



*"The Sophisticated Ladies"*  
*The Red Hat Society of South Gulf Cove*  
*September 2007 Newsletter*

**Hello Ladies,**

The September 14, 2007 luncheon was held at Visani's Comedy Club, Port Charlotte.

**Alice Burnell and Judy Post were co-hostesses.**



There were twenty-seven ladies in attendance. What a wonderful time we had. The food was great, the service excellent, and most of all the entertainment was the best!! Al Holland, original member of the Platters, was our surprise entertainment. Nice surprise Alice and Judy planned for us. I would like to repeat this next September. What a nice way to start a new season with our **"Sophisticated Ladies"**.

Before we started our lunch we honored our **"Contessa of Chapeaus"**, Carol Vanderploeg.



As most of you know, we lost one of our own two weeks ago, today, August 31, our Contessa of Chapeaus Carol Vanderploeg. Carol lost her battle with cancer, she fought hard but cancer won. Carol took care of our little name hats. She made up name hats for new members and she made repairs to

others. She even stayed up on the night of her birthday, this past year, all night to get them ready for our luncheon the next day. Carol couldn't make it to too many of luncheons in the past year, because of many treatments, etc. She did make it to our Navigator luncheon with the boat ride, in March.

Carol was a great help to our Sophisticated Ladies, and to me. Before we started with "hostess of the month" she would help me out quite a bit, I don't know what I would have done without her.

Also every year for the **McElwaine's Annual St. Patty's Day party,**



Carol was my sou chef. She would come over very early to help peel potatoes, carrots, and do what ever she could to help. When she couldn't come over for the parties in the past, she insisted on taking the veggies home and getting them back to me very early before Don knew, because he would try and beat her to the punch. But Carol really enjoyed helping. That's how Carol was; she would always go out of her way to help. Carol did come to the 2007 party, I am so happy that she did. I was able to get some nice pictures of her. I will remember her always and I miss her every day. I never knew anyone with so much fight and determination; she was going to beat this cancer.

Also, a few months back Carol came to my door with an Elvis tee shirt she had found in her travels. With all she had going on she took time to do that.

Our Society has made a donation to the Cancer Society in Carol's name. An envelope was passed around and more money was collected. I'd like to thank all who donated. I just wish they would find a cure for cancer so we would not have to lose great people like Carol.

I would like to thank my secret pal for the card she sent. Someone else sent me another poem. I asked Karen to read these as I just couldn't do it. There was not a dry eye in the room. We then raised our glasses to toast Carol.

We then enjoyed our lunch. After lunch our entertainment began.



Al Holland sang to us. He did a variety of songs, some of the Platters hits, some Barry White, Lou Rawls, Johnny Mathis, and even a couple Elvis songs. Before long we were up dancing and just having a ball. I think some of us worked off our lunch. We also sang along with Al as we knew the words or some of the words to most of the songs. We laughed a lot that day. We really needed to do that. We even did the conga-line around the club. Al got in the picture with the Birthday Ladies.



We celebrated our August and September birthday ladies. Those present were: Fran Massimino, Ruth Brosmer, Kathy Massulli, Fran Silvious, and Helen, Judy Post's mom an honorary member. Those not present: Chris Ahern 8/11; Veronica Anderson 8/29; Doris Bigham 8/20; Lil GaNun 8/06; Sonja Minoughan 8/20; Marcela Stundova 8/4; Priscilla Borci 9/18; Lynda Graves 9/2; Fay "K" 9/8; Sandy Slater 9/4; Marla Young 9/2, Betty Demeo 9/11. The ladies present had their picture taken with Al Holland. We enjoyed the Cassata cake baked by Publix. Fran won the Ruby birthday pin.

The 50/50 was held by Ruth Oberlin. Winners were: Visitor Sue Pittzer won the beautiful Catleya orchid. The money was won by Fran Silvious, Judy Rossi, and Judy Post's mom Helen. Congratulations ladies.

### Upcoming Luncheons

October 12: The Frosted Mug, El Jobean. \$11 per lady includes entrée, soup or salad, ice tea, soft drinks, lemonade, coffee, hot tea. Separate checks, pay the day of. Call or email me, Judith McElwaine, with your menu choice.

Choices are.

1. Chicken Pot Pie
2. Stuffed Cabbage
3. Turkey Club
4. Potato/Cheese Pierogi
5. Hamburger or Cheeseburger

There has been a great improvement at the Frosted Mug. All of the menu choices are excellent!!



**November 9: Shop Till U Drop:** Karen is planning a shopping trip to the Coconut Point Mall with lunch at Ted's Montana Grill. Call or email Karen Price to sign up. 697-8000 [craftyksp@ewol.com](mailto:craftyksp@ewol.com) Karen is working on getting us coupons and special offers at some of the stores. We could use a shopping day, couldn't we ladies?? We could get some of our holiday shopping out of the way.

**December 14<sup>th</sup>: Our annual Christmas/Holiday Luncheon:** Carrabbas, Port Charlotte.



Watch for details. I'm sure Dolly will again want us to do an ornament exchange, so start looking around. Maybe on that shopping trip you could find something.



**October Birthdays:** Doris Bills 10/07, Helen Latacki 10/08, Carol Mayer 10/04, Patty Redmond 10/26, Gale Schemm 10/26, Michele Stahl 10/01, J. Beattie 10/12. If I've left you out, please notify me.

**October Anniversaries:** Linda & Jim Atkinson 10/10, Jane & Fred Beckwith 10/12, Kathleen & Bruce Beecher 10/11, Doris & Dick Bigham 10/22, Priscilla & Guy Borci 10/7, Renee Godbout & Steve 10/03, Barbara & Glenn Harmon 10/11, Helen & Walter Shipka 10/31, Sandy & Mick Slater 10/19, Char & Dave Traxell 10/14.

## Secret Pals

**Secret Pal News:** I'd (your Queen Mother) like to thank my secret pal for the comforting words in a card sent to me. Alice Burnell would like to thank her secret pal for her anniversary gift. Judy Post would like to thank her secret pal for being so generous. Remember Ladies, you can thank your secret pal in this newsletter. Just let me know by the Tuesday after our luncheons. Don't forget your secret pals ladies, it is nice to be remembered. You don't have to spend a lot of money, a card with special thoughts are just fine.

Karen Ireland had double knee surgery this week. Feel better Karen.

Thank you Alice and Judy for a great luncheon. Thank you Ruth for taking care of the 50/50. Thanks to all who helped out.

Fondly,



Judith  
McElwaine, QM