



By Gracie Bender

Wonderful times together

The Pine Knoll Shores Women's Club gathered at the Crystal Coast Country Club for a wonderful Christmas luncheon on December 10. It was a great way to celebrate our yearly accomplishments and to begin to think ahead to 2022.

Each member brings so much to this local group. We again donated household items and money to support Martha's Mission, and we continue to offer our sincere gratitude to the Labor & Delivery and Pediatric staff of Carteret Health Care with many home-baked goodies delivered monthly along with thank you cards for their continued work during this difficult time.



Clockwise from top left: Lisa Park, Libby Gallagher, Pegge Knecht and Donna Ross at the Women's Club Christmas luncheon.

—Photos by Gracie Bender

One of the highlights of the meeting was Co-President Libby Gallagher's reminder of how we can each make a difference. As a group, we have adopted and affectionately call "The Starfish Story" our motto. Officially, it is called "The Tale of the Starfish" and is a story adapted from *The Star Thrower* by Loren C. Eiseley.

The Tale of the Starfish

It all started when . . .

A young girl was walking along a beach upon which thousands of starfish had been washed up during a terrible storm. When she came to each starfish, she would pick it up and throw it back into the ocean. People watched her with amusement.

She had been doing this for some time when a man approached her and said, "Little girl, why are you doing this? Look at this beach! You can't save all these starfish. You can't begin to make a difference!"

The girl seemed crushed, suddenly deflated. But after a few moments, she bent down, picked up another starfish and hurled it as far as she could into the ocean. Then she looked up at the man and replied, "Well, I made a difference for that one!"



The old man looked at the girl inquisitively and thought about what she had done and said. Inspired, he joined the little girl in throwing starfish back into the sea. Soon others joined, and all the starfish were saved.

Consider joining us in adding this story to how you live as well. We all live better if we help each other where we can.

If you are not a member of the Pine Knoll Shores Women's Club but are interested in joining, we welcome any woman to join us who lives or works in Pine Knoll Shores, on Bogue Banks or in any surrounding community not served by a women's club. Our meetings are normally held on the fourth Friday at 10 a.m., and updates or changes are posted on our Facebook page. Please join us.

BHA Events

Valentine Membership Party. Come to the Beaufort Historic Site to enjoy the largest open house of the year on Sunday, February 6, from 2 to 4 p.m. This year, the Valentine Membership Party, a free event, will celebrate the community spirit that has been so evident throughout the pandemic. All are welcome to enjoy the hospitality of the Beaufort Historical Association (BHA), tour the authentically restored historic buildings, and learn more about the special coastal heritage of the area.

It is the association's hope to unveil part, if not all, of the Old Jail, c. 1829, at this event, which has been under restoration since December 2020. Thanks to local organizations and generous community support, the second oldest jail in North Carolina will remain preserved for future generations. A special documentary shot by KEVA Creative and featuring Beaufort individuals' remembrances of the jail will debut at the party.

Be sure to bring your appetite and enjoy all of the culinary offerings in the historic buildings and to stop at the Mattie King Davis Art Gallery where artist Kate

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