

# Garden Club

By Clare Winslow

The February meeting of the Garden Club was cancelled because of the dangerous road conditions caused by the second ice storm of the winter. Schools were closed; town hall was closed; and our agricultural extension speaker was snowbound in Raleigh.

Unfortunately, many of our plants suffered greatly from the exceptionally frigid and icy winter here. My geraniums, which usually make it through three or four winters, are all dead. My three large spider plants, which have survived eight winters, succumbed to the frigid night temperatures this year. Linda Pearson noticed that oleanders throughout town have likely all been killed by our icy storms. Gini Stambaugh's eight sago palms, which usually thrive in our coastal climate, are all brown and frozen. Lana Hathaway's pansies, surrounded by ice in their pots, seem wilted from the cold but, since they are hardy here, she has high hopes for them to perk back up. Martha Edwards reports that the ornamental cabbages that she planted in the town gardens have held up well throughout the storms, and that the pansies she planted on January 27 are perking up and look healthy, even after the second ice storm.

A happier note was the noisy arrival of the Robins and Cedar Waxwings from their southern winter homes. I have watched squirrels, egrets, ibises and Canada geese, but never could I have imagined the effect of two or three thousand Robins on Wednesday, February 5, winging across Bogue Sound, propelled by a strong northwest wind. Gini Stambaugh saw them at Hall Haven for a whole week. They came

in droves of two or three hundred at a time from 10 a.m. until dusk. Since my house is high, I could see them light on the tree branches near my window, especially on my 50-foot holly tree with its bright red berries. All the pyracantha berries

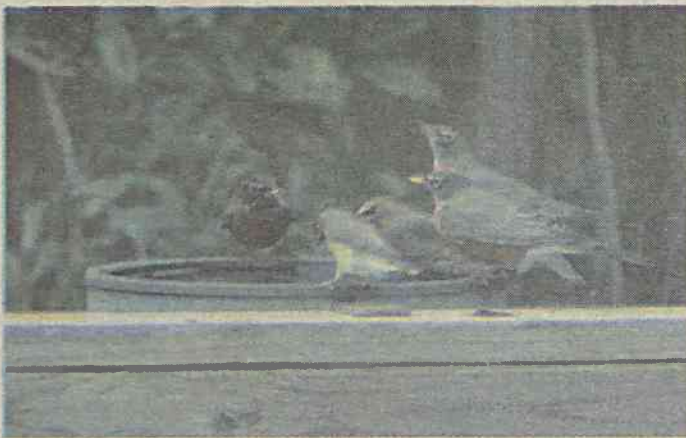


Photo by Donna Belanger

in my yard disappeared that day. Usually Cedar Waxwings fly north with the Robins, but I did not spy a single one in my yard. That flight of birds must have headed for Donna Belanger's house because she snapped this photo of several Robins and Cedar Waxwings drinking together at her bird bath. Mary Nichols was amazed, not only by the massive inundation of the flying birds, but also by the very loud noise these flights created.

Between ice storms, Pine Knoll Shores welcomed a special visitor from Binghamton, New York—Judy Poit, a past president of our club. Judy and her husband, Bill, lived here for many years on Beechwood Drive, and return often to visit relatives Ted and Marilyn Lindblad.

On a sadder note, the Garden Club notes the death of one of its great supporters—Eleanor Bisbee of Smyrna and McGinnis Point. She and her husband, Fred, for many years ran the Nature Corner in Smyrna, which later became the Down East Library. It had an attached plant nursery, which was visited by our

Garden Club, especially for purchasing Fred's large carnivorous plants. He also generously supplied his water and bog plants for the club to sell at one of our plant sales. Eleanor was a very active member of our town and will be remembered fondly by Garden Club members.

Our next meeting on March 12 will be a trip to Fairy Gardens at Carolina Home and Garden. Guests and visitors are invited to attend our meetings, which are held at town hall every second Wednesday at 9:30 a.m. for refreshments, followed at 10:00 a.m. by the program of the day. All are welcome!

Photo courtesy of Jan Corsello



From left, Jan Corsello and Lois Jean O'Keefe enjoy a visit with former Pine Knoll Shores resident and former Garden Club president Judy Poit.



## Shrimp Night

### MOVES TO THURSDAY NIGHT

Entrees \$11.00

FRIDAY NIGHT IS

### Italian Cuisine

SATURDAY NIGHT IS

### Caribbean Cuisine

**WEDNESDAY NIGHT IS**

## Buy One Entree Get one Free

**TUNA, MAHI OR PORK CHOP**

**\$25.00**  
*(no substitutions)*



**1ST AND 3RD THURSDAY OF THE MONTH**

## Food & Wine Tasting

*(Four wines paired with four plates)* **\$20 per person.** Please call for reservations.

**CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE FOR OUR ON AND OFFSITE CATERING.**  
Keep up with us on Facebook for Daily Specials and Upcoming Events!

*Come Join Us* 7 Days a Week for **Lunch: 11am-2:30pm • Dinner: Wed-Sat: 2:30pm-9pm**

252-247-2344 • Call for Reservations  
[www.thechannelmarker.com](http://www.thechannelmarker.com)

