



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.
Newsletter

December 1, 2022

Volume 10 Issue 12 Page 1

FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

5604 Deeson Road
Lakeland, FL 33810

Phone: 863 858-7504

Fax: 863 859-9775

Park Administrator: Stan Welton
(Cell: 863 608-3982)

Email: floridallpark2@gmail.com

Website: lightandlifepark.org

Emergency: 863 608-3984

Office Manager: Sherry LaBrie
sherry@lightandlifepark.org
(Cell: 863-255-3776)

Office Assistant: Lori Jones
lori@lightandlifepark.org

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

Office Hours:

November 15-April 14: 8 am- Noon

April 15-November 14: 9 am - Noon

Lots Available for Lease

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

5332 Ebenezer Place
5325 Ebenezer Place
5321 Hebron Court
5323 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

Thanksgiving has passed, and the celebration of Christ's birth is fast approaching. That means that the Park will be filling up soon. I am looking forward to seeing you all again. As you anticipate the time here, I encourage you to greet and make friends with the many new people we have in the Park. Don't let old patterns get in the way.

According to the weather.com, Hurricane Nicole was the first such storm to make landfall on the mainland U.S. in 37 years. Shortly after making landfall, it was downgraded to a tropical storm and proceeded northwest through the center of the state. It actually passed directly over the Park. We experienced minimal effects, however. There were periodic heavy gusts of wind that knocked down a few branches and some Spanish moss. There was about 4" of rainfall that did not cause any flooding in the Park. Although there were a couple of power blinks, remarkably, there was no loss of power.

We have great plans for the Sugar Creek Gang this year which has been reorganized. We have developed a two-person leadership model. Greg Thomas will act as the group facilitator by organizing meetings, communicating with the group, and seeking volunteers for the various projects. He will be working together with Tom LaBrie who will be the primary project manager. Tom will make certain we have the tools and materials we need and will direct the various projects to completion. If we determine that two projects can be running concurrently, another project manager will be assigned.

Once again, I must emphasize safety on the roadways. Since there will be many walkers and bikers for the next several months, everyone needs to exercise caution on the roadways. If you are walking, running, or bicycling, wear bright clothing and, if exercising at night, have some type of lighting that can be seen from both directions. Automobile drivers should yield to pedestrians and bicyclists, stop at stop signs, and slow down (the posted speed limit is 15 mph)! Let's keep everyone in the Park safe.

By now you should have received the invoices for the annual fee and property taxes (if you are not billed by the county directly)

Continued next page

Continued from previous page.

Tax payments are due by December 15 and the annual fees are due by January 15. Please be sure to submit your payments on time. If you have not received an invoice, please let the office know right away. The Park provides a large dumpster to be used for construction debris and large furniture. If you use the dumpster to dispose of those items, you are asked to donate toward the costs associated with it. To date, the Park has been billed almost \$6,000 for the dumpster in 2022. We have received donations totaling just \$1,350 making the net cost slightly over \$4,500. Understand that the dumpster is here as a convenience. Otherwise, you would need to hire your own dumpster or haul your large or construction debris away yourself. Please help with this expense that benefits only those who use it.

My desire as the Christmas season approaches is that we take the time to, not only celebrate, but really appreciate what Christ's birth means for everyone. Hopefully, that will motivate us to make the Good News known to those around us both in conversation and our actions.



Jan

Office Manager

December already?? It seems like it was just spring. I know it is the beginning of winter season though, because the snowbirds are flocking back to the Park. What a great time of renewing our friendships and seeing our Park family!

We barely made it back in time to issue the Annual invoices. Thankfully, Greg and Lori had been working on them and it took very little time to get them out. If you have not received yours, please let us know. Please stop and get yours if you asked us to hold them.

Next, we had the job of printing the directories for 2023 season. Yes, you may pick up a copy in the office now. Please let us know any incorrect information that you find. I have already found some cases where I tried to call a resident and we had not received their new numbers. Please don't forget us when you change your information.

