

Dinner Series Supports Culinary Students

Carteret Community College (CCC) and three local chefs noted for their fine cuisine will offer a dinner series in the New Year, featuring specially prepared four-course meals at the Crystal Coast Civic Center. The public can enjoy the dinners while helping local students realize their international culinary dreams.

The Escoffier Chefs Dinner Series will showcase the talents of chefs Anthony Garnett of The Coral Bay Club, Floyd Olmstead of Floyd's 1921, and Charles Park of Beaufort Grocery. Chefs Garnett, Olmstead and Park were inducted into the International Order of the Disciples of Escoffier in 2011 during a cultural exchange program sponsored by the Beaufort Sister Cities organization that helped bring a delegation of French chefs to Carteret County from the Beaufort Nord region in France. The order is the largest worldwide organization of chefs, with more than 12,000 participants in 15 countries, including America, Japan, Russia, China and France.

The Disciples of Escoffier promote and preserve the work of the late Auguste Escoffier, a master of French and international cuisine. Disciples work to maintain Escoffier's great culinary traditions, especially as they pertain to the education and professional training for chefs and apprentices, the traditional path taken by 80 percent of starred chefs. Members also organize culinary events worthy of these traditions that honor people and celebrities of French haute cuisine.

The series will include three dinners and one lunch to help support the annual French Exchange Program for CCC culinary students. For the past several years, outstanding culinary students have traveled to France to work with French chefs in restaurants and other culinary-related businesses.

"This event will enable patrons to have a delicious four-course meal while supporting a special educational opportunity for some of our most promising culinary students," said Shana Olmstead, coordinator of the Hospitality and Culinary Arts program at the college. "It is amazing what the students learn during their trip to France, and they bring back that knowledge and professionalism to Carteret County where they will be working."

The dinners are held at the Crystal Coast Civic Center, and are scheduled as follows:

- Tuesday, January 19, Chef Floyd Olmstead and the CCC interns
- Tuesday, February 23, Chef Charles Park and the interns
- Tuesday, March 22, Chef Anthony Garnett and the interns

The final meal in the series will be a lunch on Thursday, April 14, featuring all three chefs and the culinary students. The lunch will be held at the CCC Culinary School building on Arendell Street in Morehead City.

The dinners begin at 6 p.m., and advanced reservations and tickets are required. Tickets for all three dinners are \$150 per person; tickets for individual dinners are \$60 per person. Tickets for the lunch only are \$30 per person. Gratuity and bar are not included. Tickets may be purchased by contacting Tiffany Taylor at 222-6056 or going online at carteret.edu/foundation.



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The Country Club of the Crystal Coast

...where friends connect

By Bill Knecht

On behalf of the Board of Directors, General Manager Chip Chamberlin and all of the great staff at The Country Club of the Crystal Coast (CCCC), we wish you a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year. May all of your New Year's resolutions come true.

If you forgot to resolve to visit the CCCC in 2016, it is not too late to do so. All you have to do is call Chip at 726-1034, ext. 12, and ask him about the club's various types of memberships and get a tour of the club's facilities. All the club asks is that you give it an opportunity to show you everything it has to offer, such as golf, golf tournaments; state championship-quality tennis; bridge; swimming; year-round water aerobics; golf, tennis and bridge lessons; exercise classes; great dining overlooking the beautiful Bogue Sound; dinner theaters; beach bingo; summer artisan show; great holiday celebrations; many dining specials, including the monthly steak night specials, seafood buffets, wine and tapas events and the popular Friday night burger specials; private parties, meeting venues; wedding and rehearsal dinner venues; and many more events too numerous to mention. Depending on your level of membership, you can enjoy all or some of the foregoing activities at the CCCC with your extended family, friends and neighbors. Come make new friends and reconnect with old friends.

I would like to extend a special thank you to Tom Tempel and Glenn Mills for their dedicated service on the Board of Directors for the last three years. They will be missed. I would also like to welcome the two newly elected board members, Greg Patterson and Sylvia Brodman, who will serve on the board in 2016 along with Sandy Hale, John Ferguson, Carl Ragsdale, Bonnie Ferneau, Mike King, Jason Wordsworth and me, having been reelected to a second three-year term. The club's officers for 2016 are Bill Knecht, president; Mike King, vice president; Carl Ragsdale, treasurer, and Sylvia Brodman, secretary.

December was a very busy month at the club. CCCC was honored to host the annual holiday parties of the Carteret County Medical Society, the Pine Knoll Shores Women's Club, the Carteret County Bridge Club, the Pine Knoll Shores Garden Club, the Carteret County Newcomers Club, the Soundview Rotary Club, the Crystal Coast Republican Women, the Women's Council of Realtors and the Doubletree Manager's holiday dinner. Thanks to all of these outside groups for supporting the club. In addition, on December 12, the club had its annual Christmas party for members, and the members celebrated New Year's Eve (It's Midnight Somewhere) to the great dancing music of The Tight End Band.

Many organizations and groups schedule their holiday parties a year in advance, so it's never too early to think about scheduling your 2016 Christmas party or other event at the club.

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for an opportunity to hear about

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Interim Director, Carteret County Aging Services

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