



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.
Newsletter

September 1, 2022

Volume 10 Issue 9 Page 1

FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

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Lakeland, FL 33810

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lori@lightandlifepark.org

Office Assistant: Greg Thomas
Greg.t@lightandlifepark.org
Office Hours:

November 15-April 14: 8 am- Noon
April 15-November14: 9 am - Noon

Lots Available for Lease

The following lots are set up for an RV or Park Model and available for lease

5340 Ebenezer Place
5332 Ebenezer Place
5325 Ebenezer Place
5321 Hebron Court

The following lots are available for a modular home to be put on them:

5359 Beulah Land
5885 Shiloh Path

Call the Park Office at 863-858-7504 for information.

News from the Park Administrator

The office has been actively preparing for the next winter season, and it is going to be full. Nearly 100% of our rental spaces are reserved! Although I enjoy the peaceful pace of the summer, I am looking forward to this next season. We will catch up with our old friends again; we get to meet and get to know new friends; and we will have many things that we can do together. It will be an exciting time!

As you enter the Park, you will see a small garden of succulents on the north side of Deeson Road. I have watched many of these plants bloom over the years and am always astounded at the beauty they display. Hopefully, you will be able to see them in full bloom; they have beautiful flowers.

The hard work on the bridge behind the library is over. There are several who worked hard to make sure it was ready for the upcoming season; I am thankful for those volunteers. Before we can start using it though, the cement must cure. That should be done in early September, and then it will be opened for golf cart, pedestrian, and bicycle traffic. Soon we will begin the preparations for construction of the bridge on the west side of the library. We should be ready to pour the sidewalk once we have a larger volunteer staff on site.

Thank you to everyone who has arranged to have the trimming done around your residences. It makes the whole Park much better in appearance if all the homes are trimmed neatly. If you are doing the trimming yourself and have yard waste (grass clippings, tree branches, etc.), please discard the waste correctly. The easiest way is to put the waste in one of the blue barrels and leave it at the side of the road. Otherwise, if you take it to the south of the Park, please put it in the appropriate place. When it is placed in the incorrect location, our staff must move it.

At this time, there is nothing new to report about the properties that have been offered to us to purchase. Be assured that I am in contact with the owners and am working with them to provide anything they have asked and am giving them the necessary time needed as they wrestle with personal issues regarding the timing of the sale. And, if you missed the Board meeting on August

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1st, another neighbor has contacted us expressing their interest in selling some land to us.

As I look at the Hurricane app I have installed on my phone and see two weather systems being monitored, I am reminded that so far it has been a slow hurricane season. Let's make sure we do not become complacent. Mike told me recently that we see most hurricanes in September or October, and we aren't there yet. When a tropical storm has formed in our watch area, we will implement our hurricane preparations. Initially, that involves ensuring that there are no loose objects in the Park that could become dangerous, flying objects in heavy winds. We will meet with Emergency Zone captains to remind them of their responsibilities.

Although I sent an email through Constant Contact regarding this, I feel I need to reiterate it here. Paint cans can be discarded in the trash only if they are empty or, if not empty, all the contents are dry. If you have oil-based products that you no longer need, they must be taken to a hazardous waste facility, and you are responsible for doing that. If the contents are water-soluble, the best way to dry the contents is to add kitty litter, stir, and set aside until dry. Then, you can discard the water-based paint can with the dried contents in the trash. If you have any questions about this, please see me.

I recently learned that there are members who have not visited our website since it was updated several months ago. Please take time to browse through our site, www.lightandlifepark.org. We are working to ensure it has current information, and we desire to make it a go-to site for members and interested parties. However, we want input from you to help keep it up-to-date and refreshing. Please let us know if you see something that is incorrect, needs updated, or you think would make a good addition to the site. We will attempt to respond to the suggestions quickly.

Are you looking forward to the upcoming season and making new friends? It will be a great time of sharing, recreation, fellowship, encouragement, and just pure fun! See you soon.