Continued to next column

Continued from previous column

Also, remember that we will be making a new pictorial directory this season. Watch for information in the Life and Times and bulletins. We hope to combine our efforts to add people to the digital directory in conjunction with the creation of the pictorial.

We had to complete the search for new calendars and pens. Hopefully, they are available to you now. Check with us if you have not received yours.

The 2023 Enjoyment Books are in now. They still cost you \$30.00 with many coupons for 2 for 1 or bargain rates on admissions or event discounts. Please see the Office. Every book we sell pays us \$8.00.

I would like to welcome new members, Greg and Carol Brown-Hines to 5354 Sharon Trail, formerly Allan and Lois Lake's home. They have been renting from Mark and Lori Pratt for several months and we are very happy to have them join our Park as members.

It is so nice to have Lori Jones working again. She is still having to move carefully, much to her disappointment, but she is mending more each day.

Greg Thomas is also fitting in nicely to the Office routine. He is picking up the job quickly and adds a new dimension that is needed in many things that we do.

We welcome back all who have already arrived for the winter season and look forward to the rest arriving by the first of the year. Things are very full this year so I know it will be a blessed time for all.

May God bless you all this Christmas and may we all be reminded of how much God loves us. He has given us his Son and his Son has paid the price so that we may have life. That is the best gift we can claim for Christmas.

Let's love God and love one another as we love our selves to the fullest. December will fly by and end 2022, but we can look ahead to a great new year in 2023.

*Blessings,
Sherry LaBrie*

Christmas Dinner

The time for celebrating will be here before you know it. If you plan to be in the park for Christmas day, December 25th, plan to eat at Hood Hall, 12 noon, directly after the Sunday service. It will be in "potluck" form, but please let us know you are coming by signing up.

There will be a sign-up sheet in Hood Hall on the Credenza, a week before the meal. We ask that, with your name, you indicate what kind of dish you can provide, and how many in your party. Family and Friends are welcome.

Set up will be Saturday, the 24th, at 10:30 am. help would be appreciated.



Barb Hartson Coordinator

Shuffleboard

With the rainy season coming to an end and with cooler temperatures, we will resume meeting at the shuffleboard courts Mondays at 1:00 pm and Thursdays at 6:30 pm. The courts are all washed and ready, so we are looking forward to playing again.

Everyone is welcome whether you have played many times or not at all. There will be someone at the courts each time to help you learn the game or answer any questions you might have. It is a grand way to meet people and enjoy good fellowship. We are looking forward to a new fun filled shuffleboard season.



Pictorial Directory 2023

The Church/Park is doing a pictorial directory in 2023 with Color Craft Co. Pictures will be taken in the church annex at two different sessions. The first session will be Jan. 12-14 and these pictures will be ready for review Jan. 24-25. The second session will be Jan. 26-28 with pictures ready for review Feb. 7-9.

Marva Peck is doing the scheduling for the photo sessions. There are two ways to schedule your photo shoot. There will be a table set up after church starting in December, **OR** you can **Text/call** Marva Peck, at **863-393-4191** and she will give you a specific time and date. **The reviewing will be set by the photographer when your picture is taken.** We plan to fill up the first session first so if you plan to be here by January 12, please let Marva know.

Pat Wilkins & Barb Hartson

News from the Board of Directors

The Holy Holiday Season is here again, and we celebrate the Savior's birth and the redemption story of God's grace to mankind. The Park Board welcomes all those returning to Light & Life Park and is anticipating those still planning to come. We look forward to spending the Holiday Season together.

Your Park Board will be meeting via Zoom, on Monday, December 5th to consider the proposed budget and other business for the new year. Our first membership meeting will be on Monday, January 16, 2023, at 7 p.m. in Hood Hall. All members are invited to attend. The new budget for 2023 will be discussed and a vote for approval held. We look forward to seeing each of you there.

