



## RELAY FOR LIFE FUNDRAISER

2013 Relay for Life

The Christ Episcopal Church family has, again, completed a most successful season of fun and fund raising for The American Cancer Society through the Cordele/Crisp Relay for Life.

The fun began with the ladies of the church hosting their annual "Girls Night Out" on Feb. 26th. This year's theme was "South Pacific." With palm fronds, exotic flowers and beautiful food, Pine Hills Country Club was a vision of the tropics. Attendees were asked to wear flowers in some manner or be penalized at the door. Some wore leis and flowers galore could be seen on blouses, skirts, dresses, hats or in the hair.

As the fund raising began with a silent auction, guests roamed among tables filled with a variety of large and small items, bidding on those of their choosing as they sipped wine, ate delicious hors d'oeuvres and chatted with friends.

As the silent auction concluded, Musical entertainment was added to the party. This performance, by several men of the church, was accompanied and directed by Sonny Burt, with choreography by Susu Burt. The performers were Ernie Rhodes, Alex Stripling, Gary Perkins, Jack Roche, James Hurt, Mark Boike, Robbie Stripling and Gene Stephens. The opening number was "Let Me Entertain You" from the musical, "Gypsy." The second, "There Is Nothing Like A Dame" from the musical, "South Pacific" concluded with Ernie Rhodes as a south seas dancer attired in grass skirt, coconut shell bra and blonde wig. Needless to say, this brought down the house.

After the laughter quieted, the serious fund raising began with a live auction by Co. Billy Hancock from the Crisp Co. Sheriff's Dept., assisted by Melody and Denise. With his charm and congenial encouragement, Billy has helped in past successful fund raising auctions and this year was no exception. When the party ended, bills paid and money counted, \$7,000.00+ had been raised. Note: (At the end of the Relay for Life Event on May 3rd. Team Leader, Susan Barge's team captains, with a final push by Melody had increased the total to \$8,500.00.)

Creative Event planners and coordinators, Beverly Sampson and Laura Lee Hurt deserve much of the credit for this very successful event. Heather Shepard assisted them with décor and helped keep the wine glasses from getting empty. Susan Barge coordinated the food brought by the ladies of the church. All can be very proud of the results of their effort.

A special "Thank You" goes to Pine Hills Country Club and to the donors of the auctioned items.

Plans, already, are underway for a "Bigger & Better" event in 2014,