Stan

Office Manager

August is past and September has arrived. We look forward to the Fellowship dinner on Labor Day, September 5. Please sign up by Friday, September 2 if you plan to come and fellowship with us over dinner.

Reservations have been finalized for the upcoming season for Guest Rooms, Cabins, and RVs. Letters of confirmation have gone out. Hopefully, everyone can still come, but if you are one who cannot, please let us know in the Office as soon as possible as we have many still wanting a place to rent. That leads me to those of you who are owners, who may know that you cannot be here for the whole season but might like to rent for a month or more. Please let us know and we can suggest people who are looking to rent and have already been approved as renters.

We have had a lot of questions in the last few weeks about applying to become members of the Park and purchasing a residence while we are still struggling with the FM/Non-FM percentage. I thought I would share a few items and hopefully clarify some things.

The Application process begins by completing an application for membership pre-approval. It is sent together with \$100.00 Application Fee. The application will be vetted by the Office. This means that we will read the statement of faith and make sure it clearly tells us your beliefs, and we call the references. We then, complete the package and send it to the Park Board of Directors for their review and consideration for pre-approval giving the applicant the ok to search for a residence to buy. The approval does not make the applicant a member of the Park. The purchase of a residence is the final step in becoming a member. Once you have closed on a residence, you are a voting member of the Park.

Recently, we have only been able to sell to Free Methodist applicants because we had to ensure we were maintaining the FM percentage. This has placed many non-FM applicants at the bottom of the eligibility list for the time being. We have been making progress and hope that soon we can open it up so that at least a non-FM can purchase from another non-FM. The available residence list has been exhausted so that has also had an impact.

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Here's another note for those considering selling their residence. If someone contacts you to purchase, they must be approved to buy, and you need to know if they will be able to purchase based on the FM/Non-FM percentage status. The best thing you can do is refer a prospective buyer to the Office, and we will guide the whole process. That way, we don't disappoint someone who has their heart set on a home to buy.

Our focus will be on the Park directory next. This is the last request for any address changes, phone number changes, etc. before we print the directory. The Park directory is a listing of all known Park residents and church attendees for the upcoming season. It is not solely a list of the Members of the Park. Please contact the Park Office if you need anything changed.

Before we know it, we will be closing September and writing about October expectations. We are all experiencing seasons of life on our journey with Christ. Enjoy the fall season as we approach the arrival of our next winter season together. Make every day count.

Blessings,
Sherry LaBrie

**News from the Board of Directors**

We are once again entering the fall season, and with it all the busy activities that go with getting ready for autumn. Labor Day weekend is upon us. That means school is starting for grandkids and relatives. And, for many of us, planning to return to Light & Life Park for the winter. All of us at the Park need to be involved in concerns of the Park.

How, you say, can we be involved with the Park when most of us are still at our summer homes in the north? The answer is thru prayer. Our Park is a praying park, and our people need prayer daily, both for physical needs as well as economic and practical ones. Our Park cannot survive without the prayers of its' people. In 1 Thessalonians 5:17 the Bible strongly admonishes us to "Pray without ceasing."

Pray for Madie Thomas that her surgery will bring successful results, and she will have a quick recovery. Pray for Kent Enyart, who is scheduled for brain surgery on September 1st, that the tumor will be successfully removed, and he will rapidly heal. Pray for Alan Lake, battling pancreatic cancer, and for his family. Pray for those grieving the loss of a loved one. There are many others in our Park with physical needs that require God's healing touch.

Also remember in prayer our Park's financial budget. These inflationary economic times have caused the Board of Directors to revise the current budget to meet sharply increasing costs for goods and services. Pray that the finance committee and Stan, our administrator, will have God's direction as they try to hold down the cost of membership in our Park.

We look forward to seeing all of you at the Park this fall or winter. Enjoy the Labor Day holiday and stay safe and well.

