

TRIVIA NITE SHOWDOWN

What was Hawkeye's favorite drink? The Four Seasons' first hit? Who starred in the TV series Peter Gunn?*

These and 77 other brain teasers challenged the 130 "Ridgers" who jammed the Plantation Club on Saturday night March 24th for the second annual, Ocean Ridge Trivia Nite Championship. Sponsored by the Ocean Ridge Charities Association (ORCA), the event was held to raise funds to support K-12 education programs in Brunswick County. And like last year, it was a raucous evening of good fun and fundraising.

For the evening, Maggy Schlink and her team of decorators again transformed the Plantation Club into The Ocean Ridge Academy (a special place for wayward boys and girls). Upon entering, contestants were immediately given their home room (team seating assignments) by the Academy's Dean of Discipline, Kathy Arancio.

While game show runner and Academy principal Annamarie Gildea paced the hallways, Coach Randy Pelton—eerily resembling Alex Trebeck in jock attire—was again the MC. He began with a group introduction of the educators in the room who stood and got a well deserved standing ovation. Then he introduced the categories and let the games begin. Nearby, in the school cafeteria, dieticians Amy Kelly, Peggy Burris and Faye Arvonio served a buffet of decidedly non-diet culinary creations. Meanwhile Superintendent of Brunswick County Schools Ed and his wife Peggy Pruden kept a stern eye on all of the evening's proceedings and took notes of which neighbors were in desperate need of remedial help.

For three hours, fifteen teams battled it out to see who amongst them would claim the moniker of Ocean Ridge brainiacs. Coach Pelton challenged the players with questions from eight trivia categories including Sports, Education, TV Detectives and Baby Boomer music. After each round, a running tally of each round's results was posted on the Academy's "Report Card" so teams could track where they were in the competition. And in the back room, the crack Price Waterhouse team of John and Claudia Piccarelli, and the Mikes—Lynch and Gildea—tallied the results, settled disputes and took payoffs.

The evening's festivities featured surprise guests—Professor Know-It-All and his side kick Mother Superior ably portrayed by Bill and Carol Wakefield. Their job—"tutoring sessions", aka answers for \$5 each to raise more educational support \$\$\$\$\$. By the end of the evening, they and their helpers raised over \$1000. Add to that the gate, the proceeds for the 50-50 drawing and some other donations and ORCA tallied up over \$4,000 for the night's work. A very special thanks to Mike Monsen who gave back \$260 from his 50-50 winnings!

At evening's end the new champs were crowned. Congratulations to the Head of the Class Team: Mary Pat, Maureen and Dotty Lynch, Tom & Marie Best, Judy Calgaro and Jim & Chris Mitchell who took home the Trivia Night trophy, bragging rights for a year and congratulatory wine graciously donated by the captain of last year's winning team, Connie Willauer. (Reporter's note: Lemme see, the Lynch ladies win the game and Mike Lynch was a scorekeeper....h-m-m-m-m-m.)

The Trivia Nite extravaganza and its fundraising success were made possible through many hours of hard work by the ORCA's Trivia Nite Committee, composed of nearly 30 community volunteers, co-chaired by Annamarie Amy, Kathy and Maggy. A huge thanks goes to each of them, all the volunteers and the 120 players and donors; each of you played a vital role in helping make Trivia Nite II a huge success.

If you missed the event or want to send in a check you can still make a contribution. Donations can be made out to ORCA and sent to: Ocean Ridge Charities Association, P.O. Box 6879, Ocean Isle Beach N.C., 28469-0879. On the check's memo line, please write in K-12; 100% of your contribution is tax deductible.

Mike Gildea

(*Answers to the questions above: Martini; Sherry; Craig Stevens)