



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.
Newsletter

December 1, 2021

Volume 9 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

Receptionist: Kathy Smith
kathys@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:

5321 Hebron Court
5332 Ebenezer Place
5325 Ebenezer Place

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

It's starting to feel a lot like Christmas! Lights are being hung throughout the Park. Seasonal activities have begun. Although there aren't eight tiny reindeer anywhere, winter residents are returning, and several new members have arrived. It sure is great to see everyone and the increased activity in the Park.

One unexpected visitor recently was a cow named Patti. After several of us tried to corral the cow, the owners showed up at the gate looking for her. Initially, we thought the cow belonged to our farmer neighbor. Instead, the owners are from down Deeson Road. I heard that Patti is still on the loose, but not in the Park. It sounds like she escaped the spray field into the farmer's field. As a reminder, if you see cows in the Park, please contact me. I will take the necessary steps to get them where they belong.

In early November, I tested positive to COVID. Several of you have asked how I am doing. Fortunately, I never had any severe symptoms; basically, I felt like I had a bad head cold. I have, however, had some lingering fatigue. Thankfully, that has mostly passed. Thank you for your prayers and concern. I am reminded that people are still getting sick with this virus. So, if you are feeling ill, please stay home to protect others. In particular, do not participate in any Park group activities while you are sick.

These past few weeks I attempted to save the Park some money for trash removal by increasing the number of pickups per week instead of increasing the number of containers. It didn't work. Although the trash hauler stated they could pick up on Tuesday and Friday, it turned out that they couldn't pick up on Tuesday; they could only empty the bins on Wednesday and Friday. This meant the two bins had to hold all the trash from Friday until Wednesday. Since that experiment didn't work, we have increased the number of bins to four and will increase them again as more people arrive. Here are some reminders regarding trash:

- Make certain all household trash fits completely in the dumpster and close the doors of the. We do not want to

Continued next page.

Continued from previous page.

encourage the alligators or raccoons to go dumpster diving.

- Place nothing but clean, empty, flattened corrugated cardboard in the recycling bin (cereal and tissue boxes are NOT corrugated cardboard). Pizza boxes, although they are corrugated cardboard, must be placed in the regular trash as they are often greasy. Recently, I have seen Styrofoam and plastic bags in this dumpster
- Do NOT place tires in any of the containers. If you replace tires on your car or golf cart, you are responsible for taking them to a tire recycling facility.
- Place aluminum cans in the appropriate barrel in the white fenced area. We collect these and sell them for the Park.
-

If you haven't visited the goats yet, please take the opportunity to do so. The white goats are very cute and fun to watch. If one of the older ones gets their head stuck through the fence, let either Mike or me know; we will make sure it is freed. I know when you visit them, you want to feed them. However, when you do, please feed them from your hand to their mouths. Food thrown on the ground can lead to illness. Also, **never** throw any food into the overnight shelter (it is also where the newest kid goats are). The ground in that area is especially littered with droppings that can make the goats sick.

As more and more of you return to the Park, it is really important that we follow all posted and understood rules of the road. Always yield to pedestrians and bicyclists (it is Florida law, after all). Stop at the stop signs and look before proceeding. Drive on the right-most side of the roadways. Keep your speed at 15 mph or lower—I know it's hard, but safety is much more important than the little time it saves if you go faster.

I wish you all a blessed, happy Christmas. Enjoy your family and friends. Celebrate Jesus—the real reason to celebrate. We'll be back in touch next year.

Office Manager

December has arrived! With it comes busier schedules, more member arrivals every week, payments of fees, and excitement to be together once again. The anticipation of a good winter season seems intensified after the last year of COVID and not being able to do things as we once did. We still don't know what is ahead, but more are confident about returning and are excited for another winter in Light and Life Park.

Changes are coming soon in the Laundromat. The machines will be changed as soon as Axon gets them ready. They will only handle credit cards or an APP on your phone. We will share the details of that when they become available. Quarters have gotten scarcer since COVID began and the laundry service has been changing to accommodate that situation.