Jim Falconer

Bucket Listers

In the spring of 2020, a core group of ladies in the park came together to form The Bucket Listers. The group's desire was to work together to improve Light and Life Park. Since 2020 the group has:

- Purchased 10 ergonomic office chairs for Hood Hall that can be used for meetings as well as for games and puzzling
- Sponsored two southern gospel concerts here in the park
- Installed LED lights around the pool to illuminate the area during the winter months
- Contacted a local artist, Wade Wilson, to complete a beach mural in the pool area
- Purchased one of the yellow benches, at the end of Ebenezer Place, in honor of Luanne Kelley.

The Bucket Listers are currently anticipating the completion of Phase 2 of the Shiloh Path Sidewalk. This sidewalk will connect Ebenezer Place with the church, library, and pool. The Bucket Listers have raised, with your support, the funds for all these projects. We are anxiously awaiting the official ribbon cutting ceremony the entire sidewalk this fall when Phase 2 is completed.

The Bucket Listers will be coordinating a hot dog lunch during the Christmas Art Show in December and hosting trivia and movie nights in January, February and March.

**Shuffleboard**

We try to play shuffleboard on Mondays at 1:00 and on Thursday evenings at 6:00 if the weather permits.

**2023 50th Wedding Anniversary**

February 10, 2023

The Park has quieted down since many snowbirds have already gone north. We too are heading there.

To date, I only know of 6 couples at our Park that will be celebrating their 50th anniversary at our Open House on February 10th, 2023. If you do hear of any other couple, please let me know. 734-646-8080, bks4545@gmail.com

Brenda Stockwell
50th Anniversary Open House Chair

Aquafit Water Aerobics

All are welcome to come & enjoy fun in the sun with a low-impact workout in the water to enhance health & wellbeing. Routines are choreographed to music and designed to promote improved muscle strength, endurance, flexibility & core balance without the stress of land exercise.

Splash times are offered, twice weekly, and free of charge. Currently we are not on a "set" day of the week due to weather conditions. Updates are posted on L&L Facebook and Neighborhood News. Kindly share this with your friends!

Stamps for Missions

All donated stamps are sent to Alliance Stamp Ministry in Fort Myers where they are sold to dealers. The money is sent to a publisher in Buenos Aires, Argentina where they publish Sunday school material in Spanish that are sold to at least eight Latin American Countries as well as Spain and the US. They are used by over 40 Protestant Denominations. It costs \$9.60 to mail a shoebox full of stamps.

Try to leave at least 1/4 inch or more around each stamp or strip of stamps.

They now collect picture post cards both unused and used. If used, please leave the stamps on the cards. Thank you.

The container is in **Hood Hall** for your convenience.

If you would be willing to deliver them, contact Colleen Sellers for information.

Thank you.

Colleen Sellers

A note about pop/soda cans:

Thank you for saving your aluminum cans which are taken by us to a recycling center in east Lakeland. The money received is being used to buy benches for the Park.

I am happy to pick up your pop/soda cans to haul to the Recycling Center, however it will make my job a lot easier if you remember the cans from canned goods **CANNOT** go in with the aluminum pop cans. These are picked up by someone else and need to be kept separate.

There is a bin in the metal recycling collection center near the dumpsters which is marked "POP CANS"--that's the one to use!

Thanks for your help.

Wes Crist

Purchasing Benches

If anyone is interested in purchasing a park bench for your home at Light and Life Park or for the Park, please contact Ed Hamilton at 765-714-1228. The price is \$275.00 each and you can pick out any color the company makes.

Medical Equipment Available

Maxwell Commons at The Villa has some medical equipment available that can be borrowed by any Park resident. Call someone you know in the Villa to help you. Please sign out the equipment you are borrowing. There are wheelchairs, walkers, rollators, portable pots, and shower seats. Please notify a Villa member when you are returning an item so we know it has been returned. Please don't leave it on the porch. We are not presently accepting any equipment donations due to lack of storage space.

