

How Cold Is It?

Well, 'long term residents' of Myrtle Beach seem to agree that this has definitely been one of the colder Winters on record! While in the motor home, we would spend only part of the Winter here and never really felt that cold. We got one and one eighth inches of snow on one occasion this Winter, which was the topic of conversation for days! In between, we would get a few days of mid sixty temperature days so we could thaw out, which was nice.

Bob & I kept busy making plans to give our house a face lift. We attended a Home Show at the Myrtle Beach Convention Center to get ideas and information. For example, we wanted to see about getting the tile and grout in the kitchen and bathrooms cleaned and repaired. You will hear and see more about this next month.

Here in the community we attended the monthly Pot Luck. I brought an *Apple-Cranberry Cobbler* that I made which went over very well. Bob was upset as there was very little left to bring home. Then our Activity Director, Nancy, arranged for a local Hospice Program to come and explain the benefits such a program can provide to those who need it. There was only a small group that attended this presentation, which is probably not surprising as most of us don't like to think about the implications. However, when you need it, you don't want to have to start from scratch. It was very informative and we were very impressed with the people presenting. In charge, was a 27 yr retired Lt Col Army Nurse, who was outstanding. In addition they turned out to be a great resource for general health services in the area.

Photography has always been an interest of mine, as most of you know. Soooo, I got to thinking!!!! I can't be the only one with this interest! I spoke with Nancy, our Activity Director, about starting an Interest Group for Photography. We put out a sign up sheet and 'low and behold', people started signing up. First a couple, then a few more with a final count of twelve. My Bob joined too. We had our first meeting on Monday, February 4th. It was great!! People got right into the 'meat' of it on all levels, sharing technical information, asking questions and presenting ideas for future meetings. I was a little worried about what the levels of expertise would be and if that would polarize the group. Well some of us, including me, would like to turn off the 'auto' button and improve our photographs. As it turned out, there were a few significantly more experienced photographers in the group, who not only had people on their level to talk to, but were more than willing to help the rest of us! Wow!!!!

You are now wondering how my T'ai Chi Chih group is doing. It is very well and thriving! We average about 6 people at any Thursday session, with a total group number about ten. There are two couples who attend and the rest are individuals. Most are quite serious about their progress which is nice to see and makes me feel good about starting the group in the first place.

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Bob has been busy also, helping others with computer issues. He periodically helps Nancy at the Activity Desk, or she gives his name to others who need help. His number one student is our neighbor, Doris, . She is taking Computer 101 with Bob. He gave her a gold star the first week.

Above are a couple of pictures of our house on an unusual winter day in Myrtle Beach. The photography group is next during our first meeting. The last picture is of a couple of birds on our lake who I refer to as the "odd couple"! They are together much of the time and seem to help each other fish for food in the Lake. The white one is an Egret and the other is a Hooded Merganser, a small diving duck. Well enough for this month. See you in March.