



"The Sophisticated Ladies"
The Red Hat Society of South Gulf Cove
Charter # 13081



The December Christmas/Hanukkah/Holiday luncheon was again held at Carrabbas. We had another great luncheon. Forty-seven attended. It's nice to have the whole restaurant to ourselves.



Founding Queen Mum Jane Beckwith

We welcomed back our "Founding Queen Mum" Jane Beckwith from the north. She is doing just fine after having hip surgery while in Michigan during the summer. It was so nice seeing her again.

Our "Queen's Court" was introduced. They are Jane Beckwith, "Founding Queen Mum", Karen Price our "Vice Mother", Char Traxel our "Princess of Monies", Ellie Vollmer "Duchess of Secret Pals", our newest member, Pam Curtis, "Cyber Diva" and yours truly, Queen Judith McElwaine.

The Ladies who volunteered to be "Hostess of the Month" for 2009 were recognized and thanked for doing a great job. They were:

Jane Beckwith, Judy Snyder, Carlene Leach, Kathy Von Vreckin, Dolly Scolase, Joanne Olesen, Irma Whitmer, Wanda Totten, Pam Curtis, Linda Atkinson, Judy Van Landegend, Kate Whincup, Eileen Curto, Barbara DeVenuto, and Alice Burnell. Thank you so much Ladies, it really helps Karen and myself.

Much appreciation goes out to another Lady, Dolly Scolase.

We enjoy the ornament exchange that Dolly organizes each year, it is so much fun.



Dolly Scolase



Ellie Vollmer

Someone who needs a special “thank you, thank you very much” is Ellie Vollmer, our “Duchess of Secret Pals”. She does a wonderful job. I tried in the early days of our Sophisticated Ladies to handle it. What a nightmare!! It was a royal mess, Ellie took it over and organized it and did it the right way. I enjoy having a secret pal. It is a lot of fun. At our December luncheon we look forward to finding out who our secret pal was for previous year and then we get a new one for upcoming year.

My secret pal was great; she remembered each event, birthday, anniversary, holidays, and much more. It is nice to be remembered. Although it is great to receive nice gifts, a card is just fine. The main thing is to remember your secret pal. The hardest part is trying to leave a gift at their house without their knowing. It’s really easier to ask someone to drop it off or to leave the items at our luncheons. They will always be delivered.



Char Traxell "Princess of Monies"

Another person who needs a big “thank you, thank you very much”, is our “Princess of Monies”, Char Traxell. She takes care of all our money. She never complains. I’m so glad I don’t have to worry about that, Char takes care of everything. Char will be collecting dues for 2010, so be prepared to give her \$5.

As you all know we lost two of our “Sophisticated Ladies” during this past year. They were Kay Giehl and Fay K. They were also the best of friends who passed away within weeks of each other. Our Vice Mother Karen Price read a poem as a fitting remembrance to them. Thank you, Karen for that touching moment. A collection was taken up for bricks for the pavilion in their memory.



Princess Lily with her Grandmom Carol McGuire

Carol McGuire brought along her granddaughter Lily to enjoy the day. I called her “Princess Lily”, not sure if she liked that. So nice to have young ones join us for the day.



Karen read the Upcoming Events:

Jan 8th: Lock & Key, Englewood Beach. Irma and Wanda have offered to be co-hostess for the month. 11:30 till 2 pm. There will be “pick from the menu” and separate checks. We like that. Something new that L & K is offering, a “pull ticket” comes with each drink (ea: cosmos, wine), you pull the tab and possibly get a drink for 50 cents, \$2. or the regular price. It’s a chance you take, but fun. They will also have a drink special for the week...Call or email them to sign up, Irma 697-1772

shadmax1@yahoo.com Wanda 698-0579 ptott0428

Jan 28th: Death By Chocolate!! A mystery with a little comedy, song and dance to be held at Visani’s, Kings Hwy. Written and performed by the Myakka River Red Hatters. 12:00 till 2 ish? \$25 per lady includes show, menu choice tax, tip, dessert, salad, coffee tea and soda. Menu choices are: #1 Chicken

Cordon Blue #2 Sirloin Steak Tips Marsala #3 Coconut Port Tenderloin. Drink of the day is **Chocolatini**, extra. Call or email me (Queen Judith) ASAP to sign up.

Feb. 9th Tuesday!! Celebrate our 7th Anniversary as a Red Hat Group. We will celebrate with a tea at Riverwood Golf Café. Bring your teapot and teacup to use. Our Queen's Court will be hostesses for the month. \$12

Feb 17th: "Diva's & Diamonds" Englewood Area Red Hats mini-vention is to be held at the Englewood Elks. Dress in your best Diva outfit with all your bling!! Doors open at 11am, you will have a reserved seat so you do NOT have to arrive early. Tickets are \$18.00 that includes lunch, tax and tip. Menu choices: # 1 Baked Chicken or #2 – Three World Salad (egg salad, tuna salad and seafood salad). Sign up early. Pay me (Queen Judith) by Jan 10th the latest!! Make checks out to SGC Red Hatters please.

March 9th Red Hat Day at the Plant City Strawberry Festival. We have a bus \$60 includes, the bus, entrance to the park and a show with Debbie Reynolds. Eat wherever you like in the park on your own. This is in place of our monthly luncheon and the April parade on Dearborn St. Try and participate in this fun event. I'd like to fill the bus.



Wanda Totten and Anna Dratch

December Birthdays: Anna Dratch 12/9; Gwen Grace 12/20; Lorraine Seiler 12/22; Wanda Totten 12/4;

December Anniversaries: Veronica & Donald Anderson 12/16; Becky & Joe Borci 12/29; Lydia & Jack Kerstetter 12/31; Queen Judith & Don McElwaine 12/1; Sharon & Jack Paine 12/18;

January Birthdays: Diann Crossman 1/12; Eileen Curto 1/16; Barbara DeVenuto 1/9; Pat Hawley 1/29; Nancy Kueck 1/15; Milly Murgia 1/9; Helen Shipka 01/2; Doris Vance 1/3; Ellie Vollmer 1/22; Lyn White 1/31;

January Anniversaries: Barbara & Ed Holmes 1/25; Doris & Paul Vance 1/11; Lyn & Harold White 1/2;

Char took care of the raffle, winners were; the beautiful Catleya orchid was won by Dorli Hauserman. The money was won by Kathy VonVreckin.

Everyone have a great Christmas, Hanukkah, and a Happy Healthy New Year. Stay safe.

Fondly,



Queen Mother Judith