LIBRARY2GO will be returning in January. They have been out to collect the books that I held after the COVID situation started. We will be on the same 3-week rotation schedule on Thursdays.

Ruby Smith volunteered to help in the Park Office so you may see her there occasionally. We are building a history of owners by lot in the Park. This has been on-going for a few years, and we are glad for her help.

Speaking of lots, there have been some changes. While 5321 Hebron was our only lot last month, it looks like it may be leased soon. 5332 Ebenezer is now available again as Flaugh's have purchased Cheryl Cooper's place on 5302 Zion Avenue. 5325 Ebenezer Place is currently available, although a prospective buyer is interested.

Speaking of buyers, we are in a new situation with sales of homes. If you are going to sell to someone at this point, the first question you need to ask them after you ask if they have been approved for membership is if they are Free Methodist. We have reached the maximum number of Non-FM members that we can have. This means Free Methodist applicants will be able to purchase first until the requirement is modified or we reach a balance of more than 75% FM.

Continued next page.

Continued from previous page.

We want to welcome our newest member, Christine Aurich to the Park. She has purchased the former home of Roland and Sharon Bunting at 5341 Ebenezer Place. I'm sure many of those from Michigan will recognize her and she will find many connections to the Park.

The Directories are ready for you as you return to the Park. If you didn't get one when you arrived, feel free to stop by the Office between 8 am and Noon weekdays.

The Enjoyment Books are also here as of Monday, November 29. The cost is \$30 each and for each one sold the Park gets \$8. There are many 2 for 1 deals.

I hope that this December each of you will have a blessed Christmas. We have the joy of knowing the Reason for the Season. Let's celebrate that!

Blessings,
Sherry La Brie

News from the Board of Directors

Hello Members, Renters and Guests, Your Park is now forever changed (in our lifetimes). The two large old Oak trees on the north side of Shiloh are gone. Some of you may not notice much, some may be relieved and some may be upset.

Your Board and Park Administrator form what could be referred to as a little government. With the number one purpose of a government being to help assure the safety of its membership, we took this action. Large old trees are objects we respect and want. But these two presented increasing risks. They had begun declining.

An Arborist had pointed out how they had begun dying - we could see that some of the small limbs at the top had died. We would expect this continue and work back to the larger, and

Continued next column:

News from the Board of Directors

heavier, parts of the many limbs. To the south, the southern tree had grown over TECO's power wires. To the east they reached over the Reisman's carport and house. On the west side they reached over the Merrill house. The tree to the north leaned toward the Foster's house. If we waited longer, falling limbs could have caused considerable damage, and if a (whole) tree fell the damage would have been far greater.

An Arborist said he could remove the trees and grind up the stumps for somewhere over \$11,000. We got two other bids for \$8,000. and \$7,500. We had this done by a son and father team for \$4,900. I am in Michigan now. I have been sent photos as the work progressed. It appears it was completed yesterday (Nov. 9). With skill, experience, the right equipment, and father/son teamwork, it appears that this huge job was completed in 3 working days. To me it is remarkable. I also have a feeling of loss. Some long-term history is gone.

We want to purposefully plant some trees. I recall a hay farmer who had planted about 7,500 trees on his property (Betty and I have "only" planted about 200 on ours). This farmer was an avid hunter. He told me he carried acorns with him. When he harvested a deer, he would plant a few acorns as kind of a thank you and a kind of life replacement.

Anyhow, I wanted to explain the history of our action. Each year, around our Park, we have needed to keep picking up limbs, removing dead trees, trimming limbs, etc. Your safety and wellbeing are priorities we take seriously.

John Fallot



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

**CPC Golf News
2022 golf tournaments**

Two-man scramble Tournament
Jan 14th, 2022

Club Championship Tournament
Feb 4th, 2022

Four-person, Ladies Scramble
Feb 25, 2022

Two-man Blind draw tournament
March 11, 2022

Co-ed Three Club tournament
April 1, 2022

Shoebbox Ministry

The annual drive to fill Samaritan's Purse Shoebboxes is completed! Liz Roach would like to thank EVERYONE who made this successful drive possible.

