July 2008

Lake Waccamaw

Our trip to Lake Waccamaw was cancelled due to lack of interest. Only three people signed up to go and it was not cost effective to go without a full van. I will see that the items get dropped to their Duplin County office. Sneads Ferry donated a check which I mailed.

KINSTON INDIANS

This, too, had to be cancelled. Again, we only had three sign up. I am not sure if ya’ll are very busy OR if these trips do not interest you. I am willing to take suggestions and to plan other trips but I need your help. Some of you say that you used to take trips and would like to again but when I schedule trips we don’t have many to sign up. Help me!!

Leader Training

There will be no leader training in July since August is ‘Do Your Own Thing.’ Remember to let Cathy or me know your August plans as soon as they are confirmed so we can put the information in the newsletter.

Cruise Opportunity

Bahamas … January 10-17, 2009 …this really got the attention of some of you! Since I mailed the information we have had over 50 people sign-up and pay their deposit! Please keep in mind, with such a great response our ‘blocked’ rooms are going fast. If you are considering going you need to make a decision soon and call the travel agent. Even though July 31st is the cut-off date, our rooms may all be booked before then. If that happens and we can’t get more rooms then you will miss the bus and the ship! This cruise, like others in the past, is open to all ECA members in our district as well as friends and relatives. Please call Cindy Sutton, our travel agent, at 252-636-3034 if you want to go. I will send out a letter in early July to see how many want to ride the bus to Charleston. Some have mentioned they may drive themselves but keep in mind, the last time Cathy and her husband went on a cruise out of Charleston they had to pay $115.00 just to park their car at the port. I’m estimating a cost of $75.00 to $100.00 per person to take the bus but I’ll let you know once the numbers are in. Please call me if you have questions.

We received a note of thanks from Samaritan’s Purse for all of the medicine bottles and stamps. They appreciate your generous non-cash gift. I have the letter to give to your county council president. If any of you would like a copy for your club SCRAPBOOK please let me know.
Start planning your booths!! The county fair is October 6th through the 13th. Booths have to be erected by 4:30 p.m. on the 6th and taken down by 12:00 noon on the 13th. I’ll be sending a letter with the sign-up information around August 1. Also, please make sure you are finishing items that can be entered into the fair for judging …we need you to show off your great works of art and other handcrafted items!

Recipe Corner

Blueberry Chicken Salad

2 cups fresh blueberries
2 cups cubed cooked chicken breast
¼ cup chopped celery
½ cup diced sweet red pepper
½ cup thinly sliced green onions
6 ounce lemon yogurt
3 Tbsp mayonnaise
½ tsp salt
Bibb lettuce leaves

Set a few blueberries aside for garnish. In a large bowl combine the chicken, celery, red pepper, onions and remaining blueberries. Combine the yogurt, mayonnaise and salt; drizzle over chicken mixture and gently toss to coat. Cover and refrigerate for at least 30 minutes. Serve on lettuce-lined plates if desired. Top with reserved blueberries.

Fresh Blueberry Streusel Muffins

1½ cups all-purpose flour
½ cup sugar
2¼ tsp baking powder
2 tsp grated lemon rind
¾ tsp salt
1 egg, beaten
¼ cup milk
1/3 cup vegetable oil
1 cup fresh blueberries
1 Tbsp all-purpose flour
1 Tbsp sugar
¼ cup sugar
2½ Tbsp all-purpose flour
½ tsp ground cinnamon
1½ Tbsp butter

In a large bowl combine the first five ingredients. Combine the egg, milk, and oil; stirring well. Add to the dry ingredients, stirring until moistened. Combine blueberries, 1 Tbsp flour, and 1 Tbsp sugar. Toss gently to coat. Fold this mixture into the batter. Grease regular size muffin tins and spoon the batter into it, filling each cup 2/3 full. In a separate bowl make Streusel Topping by combining ¼ cup sugar, 2½ Tbsp flour, and the cinnamon. Cut in 1½ Tbsp butter with a pastry blender until mixture resembles coarse meal. Sprinkle over the batter. Bake at 400 degrees F. for 20 minutes or until they are golden brown.

JULY 4th

Thru The years

1776 American Independence Day
1802 US military academy, West Point, opens in New York City
1804 American writer, Nathaniel Hawthorne, is born
1826 American songwriter, Stephen Foster, is born
1827 Slavery is abolished in New York State
1855  The first edition of *Leaves of Grass* by Walt Whitman is published
1862  Lewis Carroll tells Alice Liddell a story that would become known as *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland*
1863  Vicksburg, Mississippi surrenders to Ulysses S. Grant after 47 days of siege
1865  *Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland* is published
1918  Bolsheviks kill Tsar Nicholas II of Russia and his family
1918  Advise columnists Ann Landers and Abigail Van Buren are born
1939  Lou Gehrig announces his retirement from major league baseball at Yankee Stadium stating he considered himself “the luckiest man on the face of the earth.”
1941  Mass murder of Polish scientists and writers committed by Nazi Germans in the captured Polish city Lwów
1959  The 49-star USA flag, adding Alaska, debuts in Philadelphia
1997  American TV presenter, Charles Kuralt, dies
2004  The cornerstone of the Freedom Tower is laid on the site of the World Trade Center

THE PRIDE OF OUR COUNTRY
By Roger Robicheau

Today as before,
our brave do fight
For a land they love,
a flag so right

The pride of our country,
yes they are
The strength of our nation,
best by far

Just as our brave
from each war gone by
They march for us proudly,
flag held high

From all over this land
they come to serve
They’re taught by the best,
this they deserve

When troops give their all,
the world does see
Whether serving on land,
in the air, or at sea

The pride from this country,
march through war
With home drawn strength,
held deep in their core

Our best are so awesome,
their loved ones well know
May God guide their journey
where they – for us – go

What these brave must have
is support from their own
The love from their people,
firm thankfulness shown

Our greatest achievement
is that we’re still free
Please take time and ponder
who caused this to be

Peggie L. Garner
County Extension Director

Employment and program opportunities are offered to all people regardless of race, color, national origin, sex, age, or disability. North Carolina State University, North Carolina A&T State University, U.S. Department of Agriculture, and local governments cooperating.