Our Park People have much to be thankful for this year. Hurricane Ian and Nicole passed by with minimal damage in our park. We praise God for His care, not only for protection of property, but that no one was injured in either storm. And I want to take this opportunity to thank all those volunteers who gave their time and energy to clean up the Park after both storms. It is this willingness to help in time of need that distinguishes our members as part of a Christian community. We praise God for all of the volunteer hours spent on our Park.

As Christmas draws near, I extend to you and your family warm wishes for a happy and Holy Christmas time, remembering our Lord's most precious gift of all, His Son, Jesus.

May God bless you

Jim Falconer Board President

Wedding Reception

As most of you know **Pastor El** is getting married this month. The park would like to show our love for him with a reception, hosted by Arlene Mahen. It will be **December 19, 2022**, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, at Hood Hall. Everyone is welcome!



Bucket Listers



We are excited to be back in the park for the winter season. Soon the lights will be shining bright around pool area. Previous planned and funded projects will be completed, and new projects will begin. Don't forget there is a locked container in the puzzle area to write down your comments and suggestions.

Thank you to those who have donated jig saw puzzles! Also, thanks to Barb Lake for shampooing the carpet in Hood Hall.

Don't forget the Light and Life Park's Craft Show December 9, 2022. The Bucket Listers will be selling gourmet popcorn and hosting a hot dog lunch **Friday** of the show.

Tuesday nights in January, February and March the Bucket Listers will be hosting either a night of trivia or a movie. Refreshment will be available each night for a donation.

**2023 50th Wedding Anniversary
February 10, 2023**

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

Aqua Splash 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!

**Beautification Parade
2023**

February 23, 2023
(Rain date is the 24th)
Theme is Bible Stories
Luncheon in Hood Hall following parade.

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.

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. Because of the Hurricane we were not able to contact them but **Praise the Lord we just got word**, they now have a new location and are in the process of setting up and running again.

Thank you.
Colleen Sellers

Bowling

Bowlers...If you are even the least bit interested in bowling come join the Park league starting in January.

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

We will start league bowling January 3rd, 1 PM, Orange Bowl Lanes. **But...**up until January 1st we will be practicing at 10 AM on Wednesdays. Come join us.



Barb Hartson
bfhartson@gmail.com

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

2023 CPC golf tournaments!

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

Ladies Four-person Scramble
Jan 20,2023 (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

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.

Park Wide Field Day

Save the date: February 18,2023
Theme: "Laughter Makes Good Medicine."
All day activities for everyone.

Morning golf, Lunch with a humorous speaker, and an afternoon of fun and games.

Something great to look forward to.



Cliff and Carolyn Nicholas

Fellowship Dinners

On December 5 we will have our next Fellowship Dinner at Hood Hall, 5:30 pm with our program at 6:15 featuring pianist Marlin Nichols. Especially those who have attended the gospel music concerts over the years at Lake Gibson Nazarene or Bethel Baptist have enjoyed hearing Marlin play preludes and offertories. He will focus on Christmas and winter music including some sing-alongs.

Bring a large dish to share with those at your table of ten which can be arranged in advance. Remember to include newer people and singles to fellowship with. Table settings can be taken over in the afternoon to ease the flow of everyone's arrival at mealtime.

Residents with surnames N-Z will do the set-up and clean-up under the direction of Barb Lake. Her contact is 269-908-6833 if you can assist.

Heads-up: January has five Mondays so our event will be January 9 enabling more park members time to return from holiday travels. Likewise, the Residents' meeting will be delayed one week. Feb-Apr dinners will resume with the **FIRST** Monday pattern.

Fellowship Dinner/Program Committee
Marilun Stone

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: bfhartson@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 January deadline is December 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 now be accepting "linens" for Senior Orphans. Please refer to Senior Orphans article in this newsletter.

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.