Fifty-five boxes were prepared and \$705.00 was collected. Everything was delivered and is off to make some children very happy.

Thank you all for supplying for needs, packing boxes and paying the postage requirements.

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



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.

Beautification Power Washer

The Beautification Committee had to purchase a new power washer. It is currently at the Grabowski home at 5447 Bethel Dr. and is available to use. You must sign it OUT and sign it IN and return in good condition. Call Bruce Falconer or Max Videto for instructions on how to use it.

Flo Grabowski

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.

Talbot House Ministry

Please continue to save these items for the homeless shelter and the Good Samaritan Clinic: prescription bottles, unused medicines, good clean clothing that you no longer use and small household items.

Please deliver them to the Whipple's porch at 5866 Deeson Road any time. Jean will get them delivered when she has a good supply of things to go.

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, 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 mailbox for your articles. 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 not be accepting "linens" for Senior Orphans until later in 2021.

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

The L & L Park Wood Club will be back in action in January 2022. There will be a meeting of the Club Leadership Board on **Tuesday, January 4, 2022, at 6: PM in the Library.**

Also, the first full Membership Meeting will be held on **Friday, January 7, 2022, at 9:00 AM in the Wood Club Building.** All members of the Woodshop are urged to attend and participate in the plans for the woodworking projects for the new year.

Any questions you may have may be addressed to Larry Putnam, Gary Mace, or Jim Falconer.

Bucket Listers



We're so glad to be back in the Park to enjoy another winter season.

A new clock has been installed into the pool lanai area.

A yellow bench was purchased and placed at the end of Ebenezer Place in honor of Luanne Kelley.

Earl Galloway, gospel singer is coming again for a concert March 13, 2022, at 6:00 pm in the church sanctuary. You can also hear him on Facebook on Sunday afternoon.

Looking forward to phase two of the sidewalk project.



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 Donna Bruce.

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.

Thank you.

Colleen Sellers

Merry Christmas



Gadabout News

We are planning to take our first trip for the 2022 season on Friday, January 14. If you are a lady at the Park, please come and join us. This is not a club, and no membership is required. It is a day out for us girls!

We are planning to go to the Auburndale Flea Market and Peebles Bar-B-Q for lunch in Auburndale on FRIDAY, January 14, if there are no new restrictions by then. Watch the Neighborhood News e-mail for the details. If you don't do e-mail, then check the bulletin board inside of Hood Hall for information. We also put a copy of the details in the Laundromat and the Library for you.

There will be a sign-up sheet for you to sign in Hood Hall. This will be put up about 10 days ahead.

We usually carpool so we need to make sure we have enough drivers, if you wish, you may provide your own transportation and you don't need to add anyone to your vehicle if you are uncomfortable with Covid, etc.

This is a list of the trips we have tentatively planned for 2022 season.

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

Thursday, Feb 10 - Wild dolphin Cruise - 90 minutes out of Tampa or Clearwater

Saturday, Feb 26 - Downtown Lakeland Farmers/Flea Market and lunch downtown.

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

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

If anyone has any questions, you may call Peggy Dunn at 248-766-5537 or Verneta Dunn at 810-441-9408 or e-mail Peggy at pegjim2000@yahoo.com. If you have any ideas for us or have been someplace fun that you would like to suggest, please let us know. Don't be bashful! Come and join the fun! It's real good Christian fellowship.

Thank you - Peggy Dunn

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.

Bowling

We will have our organizational meeting on the 3rd of January at 1:00 pm in Hood Hall. We will then start the league bowling on the 4th. If you can't be here that week, please let your team know.

We have lots of room for new bowlers. You can either put together a team of 4 or just show up on the 3rd and we will put together a team for you.

We bowl for 12 weeks on Tuesday afternoons. Please commit for the whole time if you are interested.

Thanks,
Barb Hartson
bfhartson@gmail.com



2022 50th Celebration

Four couples will be celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary with us this year!

