



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.
Newsletter

April 1, 2021

Volume 9 Issue 4 Page 1

FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

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Lakeland, FL 33810

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Office Manager: Sherry LaBrie
sherry@lightandlifepark.org

Receptionist: Kathy Smith

Office Hours:

October 15-April 14: 8 am - Noon

April 15-October 14: 9 am - Noon

Lots Available for Lease

The following lot is set up for an RV or Park Model and available for lease:
5321 Hebron Court

This lot is also available for rent if no lease has been arranged.

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

I cannot believe that the winter season is nearly over. And it has been a season to remember. With COVID protocols in place, many things had to be reconfigured and some things were cancelled. Regardless, we made the most of it. You found ways to do things differently. You still walked, ran, and bicycled the streets. You golfed, played shuffleboard, threw horseshoes, played tennis and pickleball, and enjoyed the pool. Thank you for doing what you had to help keep any spread of the virus to a minimum.

Can you believe the number of projects that have been happening this season? As I look back on it, it is difficult to believe all that has been accomplished.

- The picnic table to the south of Project 14 has been rebuilt, the roof replaced, a cement pad poured below the table, and the bridge leading to it has been rebuilt.
- The antennas that provide Internet to the RV section and the pole barn have been aligned and stabilized providing much better signals.
- Many trees have been trimmed or cut down, the limbs were chipped, and wood hauled off.
- Catch basins and culverts have been installed to improve ground water drainage.
- Concrete pads were poured in the RV section, next to the Shiloh bridge, as well as in other areas of the Park.
- Extensive repairs have been made to Mike Lower's house. To help ensure that further damage does not occur, significant improvements are being made to control ground water.
- The remainder of the doors on the cabins have been replaced.

The list is remarkable. As I have mentioned in the past, the volunteers make these improvements to the Park possible. Without them, we would be unable to complete even a small portion of the projects listed. I thank the volunteers for their willingness and hard work; their spouses for the work behind the scenes that make it possible for the volunteers to work; and those who support them in prayer for safety, strength, and wisdom.

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The Park's digital directory has seen increased interest. We are working hard to add everyone who has turned in a completed *Owner / Resident Information* form. Please be patient as we enter your information. If you want to be added to the directory, pick up a form in the office to complete and turn in.

After you have been added to the Directory, you will receive an email with instructions on downloading the app to your phone and creating an account. Once you have created the account, please check your information to ensure everything is correct. If you do notice any errors or are unable to create an account in the Directory, please call the office so we can correct the problem.

Keep in mind that if you want to receive urgent text messages, you must be a participant in the Directory. Urgent messages will be sent when more immediate action on the part of residents is necessary. If you do not know how to get started using the directory, please stop by the office for assistance.

We are nearing completion of consolidating our Spectrum Internet accounts. We have cancelled the account at the laundromat and are providing Internet wi-fi from the office. We now have Internet at Hood Hall that is provided from the office and we will be cancelling that Spectrum account. Internet at the guest rooms has also been transitioned to our own wi-fi devices. Although it is not in place at this writing, we have the equipment to provide wi-fi at the pool and fitness center. The process has taken longer than anticipated, but we are nearly finished.

With so many in the Park, it is important to review safety on the roadways. According to Florida law, no one **has** the right-of-way; instead, the right of way **is given** to others based on the circumstances of the encounter. For example, a motorist yields the right of way to a pedestrian crossing the street at a crosswalk; however, a pedestrian is to yield the right of way to a vehicle if crossing the street where there is no crosswalk. (Doesn't this sound like a Biblical principle?) Here are some basic pointers. Remember, the goal is to keep everyone safe; so, be willing to give way!

- Walkers are to walk on the left side of the roadway (always facing oncoming traffic).
- At dusk, dawn or at night, bikers and walkers should wear reflective or light-colored clothing.

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- Bikers are to have a light on the front and rear of the bike when riding at night.
- Bikers are to ride on the right side of the roadway (with the traffic).
- The speed limit is 15 MPH.
- Stop signs mean STOP!

