NC 28462

When: 6-10:30pm

Shallotte Rotary Club sponsors its 6th annual Las Vegas Night. Black Jack, Roulette, Craps and Texas Holdem; door prizes, silent auction, raffles, grand prizes. Fully catered, pasta stations, meat stations, appetizers and more!

For more information: 910-575-0075

Saturday, Feb. 5

3rd Annual Brunswick Stew and Que

Where: Planet Fun/Starz Grille, 349 Whiteville Road NW, Shallotte, NC

When: 10-4pm

Come out and enjoy this one of a kind event! Featuring local craft vendors, live music, kids area, barbeque, pool competition and of course, some delicious Brunswick stew!

Take part in choosing the best Brunswick stew made by contestants! For only \$5, you can sample all of the Brunswick stew made by contestants! Contact the Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce if you are interested in entering the contest. The Brunswick County Chamber of Commerce has hired Sawgrass to perform from Noon-4! Everyone is welcome to bring a lawn chair or blanket so that you can sit back and enjoy the sounds of bluegrass and rock & roll!

For more information: 910-754-6644

Saturday, Feb. 12

6th Annual Civil War Living History

Where: Cameron Art Museum, 3201 S. 17th Street,

Wilmington, NC 28412

When: 10am

The Cameron Art Museum commemorates the 146th anniversary of the Battle of Forks Road on the museums historic site. The site is where Major General Robert F. Hoke made his last stand against Union soldiers comprised primarily of US Colored Troops in the final fifth for Wilmington on 2/20/1865. This year the event focuses on the daily routine of soldiers during war time. Confederate, Union and U.S. Colored Troops reenactors are on site to provide a glimpse into the camp life of soldiers in the 1860s, infantry and artillery demonstrations, artisans give demonstrations of crafts of the era, family art act ivies and more. Free and open to the public.

For more information: 910-395-5999

Monday, Feb. 14

That's A Moray! Valentine's Day Event

Where: NC Aquarium @ Fort Fisher, 900 Loggerhead Rd., Kure Beach, NC 28449

When: 6:30pm

Celebrate each other this Valentine's Day at the North Carolina Aquarium at Fort Fisher. "That's A Moray!" is an exclusive evening with limited seating, featuring a candlelit dinner, a souvenir photo and dancing while surrounded by the magic of the ocean.

For more information: www.ncaquariums.com or 910-458-8257



DID YOUR RETIREMENT PLAN SUDDENLY STOP WORKING?

How do you feel your retirement plan working? Did it stop working? If so, you need to know the reasons why. Retirement plans are complex and can be difficult to understand. If you are not sure, you need to know the reasons why. If you are not sure, you need to know the reasons why. If you are not sure, you need to know the reasons why.

Call 800-458-5538 today to arrange a free retirement plan review.



John A. Brown, CEO
of AmericanPulse
and
James A. Brown, CEO
of AmericanPulse
will be speaking at the event.

The event will be held at the Cameron Art Museum, 3201 S. 17th Street, Wilmington, NC 28412. The event is free and open to the public. For more information, call 910-458-5538 or visit www.ncaquariums.com.





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