- Glenn & Nancy Teal, anniversary - May 6, 1972
- Byron & Debra Davey, anniversary - June 10, 1972
- Dan & Jackie Northup, anniversary - June 24, 1972
- Larry & Barb Putnam, anniversary - June 24, 1972

The couples have been busy deciding which pictures they want in the pictures loop and in the booklet. I look forward each year to reading all the interesting information each couple shares with us!

Save the date on your calendar to attend the 50th Open House on Friday, February 11, 2022, from 2 – 4 pm.

Brenda Stockwell
734-646- 8080 (call or text)
bks4545@gmail.com

Wreath Making Class

I will teach a class on making a winter wreath. If interested let me know. I will get the supplies needed.

call or text 734-646- 8080 call or text 734-646-8080 which size they decide to make.

My e-mail is roro705@aol.com
My cell phone is: 810.223.8653
I look forward to hearing from you.

Rosie Richards

Mark your calendars!!
It's that time again

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A
LADIES LUNCHEON



January 12, 2022 at 10 a.m.

L&L Park, Hood Hall

Worship, Fellowship & Food

More details will follow

Invitation to Celebrate

December 18 marks the anniversary of the marriage of Tom & Sherry LaBrie. Since COVID prevented us from sharing our vows with all of you, we would like to celebrate our first anniversary with you at a reception:

December 18, 2021
Maxwell Commons
4:00 – 5:00 pm

Please come and share a few refreshments and celebrate with us.

NO GIFTS PLEASE
THE GIFT OF YOUR PRESENCE IS ALL WE NEED

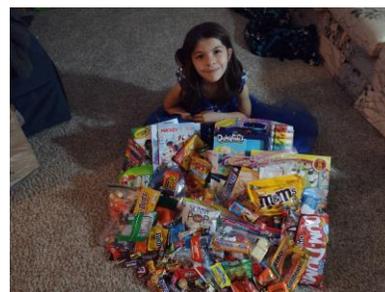
Corn Hole

The corn hole boards will be set up every Friday between 2 - 3 pm, up near the mini-golf & shuffleboard courses. Come and practice your skills.

Haley Stockwell
734-255-8744

A Note from Natalie Smith

Thank you for all the candy and gifts. I had a lot of fun trick or treating with all of you. I loved all your candy, but not as I love you! God Bless You Natalie 🍷 😊



EMPTY IS THE NEW FULL

Ladies Bible Study




Our plate are full, piled high and spilling over with commitments, responsibilities and activities. Schedule-driven living leaves us empty and spent in all the wrong ways. But emptying our schedule for Sabbath offers fullness that helps us move from day to day with more peace, more joy, and more opportunity to Breathe.

JOIN US!

Starts January 26, 2022
9:30 a.m. Hood Hall

Library Information



Authors: Liz Tolsma, Grace Hitchcock, A.D. Lawrence, Pepper D. Basham, Shannon McNear

Related Series: Love & Romance Collections, Women of Courage, Barbour Bride Collections, Music of Hope, Heroines of WWII

True Colors Series

Les Sellers has done it again, choosing unique and intriguing Christian fiction books for our library. This time it is a series called: True Colors, written by multiple authors, which shows man's sinful side, the legal system, and consequences illustrate that God can be seen even in horrific crimes. It is faith-based, includes true life events with fictional characters. It is historical, suspenseful, well researched with smidgens of romance. This series has been written at a time when legal novels are frontline. Everyone wants to know the ABCs (antecedent, behavior, and consequences of crime. This series fits the bill.

These books will be located on the NEW Book Section of the library. Pick one up, read, and let Les know what you felt about it. I know I will be reading this series too.