Keep in mind that if you are walking, running, or bicycling that motorists may not see you if there is an obstruction in the way like a parked car, sign, tree, etc. So, stay alert for motorists whom you may see, but who may not see you, and slow down or move over, if necessary.

Soon you should be able to hear the bleating of kid goats. Momma goat (it seems that only one of the goats is pregnant) has been more skittish recently. The kids might be coming soon! By the way, the person who sold us the goats is willing to give the other nanny a second chance. We will post pictures of the kids on the Light and Life Park Facebook page once they arrive.

April is upon us. That means many of you will be heading back to your other homes soon. It is time for some reminders. Before you leave, hurricane-proof your residence area. If you have anything outside, you must either move it inside or secure it **firmly** to the ground. Outside items include flowerpots, bicycles and tricycles, planters, bird feeders, flags, etc. Please do not expect those who stay behind to do this for you. If you are physically unable to move these items, ask someone to help you. Also, do not store your items in another person's empty carport unless you have permission to do so.

It has been great to spend time with you this winter. If you are leaving us for a spell, enjoy your time away. We will miss you. And we will enjoy the Florida summer! I pray that our "love will keep growing in knowledge and every kind of discernment" (Phil. 1:9). God bless each of you.

Stan Welton



Office Manger Notes

It seems we just began the season and some of you have already started to leave. I can't believe it is April already. The weather is warmer and we are enjoying the warm days.

For those of you who watch the Property Listings, you know that we have had a lot of movement of homes for sale and sold in the past few weeks. This must be a year for change.

Here are some changes that happened in April:

New members added:

- Gerald & Betty Monzo purchased 5315 Ebenezer Place formerly owned by Vern & Pamela Rensberry

Relocations:

- John and Betty Fallot moved to 5236 Bethel Drive, formerly owned by Ed & Jan Davis.
- Jim & Rose Martin moved to 5335 Joppa Street formerly owned by John & Betty Fallot.

Be sure to meet your new neighbors and make them feel welcome.

The Office hours will be changing this month on April 15. We begin our summer season then and we will be open from 9:00 to 12:00 each day. Please make a note.

Before you begin your transition to your other residences, be sure you have checked this year's directory to be sure we got your information correct. If not, please notify us in writing so we will get it right for next season. Also, if you make a move this summer, please let us know so that we make the changes for the next directory.

Summer will bring vacations and many projects we cannot complete during the busy winter months. We will continue to check with our County people on some issues and try to be ready for you all to come back next season.

Please be sure to prepare your homes to leave. We don't want things you leave out to become things the summer residents have to pick up or for them to be missles in a storm. Please store all loos items away in a shed or in the home.

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The last item to prepare you for going home is that you need to notify the Office that you are leaving the Park. This is especially true for Members. However, those who are renting need to notify us also so we know your space is now available.

COVID 19 tried to stop us from living as normal, but you have worked together to be creative and still have a great season this year. We look forward to next season being even better as we hope to see our Canadians return and others who felt it was needed for them to stay at their other residence this year.

I hope you will be blessed this summer and that you will return ready for a special time together next season.

Blessings,
Sherry La Brie

News from the Board of Directors

Greetings. As I write this, some members are "already" planning to migrate back north. Every year it surprises me how quickly this time comes around. I wish you well with safety, health, and spiritual growth.

Our nominating committee obtained several well qualified candidates for our Board of Directors. I thank them for being willing to serve.

The votes were fairly close, reflecting that you thought well of each and every one of them. The results have given us the following:

Executive Committee:

- President: John Fallot
- Vice President: Sheryl Allen
- Secretary: Becky Smith
- Treasurer: Ken Kendall

Committee Assignments:

- Bldg. & Grounds: Phil Moore, Jim Falconer, Larry Putnam
- Finance: Ken Kendall, John Fallot
- Future Planning: Mary Mace, Sheryl Allen, Ida Bunting, Ken Kendall
- Personnel: Ida Bunting, Sheryl Allen, Ken Kendall
- Rules & Regulations: Becky Smith, Jim Falconer, John Fallot

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While the Board works with both policy and hands-on, this Park could not function without the teamwork of our employees and the willing leadership and efforts of so many volunteers. I believe the results are pleasing to our Lord.

