

BISTRO DEUX SOIREE

A sell out crowd once again jammed the Plantation Club for the second year in a row at the Ocean Ridge Charities Association's *Bistro Deux* evening concert. The Saturday night, September 29 bash was part of ORCA's Fall fundraising campaign to help generate community donations for the New Hope Clinic up the road in Boiling Springs.

Headliner Maggi Edwards was again center stage with a bevy of melodies that wowed the crowd of 130. The evening's program kicked off with a choral rendition of "The Captives Hymn" sung by Nancy McKeever, Joyce Kuthe, Beth Naylor, Kathy Dahlberg, and Maggi. After a few solos, Rod Peterson teamed up with the Maggi for a medley duet of Everly Brothers' hits that had the audience singing along. Joe Coffini belted out a killer rendition of Wilson Pickett's *Mustang Sally*. And "play it again" Barry Glick chimed in with a soulful clarinet version of the Casablanca hit *As Time Goes By*. And true to form, Maggi's a capello (without musical accompaniment) masterpiece of the Beatles hit "*In My Life (I loved you more)*" brought the house down. Kudos to all for a great evening of entertainment.

Throughout the evening's program, a menu of sumptuous culinary creations--appetizers and desert tastings—were served. The recipes came from the ORCA's community cookbook "*From the Kitchens of Ocean Ridge*" and were prepared by some of community's best chefs. Food service operations were again synchronized and served under the watchful eye of cookbook maven, Peggy Burris.

A lively raffle for a dozen gifts supplied by local merchants rounded out the evening's fundraising as generous Bistro go-ers dug deeper to help the New Hope Clinic by taking chances on a variety of drawings. Annamarie Gildea "hosted" the raffle process and sold tickets all night long. By evening's end, event chairwoman Judy Cunningham was all smiles as event raised nearly \$4,000 for the clinic!

These events can't happen without the help of dozens of other volunteers. Our thanks also got to: maitre'ds Frank and Ginny Ward who once again welcomed Bistro patrons to the club; MCee Randy Pelton who kept the program moving along, and; Carl and Carole Schuster who handled the playhouse lighting like a couple of stage hand pros. A special note of appreciation to the chefs, escorts, servers (aka swoopers) and the other stage hands who helped set up and break down the room for the evening's festivities.

Finally a huge "Thank You" to Judy Cunningham and her event crew—Annamarie Gildea, Maggi Edwards, Peggy Burris and Barbara Ellenberger—who coordinated this huge fundraising success!

And now, a word about the New Hope Clinic....

New Hope is the county's only free clinic and their mission is simple: To provide basic medical and dental care as well as diagnostic services and prescription drugs to low income, uninsured residents of Brunswick County. Over 185 volunteers, including doctors, dentists, FNP's, nurses, pharmacists, EMT's, administrative support personnel (and many others) contribute over 10,000 volunteer hours to provide over 6,000 patient interactions to nearly 1,200 individuals each year. In addition to their basic medical services, the Clinic offers specialty care in podiatry, chiropractic, dermatology, EKG, dental extractions, diabetes treatment, medical eye care and mental health screening plus a Pharmacy Assistance Program. And they do all this with just one full time staff person!

Right now New Hope Clinic is in desperate need of a new EKG machine (\$4,000), wall mounted otoscope and ophthalmoscope (\$750 each) and a patient scale (\$350). They also need newer more modern desk top computers (\$12,000) to allow the clinic to implement an electronic medical records system that will improve the ability of the clinic to safely manage patient care and improve coordination of care with other medical facilities. Finally, New Hope has to raise an additional \$9,000 to purchase prescription medications needed for 2013.

ORCA's goal is to raise \$5,000 for the Clinic. So, if you were unable to attend *Bistro Deux*, you can still lend a hand. If you'd like to make a donation to the New hope Clinic, please send your check (made out to ORCA) to ORCA, P.O. Box 6879, Ocean Isle Beach NC 28469-0879.

Thank you in advance for doing so and thanks to all of our *Bistro Deux* patrons for their incredible generosity.

Mike Gildea