Bowling

Bowlers...If you are even the least bit interested in bowling come join the Park league starting in January. It is a great way to meet people and have fun at the same time.

We will have our organizational meeting on January 2nd, 1 PM, Hood Hall.

We will start bowling January 3rd, 1 PM, Orange Bowl Lanes.

Barb Hartson
bhartson@gmail.com

**2023 CPC golf tournaments!**

Two-man scramble Tournament
Jan 13, 2023 (Friday)

Ladies Four-person Scramble
1-20-23 (Friday).

Club Championship Tournament
Feb 3, 2023 (Friday)

Ladies Club Championship
Feb 24, 2023 (Friday)

Two-man Blind draw tournament
March 10, 2023 (Friday)

Three club Co-Ed tournament
April 1, 2023 (Saturday)

The Player's Club
Ed Stockwell
517 861-0481
edstockwell48@gmail.com

Summer Fellowship Dinners

The next Summer Fellowship Dinners will be on Monday, September 5th at 5:30 pm in Hood Hall. Cost is \$6.00.

The October dinner, last of the season will be lasagna, salad, garlic toast and pie ala mode.

The menu is Meatloaf, Hashbrown casserole, vegetables, gelled salad and dessert.

There are sign-up sheets in Hood Hall. You will need to sign up by Friday, September 2nd.

**Beautification Parade
2023**

February 23, 2023
(Rain date is the 24th)

Theme is Bible Stories

Luncheon in Hood Hall following parade.

Talbot House Ministry

The ongoing deliveries of prescription bottles, unused medicines, good clean clothing that you no longer use and small household items is an ongoing project. Please continue to save these helpful items for the homeless shelter and the Good Samaritan Clinic. Please deliver them to the Whipple's porch at 5866 Deeson Road any time. Jean will get them delivered.

Jean will take your items on Wednesdays. PLEASE leave things in Jean's screened porch any day just inside the door. Thank you.

Should you wish to send financial assistance to this work, the address: 814 North Kentucky Avenue, Lakeland.

Newsletter Deadline

Please be sure that your submissions to **The Life and Times** are delivered to the newsletter editor, Barb Hartson or former editor, Sherry LaBrie, by the **15th** of the month prior to publication.

Please use this email: bhartson@gmail.com (Barb Hartson) or sherry.loflin69@yahoo.com (Sherry LaBrie). Email is the preferred method. You may also drop your submissions off at the Park Office. **The October deadline is September 15.**

Where to Donate your Goods

The donations given at the Park to help others are appreciated. We want to remind you where to take your donations.

Food donations for Briarwood may be left on the designated table in Hood Hall.

We will not be accepting "linens" for Senior Orphans until 2023.

Jean Whipple takes several items to Talbot House weekly. See that article in this newsletter for details.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Gadabout News

I have taken over as coordinator for the ladies' events from Peggy Dunn and Verneta Dunn. They will still help when they can. Also, Lana Kendall, Barb Hartson, Ruth Bridgeforth will be helping too.

We are looking forward to another season here in the Park next year. Lord willing, I will be back mid-November to first of December. We welcome your input on other places to go.

GAD-ABOUTS TRIPS 2023

January 12 - Ringling Museum of Art, Circus & Bayfront Gardens, Sarasota

January 26 - Lavender & Lace Tearoom, Lake Alfred

February 09 - Old Testament Tabernacle in the Wilderness, Tarpon Springs

February 23 - Flea Market, TBA

March 09 - Strawberry Festival Senior Day, Plant City

March 23 - Bok Singing Tower & Gardens, Lake Wales

For more information contact me. Prefer text or email to calls.

Flo Grabowski

Cell 931-797-2639

Email coachfollc@gmail.com



Library Information



Book Reviews by Gloria Welton

Never Miss

by Melissa Koslin

Never Miss author, Melissa Koslin's first published book. Reviews are positive and I want to put it on my "To Read List". It fits with present day plots, those real and unreal.