It continues to please me how we make a neighborhood that helps each other and others outside of ourselves. We are welcoming to guests and visitors. May we continue along this route through our lives.

Your elected Board of Directors plans to continue to be one of the groups trying to help you. Our thanks is extended to all of you.

John Fallot
Board President

Oakdale Support

Thank you so much for all that you sent for Oakdale. They were so happy because they had just run out of some of the items. Your love and generosity are always great and are greatly appreciated.

You can always contribute to help Oakdale by sending checks to:

Thanks again for your help.

Beautification Parade 2022

The Beautification Committee has selected **"TV Shows from the 60's and 70's"** as the theme for next year's parade. Can't wait to see all the fun entries from our creative neighbors.

We had about 19 entries this year, let's top that number next year. How creative can you be????

Sincerely,
Flo Grabowski
Beautification Committee, President
931-797-2639



Bucket Listers



The Bucket Listers have been very busy this year trying to find ways that will improve the Park for all. Sometimes they need our help to raise the money and they do that very well.

Here are some of the things that have been accomplished so far:

Participated in the Beautification Parade

Sponsored the Earl Galloway Concert

Raised 460.00 from Pizza Night for park projects.

Initiated bike rack purchase.

Refurbished pool clock.

Organized power washing of the pool deck. Thank you, Bruce Falconer and Greg Konzen.

Currently, raising money for sidewalk from Shiloh Path to library and pool.

There is a locked suggestion box near the puzzle table for additional suggestions and ideas for future

The sidewalk from the pool to the library has begun as of March 31, 2021.

Future Plans:

Earl Galloway has agreed to return to Light and Life Park in 2022 to once again bless us with his music ministry. Date of concert to be determined.

Other events and plans will be discussed for next season. This group wants to do things for the Park that makes it better for all. Your suggestions help them work on the right priorities.

Have a great summer!



Gadabout News

Thank you to all the ladies of Light & Life Park who participated in the trips the Gad-Abouts took this season. It was fun being together after the year we have all had. We pray by the next winter season, we will ALL be back and we will ALL be able to be together and go wherever we want to go. It was fun getting to know more of you and some new residents in our park.

We are making some tentative plans for the 2022 season. These are the trips we came up with, but Verneta & I would like to hear from you as to what type of trips you like! Do you like fine dining, Flea Markets, Festivals, Shopping trips, or Adventures to new places? Think it over and let us know. Is there a better day of the week that works for more ladies than Thursday?

Thursday, Jan 13, Auburndale Flea Market and Peebles BBQ for lunch

Thursday, Jan 27, Dining at Ybor City and touring Tampa on the Trolley

Thursday, February 10, Wild Dolphin Cruise, 90 minutes out of Tampa or Clearwater

Saturday, February 26, Downtown Lakeland Farmers/Flea Market and lunch downtown

Thursday, March 10, or the Senior Day at the Strawberry Festival, Plant City

Thursday, March 25, Lunch at Polly's Pantry and Gift Shop and Russell Stover Candy Outlet

These dates all have to be verified with the Park Office and we need to plan around other events happening here next year. These days or dates may have to change.

You can call Peggy Dunn at 248-766-5537 or Verneta Dunn at 810-441-9408 with your ideas or e-mail me at pegjim2000@yahoo.com

Thank you,
Peggy Dunn

Talbot House Ministry

Several people have inquired about the ongoing deliveries of prescription bottles, unused medicines, good clean clothing that you no longer use and small household items. Please continue to save these helpful items for the homeless shelter and the Good Samaritan Clinic. But, on **Tuesdays**, please deliver them to the Whipple's porch at 5866 Deeson Road for a Wednesday delivery. I was so happy when Jean told me she would like to continue this ministry. Today, when I told one of the receiving men that I have gotten to know that someone else would be delivering our contributions, he was so warm and sincere in his good wishes and thanks.

Let's not let this ministry go by the way!!!!

