



January gets cookin' at the Aquarium with the continuation of the popular "Guest Chef's Succulent Seafood" series. Past classes have featured red snapper with trio dipping sauces, yucca crusted triggerfish, bouillabaisse from scratch, crab cakes with a twist, and many other innovative dishes, all prepared by chefs from area restaurants. January classes are scheduled for the 5th, 18th, and 27th at 2:00 p.m., and early registration is advised. The series runs through early March.

The "Fair Weather Birders" series also cranks up this month. This year's first outing is at 9:00 a.m. on January 20th. Nearby ponds and waterways offer exciting opportunities for sightings of migratory waterfowl, such as mergansers, black ducks, buffleheads and green wing teal. Winter songbirds have also arrived in area forests. Bring your binoculars and bird books and let's see what we can find.

A special program is planned for January 29 from 7-9 p.m. Guest speaker and stargazer Mark Joyner will present "Legends in the Winter Sky" an entertaining and informative evening spent pondering the winter constellations and the Greek mythology that surrounds them. Relive the epic tales of the hero Perseus battling Medusa and rescuing the lovely Andromeda, their stories emblazoned for all time in the starry skies. Learn tips for telling time, direction, positioning and more from the celestial bodies. All ages are invited for this free evening, which begins in the Aquarium auditorium and then moves outdoors. Warm dress is recommended and refreshments will be served.

If you are looking for activities to help fill up your preschoolers time this winter, remember the Aquariums "Sea Squirts" series. Special children's activity instructor Grace Ewen leads these one-hour fun-filled educational classes. The classes are designed to introduce 4 and 5 year olds to marine life using live animals, craft projects, storytelling and films. Cost is \$7 per class, and the next session is January 11 at 9:30 a.m.

For a full listing of winter Aquarium activities, stop by and pick up a calendar, or call 247-4003 and request a calendar by mail.

PKS Garden Club



Garlands of holly, rose poinsettias, a glowing Christmas tree and miniature snowbound village and tons of holiday camaraderie set the theme for the December seaside Christmas party of the Pine Knoll Shores Garden Club on December 8th.

A delicious luncheon of stuffed clam shells, sausage, bacon and broccoli casserole, spinach salad, fruit and all varieties of Christmas desserts was prepared by hostesses Jane Page, Olga Welsh, Lois Jean O'Keefe, Mary Heim, Lee Cosgrove and Lois Heffelfinger.

Former members for many years Billie Hathome, Alice Noble, Mildred Kerr and Margaret Mercer were special guests.

President Judy Poit presented Jane Page with two nestled mocha glazed flower pots in appreciation of her hosting this holiday affair at her house on the dunes.

Luminaria chairman Chris Walters gave an update on plans to illuminate the town's salient locations including the three marinas on Christmas Eve.

The highlight of the meeting was the grab bag gift-wrap contest. Lee Cosgrove won the prize for most creative wrappings - gingerbread house fashioned from a grocery sack complete with windows, flowers, and lattice trim. Joan Smith took the prize for the most garden club oriented wrapping - yellow, blue and gold paper with an attached miniature blue watering can heaped with colorful herbs. The most original use of materials category was won by Chris Walters. Not only had Chris created the triangular pottery dish gift within, she had hand painted the face of the wrapping with a sailboat complete with sequined hull, even a kitty in the rigging, and bound the edges with red grosgrain ribbon-truly a show stopper.

On January 12th Dennis Munden of Munden's Garden Center will speak on gardening in the shade or "What Can I Grow Besides Impatiens?"

Submitted by: Clare Winslow