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 Tea Room, 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

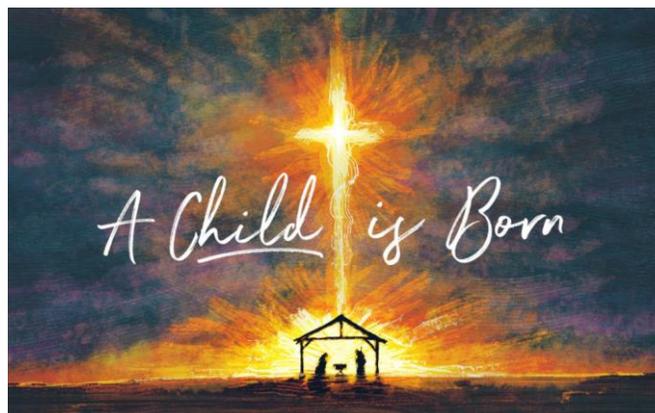
March 23 - Bok Singing Tower & Gardens, Lake Wales

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

Flo Grabowski

Cell 931-797-2639

[Email coachfollc@gmail.com](mailto:coachfollc@gmail.com)



Library Information



Book Reviews by Gloria Welton

Something a little different As promised #11

11. *The Law of Nations* by Emmerich de Vattel

LOANED FROM: The New York Society Library in New York City

YEARS OVERDUE: 221

Five months into his first presidential term, George Washington borrowed this legal manifesto from the historic New York Society Library. For the next 221 years, it remained stowed away at his Virginia home, and organization officials wondered if they'd ever see it again. "We're not actively pursuing overdue fines," joked head librarian Mark Bartlett. "But we would be very happy to see the book returned." His wish was granted when Mount Vernon staff finally sent it back in 2010 (luckily, they dodged a whopping \$300,000 late fee).

<https://www.mentalfloss.com/article/55621/11-ridiculously-overdue-library-books-were-finally-returned>

The Mozart Code

by Rachel McMillan

The Mozart Code is full of suspense, spies, romance, along with twists and turns. If you like espionage, historical fiction, and another look at past wars and what they entail, this book is for you!

This short summary of the book says it all. Lady Sophia Huntington Villiers was a former spy. Her work with Alan Turing's Bombe Machines at Bletchley Park during the war attests to that. Now, as part of Simon Barre's covert team in post-war Vienna, she uses her charm and code name, *Starling*, to infiltrate the world of relics: uncovering vital information that could tilt the stakes of the mounting Cold War. When several influential men charge her with finding the death mask of Mozart, Sophie wonders if there is more than the composer's legacy at stake and finds herself drawn to potential answers in Prague.

Simon Barrington, the illegitimate heir of one of Sussex's oldest estates, used the previous war to hide his insecurities about his past.

Continued next column

Continued from previous column:

Now, he uses his high breeding to gain access to all four allied quarters of the ruined city to slow the fall of the Iron Curtain. He has been in love with Sophie Villiers since the moment he met her. A marriage of convenience to save Simon's estate has always kept her close, until now, when Sophie's mysterious client in Prague forces him to wonder if her allegiance to him—and their cause—is in question. Torn between his loyalty to his cause and his heart, Simon seeks answers about Sophie only to learn that everything he thought he knew about his involvement in both wars is based on a lie.

What's great about this novel is a discussion guide at the end. Perhaps it would make a great monthly book discussion group choice. It's a 2022 release and you will find it in the new book section of our library.



Happy Reading!

Women's Bible Study

Join facilitator **Joni French** for Ladies Bible Study which begins Wednesday, January 25th, 2023, at Hood Hall **9:30 a.m.**

The study "Elijah" by Priscilla Shier is a 7-session video bible study on the life of Elijah. In this faith-building study, you will discover how Elijah's obedience to God kept him anchored, sharpened his faith, broadened his impact, and invited heaven's fire to fall. God is also working in your life today to fashion a fiery, bold faith that will empower you to share the hope of Christ with your family, friends, co-workers, and community. You won't want to miss it!



SENIOR-ORPHANS IS BACK!

For several years prior to covid, residents of Light and Life Park had the opportunity to bless those less fortunate through a program called Senior Orphans.

Senior Orphans helps local, indigent seniors living with no family support and meager monthly incomes.