Jean will take your items on Wednesday, March 31. So, from now on, PLEASE leave things on Jean's porch just inside the door. Thank you.

Thanks for the about 7 1/2 years that you have consistently given to our sisters and brothers that are making a fresh start with the program of recovery at Talbot House on the corner of Parker Avenue and Kentucky. Should you wish to send financial assistance to this work, the address: 814 North Kentucky Avenue, Lakeland.

Thank you, Jean Whipple, for stepping up and taking on this ministry to those that are in need and are working on their New Beginnings.

Anita Coburn Raboin

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.

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 later in 2021. Those items can be left in Hood Hall.

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

Tim Price will also accept household items to give to people off the grounds who in turn have lawn sales to help those in need. Contact Tim for that.

Thank you for your cooperation.

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 will be used to buy benches for the Park.

Please help us by NOT including regular cans from food used. These are picked up by someone else and need to be kept separate.

Use the two containers at the beginning of the row of containers for the aluminum cans.

Thanks for your help.

Wes Crist

Bowling

Bowling leagues are done for the season, however Tuesday at 12:45 there will still be bowlers keeping their game up at the Orange Bowl. If you would like to bowl, just show up. If you have any questions contact: Barb Hartson at: bfhartson@gmail.com

A new, exciting event is coming to Light and Life Park next February 18th. Mark your calendar!

The Men's Field Day event will be returning with an added twist – WOMEN! Women will be invited to participate in the field day events along with the men.

The event will now be called "Park Wide Field Day" with morning golf events on the CPC course, games in the afternoon, ending with an evening program presented by a chalk artist, desserts and fellowship.

Fellowship Dinner

The Fellowship Dinner Committee is eagerly looking forward to when we can resume having our monthly dinners and programs. Currently we are hoping and expecting that that might be in November. Look for updates in future newsletters.

50th Celebration

Our 50th Anniversary Open House is on the lookout for additional couples married in 1972 who will be celebrating 50 years, to join:

- Byron & Debra Davey, anniversary - June 10, 1972
- Dan & Jackie Northup, anniversary - June 24, 1972
- Larry & Barb Putman, anniversary - June 24, 1972

If you are interested, please let me know via email bks4545@gmail.com, call or text 734-646-8080.

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY LIBRARY2GO SCHEDULE



Library2Go has suspended their stops here in our Park until further notice. If you have books that need to be returned, bring them to the Park Office. They will send someone to pick them up here when service resumes.

Newsletter Deadline

Please be sure that your submissions to *The Life and Times* are delivered to the newsletter editor, Sherry La Brie, by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Please use this email: sherry.loflin69@yahoo.com. You may also drop your submissions off at the Park Office or to **5425 Zion Avenue**, where there is a mail box for your articles. The **May** deadline is **April 15**.

Library Information



A Book Review from Gloria Welton:

The Brightest of Dreams by Susan Anne Mason

Historical and Romantic novels are okay in my book. However, this one is particularly interesting. It takes place in 1919, close to the time of World War I, in 1919. Children were sent to Canada to become indentured servants from Britain, mostly to work on farms.

British Home children but wasn't aware some of them had been sent to Canada as indentured laborers, mostly to work on farms. These children were said to be orphans but many in reality were not but came from homes where through sickness or death of one of the parents, had fallen on hard times. From 1860 up until about 1948 over one hundred thousand children were sent from the United Kingdom to Canada. These same children rarely if ever spoke of this when they grew up. The intense research Susan Anne Mason has put into this book helps her to accurately portray what the children went through and the struggle it was to try to retrieve some of these children home.

Quinten Aspinall, the main character, makes a promise to his father to always take care of his mother and younger siblings and keep them together. He'll do everything in his power to keep this deathbed promise. Upon returning from war, he finds his siblings were split up and had been sent to Canada as indentured workers.

Before he leaves to cross the ocean to find his siblings his employer offers him a deal to cannot pass up, a tenant farm of his own for his ailing mother and siblings to be reunited on. There is a slight catch to this offer though his employer wants him to bring his wayward niece (Julia) back home who ran off with a Canadian soldier.

