

PINE KNOLL SHORES
Women's Club

By Michelle Powers

The Pine Knoll Shores Women's Club welcomed the holiday season with a focus on its philanthropic activities. Martha's Mission Cupboard, an emergency food pantry serving Carteret County, has been a longstanding recipient of the club's charity work.

Martha Bell, a former executive director and current board member of Martha's Mission, spoke to the club just prior to the Thanksgiving holiday. She explained that Martha's Mission provides food to over 350 families each month. The families and individuals are screened and referred by state and federal social service agencies in Carteret County. Typical clients are the elderly living below the poverty level; families who have sustained major medical expenses and need help feeding their families; the mentally and physically handicapped; abused and abandoned women and children; and those who are temporarily unable to work due to strikes, layoffs or medical conditions.

Begun in 1985 in response to the red tide that devastated the fishing community in eastern North Carolina, Martha's Mission operates on donations of cash, food and nonfood items. It receives no state or federal money, but relies on the extraordinary support of local Carteret County businesses, individuals and area churches. The organization is run by over 50 volunteers and a board of directors of local community members. "Carteret County helps people in need more than any other place I've lived," Ms. Bell told the group. The Women's Club sent her on her way with several boxes filled with food donated by club members. To find out more about Martha's Mission or to donate your time, food or money, visit the website at marthasmission.com.

At the club's December Christmas luncheon, club members welcomed Molly Sullivan, the 2017-18 club scholarship recipient. The scholarship program is a major activity of the club, providing a yearly scholarship to a deserving student at Carteret Community College. Molly is a second-year nursing student who plans to continue her nursing education with a goal to work in a hospital in the Raleigh area and to work toward a BSN degree and eventually a master's degree in nursing. She thanked the club for its support and encouragement and explained that even at the young age of 5 or 6 she remembers that she was fascinated by medical topics and knew that someday she wanted to "do something in the medical field." She followed through with that dream, receiving her certification as a nursing assistant (CNA) when she was only 16. While at the luncheon Molly was able to meet club members and receive advice from several members who had nursing careers themselves.

The February 23 club meeting will be a Fundraiser Fashion Show, to be held at the country club at 11:30 a.m., with all proceeds to benefit the scholarship program and other charitable activities. The event will be open to the public, with more information forthcoming in local media, on the club's Facebook page and via email to members. Plan to join us to support local charities and to enjoy the latest fashion trends in a beautiful setting with friends and neighbors.



Martha's Mission Board Member Martha Bell (left) and Women's Club Vice President JoAnn Ferguson.—Photo by Carroll Beckham

The Country Club of the Crystal Coast

...where friends connect

By Bill Knecht

The Country Club of the Crystal Coast continues to grow with new events, activities and other benefits of membership being added from time to time. For the first time, single and family members can purchase annual golf cart passes by January 15. Members' children ages 22 and under pay no cart or greens fee when playing golf with their parents. In addition, members' grandchildren and great-grandchildren can play golf with the member at a cart cost fee only of \$10 for nine holes or \$20 for 18 holes. Also, a non-playing guest of a member may ride for free with the member.

Continuing with the very successful author and speaker programs that the club started in 2017, the first author program in 2018 is on January 20. On that date, Dr. Barbara Garrity-Blake will talk about her book *Living at the Water's Edge*, which she co-authored with Karen Willis Amspacher.

The book is a treasure of life experiences, stories, folklore, anecdotes and other interesting tidbits of information about past and present life in various Down East communities, Ocracoke and the Outer Banks. The book contains many varied and captivating photos and has been described as a combination travel guide and a chronicle of a way of life informed by the ocean.

This program is open to the public. A cocktail hour (cash bar) will be held from 5 to 6 p.m., followed by a "down east" dinner at 6 p.m. and the book presentation. Reservations are required by Wednesday, January 17. The cost is only \$18.95 per person. For reservations, please call 726-1034, ext. 17.

On Saturday, November 25, the club held another one of its very popular Cross-Country, Par 3, nine-hole golf tournaments. The first place winner for the second time was Roy Martin. The next one is scheduled for Saturday, January 20, starting at 2 p.m.

If you or someone you know is planning on getting married next year or thereafter, please contact Barb Costanza at 726-1034, ext. 16. Bookings for 2018 are filling up fast.

The first open house in 2018 will be held on March 2 from 5:30-6:30 p.m. Please bring a friend and come see what the club has to offer. Complimentary beverages and hors d'oeuvres will be served.

We are looking forward to seeing you at the club, *where friends connect*.



Pine Knoll Shores resident Jerry Price (5th from left, front row) spoke at The Country Club of the Crystal Coast in November on his career as a Secret Service Agent. He is pictured here with pickleball playing friends from Pine Knoll Shores and beyond who attended to support him at the evening's event.—Photo by Bill Dorsett