We will again be collecting items to donate to this foundation. Please feel free to drop off clean, gently-used bedding, linens, and towels to the totes in Hood Hall designated for Senior Orphans.

If you have any questions, please contact Terri Boda at 5378 Bethel Drive or phone 434-270-2840.

Blessings,
Terri Boda

Woodworking News

The woodworking activities will soon be in full swing again.

Remember to stop in the Park office to pay your \$10.00 yearly dues, sign your liability waiver and get your new door code for 2023. You will also receive a *Welcome Back* letter with a reminder of some of the rules for using the wood shop equipment,

The first membership meeting will be held on Friday, January 6, 2023, at 9:00 AM in the Wood Activities building. All members are invited to come and give their input on the plans for woodworking in the new year. If you are not a member, but have questions about it, you are welcome to attend and get answers.

We hope to see you there.



Larry Putnam
Wood Shop President

CHRISTMAS CRAFT & BAKE SALE FRIDAY, DECEMBER 9TH @ HOOD HALL

We will be setting up on Thursday Afternoon, the 8th. The tables are FREE. One thing I would like to ask is that if you have not already contacted me about how many tables you will need for your crafts or baked goods, please do so before Monday, Dec 5th so that I will have an idea how many we need to have set up.

This time it is a “Sale” for those wanting to sell their items for Christmas gifts and not a “Show”...we will still be having the one in the Spring that incorporates the “Showing” of all of our creative and beautiful talents that abound in our Park.

Contact Becky Smith to reserve your FREE table
becsmith62@gmail.com or text
231.349.2993.



Singles Christmas Party

There will be the **annual** Christmas party for “singles” at Arlene Mahen’s Home 5416 Zion Ave, December 9, 2022, at 6:00 pm. Please come and enjoy the fellowship of others.



**Light and Life
Free Methodist Church**

5730 Deeson Road
Lakeland, FL 33810

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

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

Briarwood Outreach

Pastor Dave Willett just posted on FB about being refreshed citing Proverbs 11, "A generous man will prosper, he who refreshes others will himself be refreshed".

It reminded me of the happiness we feel and see when we "refresh" others. Most of us, at some point in our lives, have experienced tougher times wherein we needed some form of help or guidance. Just think about how much another person's assistance has helped you some way in the past. You can be thankful for that and grab the opportunity now to pay it forward by helping more or serving others more. Helping others, especially those who are less fortunate than yourself, can help to put things into perspective and make you feel more positive about your own circumstances.

Every home in Briarwood received a Thanksgiving meal this year thanks to you!

Please keep us in your prayers as Briarwood Christmas is right around the corner and Volunteers will be much appreciated.

As we are in this season of Thanksgiving and Christmas, we ask you to search yourselves and make the decision to help others. The need is great and food insecurity remains one of this country's largest problems. Please pray what the Lord would have you do this year to help others as we help ourselves Refresh!

Thank you for all you do to make this ministry continue where others have quit.

"And let us not grow weary of doing good, for in due season we will reap, if we do not give up" Galatians 6:9.

Randy Williams

A Note from Pastor Chuck...

Scripture from a recent morning message continues to impact me. Two particular phrases of the one verse speak out to my life. Isaiah 8:17 "I will wait for the Lord" and "I will put my trust in him."

We need to wait, and we need to trust when life is throwing us some curve balls. As followers of Jesus, we have seen and will see "the mighty works of His hands" throughout the experience of life. His hand of guidance is not always so visible or appreciated when it has been given. Frequently we see God's provision when we are able to still ourselves and take notice of God's grace and mercy.

Waiting for the Lord can be a chore even when we really have no choice. Waiting can be a work of grace itself. Waiting is easier when you trust Jesus. Trusting Jesus takes you to a special place. A place of surrender and peace. A place of being surrounded by His Spirit leading you to know waiting is going to be okay...working to His honor and glory.

The mentioned scripture is the lead into this powerful vision, "The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of the shadow of death a light has dawned." Now that is worth trusting Him for as we expectantly wait for a second Christmas, His return.

In Christ
Pastor Chuck