Quinten finds Julia but she's just received devastating news and doesn't feel like going home to her uncle is the right thing to do. However, a relationship begins to grow. With Julia's help Quinten will be able to find his siblings and a bond that forming

Inspirational messages of God's unconditional love and forgiveness are what the author adds to her stories. Look for this book on the "New Book" shelves by the front door.

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A CD from Gloria Welton:

Heaven is for Real by Todd Burpo with Lynn Vincent 4 cd's unabridged 5 hours and 6 minutes

Sometimes life gets really burdensome and it seems as if there is no resemblance of things from above. Loved ones die, people get sick, crime takes lives. Sounds so dismal. Yet there are the good times, but is there ever really hope of getting to heaven? YES!

Heaven is for Real, a bestseller which has been published in book and audiobook, along with a movie, is not just about a little boy, who by the times he is a teenager will certainly forget the details of his experience, but will bring hope, peace, and reassurance that God is alive, there is a heaven, and Jesus is there!

Some of the proof from little Colton Burpo, at four years of age will astound those who read or listen to the book. Miraculous! As I read it, I became a real believer in the power of God.

Colton, not yet four years old, had a ruptured appendix and was very ill. In fact, doctors felt he would not survive. He left his body during the surgery - and authenticated that claim by describing exactly what his parents were doing in another part of the hospital while he was being operated on. He talked of visiting heaven and relayed stories told to him by people he met there whom he had never met in life, sharing events that happened even before he was born. He also astonished his parents with descriptions and obscure details about heaven that matched the Bible exactly, though he had not yet learned to read. Most of all he described how Jesus looked which was confirmed through a young artist's rendition.

Heaven Is for Real will forever change the way you think of eternity, offering the chance to see and believe like a child. This is a must hear. It can be found in the miscellaneous (white) section of the cd's. Grab it and be encouraged.

Happy Reading and Watching!



CHURCH NEWS

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.

Pop Tabs

A special THANK YOU goes to Carl Otto and Mary Lu Cannon who glean them year-round. Containers are in Hood Hall and the Laundromat. They are used for Breana Coleman's treatment for Brittle Bones at Shriners' Hospital for Children in Tampa. Remember tin tabs will not work. Some soup cans are aluminum. Also, special thanks go to the snowbirds who bring tabs south with them.

Colleen Sellers

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. Because of postage expense we are partnering with the American Baptist Church through Joyce Steabman.

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

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

Thank you.

Colleen Sellers

Briarwood Ministries

Donations are still needed weekly. Questions may be directed to:

Karen Castle-Williams Randy William
704-502-0466 704-488-1843

brittandherdad@aol.com

Light and Life Free Methodist Church

5730 Deeson Road
Lakeland, FL 33810

Phone: (863) 858-6361

Fax (863) 858-3982

Email: church@lflmc.org

Pastor: Chuck Frankenfeld
Evangelism & Outreach: Jeff Bellingher
Secretary: Ruby Smith

A Note from Pastor Chuck...

Good Friday then Easter, what a difference a few days can make. This month we have Good Friday on our first Friday.

The light of the world is sentenced to death and crucified. A darkness comes seemingly in dark victory. The heavy veil in the temple (God's House) that separates the Holy from the Holy of Holies is torn in two. The shadow of despair settles upon those Jesus has been sharing life with for three years. Is this the end?

That Was Friday But We [in looking back] Know Sunday Was Coming!

On the third day early in the morning ... the sun arises and so does the Son. The sun shines brightly (I can imagine it shining more brightly than it has ever shown before!) The creator of the universe has been raised from the dead...He is Alive! Acts 2:24 "...God raised him from the dead, freeing him from the agony of death, because it was impossible for death to keep its hold on him."

This death defeating awe inspiring transformative life is now made available for all who would choose to believe and follow the risen Lord of creation. The light of the world shines brightly today and forever because of what occurred on that lonely Easter morning so long ago! This is a life offered to all. Have you received this gift offered to you!

In Christ,
Pastor Chuck