Book 1: *The White City* (2019) by Grace Hitchcock
Mysterious Disappearances Taint the Chicago World's Fair

Book 2: *The Pink Bonnet* (2019) by Liz Tolsma
Mysterious Disappearances at the Tennessee Children's Home Society

Book 3: *The Yellow Lantern* (2019) by Angie Dicken
Forced to Spy for Grave Robbers

Book 4: *The Gray Chamber* (2020) by Grace Hitchcock
Strange Happenings at the Blackwell Lunatic Asylum

Book 5: *The Blue Cloak* (2020) by Shannon McNear
Marriage and Murderers

Book 6: *The Green Dress* (2020) by Liz Tolsma
Insurance Fraud, Poisonings, and Forensics

Book 7: *The Black Midnight* (2020) by Kathleen Y'Barbo
Two Series of Murders Seem Mysteriously Connected

Book 8: *The Red Ribbon* (2020) by Pepper Basham (Author)

An Appalachian Feud Blows Up in 1912

Continued next column.

Continued from previous column:

Book 9: *The Gold Digger* (2020) by Liz Tolsma
One Sister Grieving While Other Sister Planning

Book 10: *The Purple Nightgown* (2021) by A. D. Lawrence
Healing Spa Hides Dark Secrets

Book 11: *The Silver Shadow* (2021) by Liz Tolsma
1900 Denver

The Judge Who Stole Christmas by Randy Singer

In searching the stacks for a different Christmas fiction book at our library, I came across one that caught my eye, *The Judge Who Stole Christmas*. This should be an easy, light read. How can a judge steal Christmas?

In a Virginia town called Possum, a legal battle was about to unfold. Visualize an image of a small-town couple, Thomas & Theresa Hammond who are participating in the annual live nativity, set up in the town square. It's drizzling, people drive by to see Mary and Joseph with baby Jesus. The Hammonds are enjoying the comments made by a family and their hearts are warm with the kind words. A baby born to a virgin was definitely that, a miracle!

A man drives up and demands that they shut down the Nativity set *NOW!* As a lawyer for the ACLU, he meant business, handing over documents containing a lawsuit to cease and desist with portraying Mary and Joseph. It was an issue of separation of church and state.

A federal judge rules the display unconstitutional; battle begins. Thomas refuses to obey the court and ends up in jail. From the courtrooms of Virginia to the talk shows of New York City, the battle escalates into a national media spectacle. Caught in the middle is law student Jasmine Woodfaulk, assigned to represent Thomas as part of her school's legal aid clinic.

The faith of the people in Possum shows miracles can happen even with the government. It is suspense, a thriller along with being an example of healing. This is a must read. Find it in the S section of fiction.

Happy Reading!



**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 Ministries

Many thanks for your prayers & support of the Briarwood Outreach Ministry! Thirty-four families were deeply touched & grateful for a plateful of turkey & fixings. Praise the Lord for His bountiful provision!

Also, changes are occurring in their community as evidenced by their inquiries about God, prayer & new drug free lifestyles. Lives are being changed. Thanks be to God. Please remember to keep them in your prayers as temptations can be great despite new walks of faith.

Our next holiday event is the annual Christmas Gift Assistance Program. Like charitable "angel tree" programs, gift ideas of approximately \$25 per child will be delivered to Briarwood close to Christmas. Last year 54 children were blessed by your generosity. It was interesting how many of the children requested clothing, rather than toys.

Again, thanks for your faithfulness!
We wish you & your family a very Merry Christmas and a year filled with the love of Christ.

Randy & Karen
704-488-1843; 704-502-0466
allforyum@aol.com



A Note from Pastor Chuck...

The 1879 Free Methodist Book of Discipline (BoD) is actually titled, "DISCIPLINE OF THE FREE METHODIST CHURCH." This is not a big or significant change. As I have looked inside the 1879 version, I see interesting sentence construction. I see a way with words that is different from language usage today.

I read a different BoD than what was written in 2019. As time moves on the area of interests change. Our Articles of Religion stay consistent and yet are re-written with some areas expounded and a few areas reduced. "We" used to be opposed to "singing special" numbers and "choirs" were forbidden. For a musical people this caught me by surprise yet over time "reasons" for some stands or positions change.

What does not change is God and His Word. Free Methodists have been consistent in holding firm to our understanding of who Jesus is and the dependability, accuracy, infallibility of God's Word. Isn't it encouraging to know God and know that He is the same yesterday, today and tomorrow? God is good! Come and see.

In Christ,
Pastor Chuck



Come and See!