Kandace Tolle is a former sniper, estranged from her family because she wanted a different life than killing others. She is in hiding, which is a very difficult job itself. Now, a nerdy scientist, a researcher, Lyndon, discovers there are people who want him dead. Both main characters are in similar predicaments. Both are emotionally stressed, extremely intelligent, resourceful and in hiding.

As a researcher Lyndon was looking into the possibilities of Ebola being man-made. The chemical warfare plot is to release the weapon at The State of the Union Address. The characters work together to find out how to save Lyndon's life and save the government officials.

This book has many surprising twists and turns. It isn't until the final page is the puzzle solved. Enjoy! You'll find it in the New Book section of the library.

Enemies and Allies

by Joel C. Rosenberg

If you are an avid reader, like suspense and political novels, it is possible that you have read Joel Rosenberg's books. Those were based on thorough research he has done. He has now written a book about the Middle East countries and how the world is adjusting to the changes. One reviewer, David Shedd, a former director of the U.S. Defense Intelligent states that the author has a keen sense on what is happening, what it means, or why it matters.

Enemies and Allies takes you behind closed doors in the Middle East showing the reader how Israel and Arab Muslin are changing, including introducing leaders, kings, presidents, and prime ministers. It talks about the controversial leader of these nations.

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Enemies and Allies will enlighten readers to a better understanding of today's issues. This is nonfiction and can be found in the New Book Section or on the top shelf of 973. This is located on the bookcase closest to the video and reference room.

Library Comments



Les thanks everyone who uses the library, even in these slow days of summer. He continues to update the library daily. This takes a lot of tasks are time consuming and tedious. If you see a book or video from the library, please bring it back.

The following issues cause problems:

Taking the checkout cards and books home & forgetting to return them

Taking the cover jackets off and not returning them.

Losing the book and not notifying the library

Keeping a book longer than three weeks and not signing it out again.

Residents' adult children signing books out in their own names. Please have them sign it out with the Resident name when they are visiting.

Please, if you have suggestions let Les know. We welcome them!

We are looking for **LARGE PRINT NOVELS** to improve that section of our library.

Happy reading!



**Light and Life
Free Methodist Church**

5730 Deeson Road
Lakeland, FL 33810

Phone: (863) 858-6361
Fax (863) 858-3982
Email: church@llfmc.org

Pastor: Chuck Frankenfeld
Evangelism & Outreach: Jeff Bellinger
Secretary: Pam Hill

Briarwood Outreach

The Outreach to Briarwood continues and we encourage you to contribute to the Food Pantry by making donations to the designated area in Hood Hall. Also, you may donate money even though it is no longer going through the church. Make checks payable to Randy Williams. We are grateful to Randy and Karen Williams for their continued support of this ministry. Also, there are many volunteers who make this possible. We are fortunate to have so many with volunteer hearts.

More help will be needed for the summer months. If you are willing to help show up at Hood Hall on Monday afternoon at 3:30 pm

God bless you all for all you do. Let's keep up the good work.



A Note from Pastor Chuck...

"Do not call anything impure that God has made clean." Acts 10:15 and 11:9. What might we call impure? Something shady? Something we personally do not like? Food? Conversation?

The key seems to be understanding what God has made clean. For Peter and the disciples of Jesus, food was an issue, washing hands, cultural understandings and lifelong learning that was now challenged. What Jesus makes clean is now clean, pure and whole.

All too frequently, Scripture indicates "we" get caught up in the rules and miss out on God's blessings. We can have the form of religion but miss the power of a new life. For the clean life leads to a gospel led life. The Good News of the Gospel is that Jesus was crucified dead and buried but arose from the dead to live evermore thus giving us the opportunity to have, to live, a new life of hope, love, faith, abundance through a restored relationship with our Creator. We can live a life of freedom in God. So, let's embrace the life Jesus has made available to us.

In Christ,
Pastor Chuck

