

Trivia Nite Celebrates Mardi Gras-Style

Mardi Gras is about music, parades, food, flamboyance, and fun, and that is what the 130 participants experienced on Saturday, March 29, at the sellout party of ORCA's fourth annual Trivia Nite championship. Bespeckled and bejeweled, King Rex, a.k.a. Bill Wakefield, his Queen Carol, and committee members—led by show producer Annamarie Gildea—kicked off the party with a parade reminiscent of the Bourbon Street festivities.

Veiled with feathered masks Kathy Arancio, Joanne Messerlie, and Beth Naylor greeted the party-goers and directed them to their floats. Prior to party, Maggy Schlink and her crewmates Marie Best, Jean Theiss, Josie James, Judy Cunningham and Barbara Ellenberger decorated the clubhouse float with beads, feathers, and booze (not really, the bottles were empty.) The Plantation Club was set for the evening's competition.

Amy Kelly and Pris Lovell kept the partiers well fed with a hearty buffet, including confectionary delights reminiscent of the King Cakes. Did anyone get a tiny baby in their slice?

The game began with a flourish as Emcee Randy Pelton explained the 8 categories of 10 questions each on subjects like literature, nursery rhymes and poems, famous golf courses, world landmarks, planes, trains and automobiles, hodgepodge, oldies songs, toys and games. Once the festivities began King Rex Wakefield and Queen Carol traded answers to partiers for 3.6 euros while Terry Zuk also worked the aisles. For two hours, the teams battled it out to see who would win the title of Ocean Ridge Trivia Titans. Meanwhile, in "the back room" the crack Price/Waterhouse team of Claudia and John Piccarelli, Megan Twomey and Mike Lynch tallied up each round's answer sheets. In the end, the champs were George and Rose Briggs, Sue and Ned Gehris Matt and Marlene Mellis along with Jean and Bob Theiss,

All in all, a good time for a great cause - The Brunswick County Homeless Coalition. BCHC's mission is to serve as an advocate for the homeless and those in need by increasing awareness and education of issues in Brunswick County, and by exploring, promoting, recruiting and facilitating resources to meet these needs.

A trivia question for you: Ever wonder how the official Mardi Gras colors - purple, green and gold - were chosen? King of Carnival, Rex, selected the official Mardi Gras colors in 1872 to honor the visiting Russian Grand Duke Alexis Romanoff, whose house colors were purple, green and gold. The 1892 Rex Parade theme "Symbolism of Colors" affirmed the colors' meaning. Purple represents Justice. Green represents Faith. Gold represents Power. And with those three themes in mind, ORCA would like to sincerely thank everyone who contributed to and participated in our 4th Annual Trivia Night FUNdraiser making it another huge success! We are particularly appreciative to the friends and neighbors who participated and all of our other donors. If you were unable to attend, you can still help us help the homeless by sending us a check to Ocean Ridge Charities Association, P.O. Box 6879, Ocean Isle Beach NC 28469.

Laura Wheaton