

Soundings

July 27, 2006

Song Leader.....Barbara Clark
Invocation.....Annette Martino

♪ BY THE SEA ♪

By the sea, by the sea,
By the beautiful sea.
You and me, you and me
Oh how happy we'll be.

When each wave comes a rolling in,
We will duck or swim,
And we'll float and fool around the water,

Over and under and then up for air,
Pa is rich, Ma is rich,
So now what do we care?

I love to be beside, your side,
Beside the sea, beside the seashore,
By the beautiful sea!

TODAY'S PROGRAM CHRIS MARSH PROTECTING PORT ROYAL AND CALIBOGUE SOUNDS

Upcoming

Programs

August 3.....Dr. Holley Ulbrich
Tax Policy in SC
August 10.....Elizabeth Lamkin
Hilton Head Regional Medical Center
August 17.....Kim Abbott
Athletic Programs at USCB

Family of Rotary

Birthdays

John Wilson.....July 27
Gloria Shoemaker.....July 29
Frank Clabaugh.....July 30
Bruce Goff.....July 31
David Crespan.....August 1

Anniversaries

Todd and Sarah Brooks.....July 29
Louis and Mary Seikel.....July 29

NEW ROSTER UNDERWAY

We will soon be publishing our new membership roster for Rotary year 06-07. Please check your current listing and send any corrections to Linda via e-mail at hhrotary@hargray.com, or by phone at 686-4100. It is important to be sure your information is complete and correct for our Roster to have real value to members. Also, if you don't recall having a picture taken for the roster.....or you don't particularly like the one you have.....please see Larry Sanders to have a new one taken. We will be going to press by mid-August, so please have changes to Linda by August 10. Thanks for your help.

50 YEAR RETROSPECTIVE OF SEA PINES

John Curry began the program by tracing the history of Sea Pines from an isolated island in 1949 to 2005 and the purchase of Sea Pines by the Riverstone Group. In 1949, 8,000 acres of Hilton Head Island were purchased for \$60 an acre. The island's isolation began to come to an end in 1953 with ferry service and the island's first vacation home. In 1955, the Sea Crest Hotel opened and in 1956, the toll bridge to the mainland was completed.

1956 was also the year that Charles Fraser began his master plan of a resort and residential community that was in harmony with nature. While attending Yale Law School, Charles learned about covenants and how they can sustain the vision of the master plan. Developers continue to copy the Sea Pines vision.

1958 through 1969 in Sea Pines included a series of firsts for Sea Pines: the first hotel, first golf course, first condominiums and the first Heritage Golf Tournament at Harbour Town. The first Heritage was played in the fall of 1969 and was won by Arnold Palmer.

Charles Fraser owned Sea Pines until 1982. 1982 until 1987 was a very turbulent time in Sea Pines history with multiple owners, and eventual bankruptcy in 1986. In 1987, 670

Sea Pines Property owners came together to purchase and operate Sea Pines. They continued their ownership until Sea Pines was sold to Riverstone Group in 2005.

Paul Franks shared the history of Sea Pines Real Estate Company where he has been the broker in charge for 28 years. Paul first came to the island in 1960 with Texaco. Paul and his wife were married in 1961 and spent their honeymoon at the Hilton Head Inn. It was at that time that Paul met Charles Fraser. In 1961, ocean front lots sold for \$3,500 to \$10,000 with a 5% discount for cash.

Paul also told stories of the turbulent 1980's and the 1986 bankruptcy. In 2005, Sea Pines Resort and Sea Pines Real Estate Company were purchased by the Riverstone Group for \$85,000,000 and later purchased the Harbour Town area for another \$15,000,000. During Paul's tenure the real estate company has grown from 15 staff and \$30,000,000 in sales to 120 staff and 1,000,000,000 in sales.

David Warren concluded the program by outlining some of the events that will be a part of the 50 Year Celebration of Sea Pines. CSA, the Sea Pines Resort, the Heritage Classic Foundation and the Sea Pines Real Estate Company are combining their efforts for a celebration that will begin with a Labor Day Reunion. October 14th will be the official birthday of Sea Pines and a special magazine and DVD will be developed as part of the 50th Celebration.

The recent improvements for Sea Pines include \$500,000 invested in the Quarterdeck, the upcoming multi-million dollar renovation of Sea Marsh Golf Course, and upgrading of the Stables and Racquet Club. All three presenters felt confident that the new owners of Sea Pines will provide the capital necessary to sustain and improve Sea Pines.

-Paul Hattimer-

EDITOR

Paul Hattimer/Linda Neff

*Please submit announcements via e-mail
to hhrotary@hargray.com*