

Somerset Annual



May 14, 2011

Spring is here and one of our most popular events of the year is in the works! Join us for a night to remember – meeting new neighbors, having fun with old friends, and savoring some real culinary delights from around the world. Here is a glimpse of what to expect...

1st Stop → International Themed Tapas! • 6:00 – 7:30
2nd Stop → More International Themed Tapas!! • 7:30 – 9:00
3rd Stop → Dessert • 9:00

Please return your reservation form along with payment (\$20/pp) **by Thursday, May 5th**. Checks should be made payable to SHOA and given to **Lynda Hedley at 3283 Turtle Lake Club Drive**. Your itinerary will be delivered a few days before the event, and you may receive a call regarding your dish. The number of participants will determine the locations of event.

This event is sponsored by the Somerset Homeowners' Association. **Your 2011 SHOA dues must be paid in order to participate.**

-----Detach and return with your check-----

Name(s) _____

Address _____ Phone Number _____

Email (required for confirmation, food assignment, etc.) _____ # Attending? _____

Please indicate drink(s) of choice: red wine _____ white wine _____ dark beer _____

light beer _____ water _____ other _____

****Let us know if you have an allergy (e.g. pet, food, etc.) so we can plan accordingly.****

___ Yes, I would like to host the 1st round of tapas at my house (20-30 ppl) Specify # _____

___ Yes, I would like to host the 2nd round of tapas at my house (20-30 ppl) Specify # _____

___ Yes, I would love to attend but am unable to host at this time.

Thinking About Hosting?

Your role as a host is to open up your home as a gathering place for one portion of the evening, and provide tapas with an International flare. Depending on what theme you choose (see below), you will ask some of your guests to also provide tapas. Wine, beer, bottled water, napkins, cups, plates, forks, and name tags will be delivered to your home the day of the event. Additional chairs and tables are available upon request.

Themes (*hosts will be asked to pick one*): Cajun, Mediterranean, Spanish, Mexican, Asian, Italian and Indian.



What are They?

Tapas are snacks, canapés or finger food that originated in Spain. Tapas come in many different forms and can vary from town to town.

Tapas can be practically anything from a chunk of tuna, cocktail onion and an olive skewered on a long toothpick, to piping hot meat with sauce served in a miniature clay dish - or anything in between. Tapas are served day in and day out in every bar and café in Spain. So much a part of the culture and social scene that the Spanish people invented the verb *tapear* which means to go and eat tapas.

The Origin of Tapas

There are several stories about the origin of tapas, which are a part of the folklore:

It is told that King Alfonso X, el Sabio or “the Wise One,” made sure that Castilian taverns served wine accompanied by something to eat, so that the wine would not go straight to the clients' heads.

Another story claims that while on a long trip, King Alfonso had stopped to rest in the town of Ventorillo del Chato in the southern province of Cádiz, and he ordered a glass of jerez or sherry. There was a gusty wind, so the inn keeper served him his glass of sherry covered by a slice of ham to prevent the sherry from getting dirty. King Alfonso apparently liked it, and when he asked for a second glass, he requested another tapa or “cover” just like the first.

Whatever the true origin of tapas, we will be enjoying them like the Spanish do – with a glass of wine and a relaxed attitude. ¡Ah! Divino...

Hosting is a great opportunity to open up your home to neighbors while enjoying the culinary skills of others. If you have not hosted before, please consider doing so, or attend as a guest and enjoy this mouthwatering trip around the world. Either way, you are sure to have fun.

If you have any questions, would like to help facilitate the event, or need help deciding if you should host or attend, contact either Shelley Fleishman (shelley.fly@gmail.com / 404-918-7066) or Lynda Hedley (momwith2boyz@gmail.com / 404-358-1795).