



## A Cut Above

Executive Chef Ken Turner is known for matching the print of his chef's pants to the culinary theme of the day. His easy grin and "can do" attitude have earned the Syracuse, New York native the friendship and respect of his nine food service staffers and the members of Indian River Colony Club. At 15, his future beckoned. Vacationing with family in the Bahamas, Ken swam after a flounder for 45 minutes before spearing the large fish. Once ashore, he headed straight to the kitchen of the family bungalow to prepare the freshly caught lunch. The Eau Gallie High School graduate recalls many happy weekends spent fishing, crabbing and harvesting clams from the Indian River. Later, Ken attended the Florida Culinary Institute in West Palm Beach, where he received a degree in Culinary Arts. While there, he met a wonderful gal who was also in food service. He and wife Sherry have been together ever since and have two children, Darek and Devan.

Since 1998, Ken has been the Indian River Colony Club Executive Chef, responsible for kitchen operations in the "At Ease Club" restaurant and Colony Hall. The latter is a large banquet facility, available to both club members and the general public for receptions and parties. Behind the scenes, Ken and his staff ensure that everyone is served the best quality foods. "At IRCC, I have the freedom to bring in a large variety of fresh foods every day. We change our menu every four months and run five daily specials and three nightly specials."

Like so many of the IRCC staff, Ken enjoys a family-like relationship with members, who know him by name. He recalls a newly arrived pair from Maine who lamented the lack of lobsters "from home" as they prepared to celebrate their 40th wedding anniversary. Ken had the crustaceans shipped specially from Maine and presented the astonished couple with a five-course meal they still talk about today! Other culinary miracles include treasured family recipes recreated for a party of 100. Ken smiles and reminds us of his motto, "If we can do it -- you can have it!"

