



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.
Newsletter

May 1, 2021

Volume 9 Issue 5 Page 1

FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

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Lakeland, FL 33810

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(cell: 863 608-3982)

Email: floridallpark2@gmail.com
Website: lightandlifepark.org

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Office Manager: Sherry LaBrie
sherry@lightandlifepark.org

Receptionist: Kathy Smith
ksmith@lightandlifepark.org

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

It has become much quieter in the Park since many of you have returned to your other home. Know that we will miss you. While you are gone, we will watch out for the Park and have things ready for you when you return.

Even more projects have been completed in the Park in April! I continue to be amazed at the attitude of servanthood that is present in the Park. Thank you to the volunteers that help make the Park a better facility. Below are some of the projects that have been completed. Note that some of the "completions" are a preliminary phase toward having the entire project completed.

- Phase one of the sidewalk from Shiloh to the pool lanai
- Ground water catch basins have been installed in the RV and Cabin area
- A concrete floor was poured for the shed that was destroyed last year in the Beautification area
- Many repairs have been completed at Mike and Cindy Lower's residence; here is a recap of what has been done so far:
- Kitchen, bathroom, and entry way floors have been replaced as well as some severely water-damaged joists
- New bathroom fixtures have been installed
- A cement block retention wall has been placed around the trailer
- A cement pad and ramp were poured at the back entrance
- The A/C and water heater were relocated by necessity

The work so far at Mike's has repaired some of the interior damage caused by flooding, and the work done outside will provide some protection. However, there is still much to do.

There are now 140 families listed in the Park's Digital Directory! Those who have signed up can call, text, or email others listed in the directory right from their smart phone. The Directory can also be used to identify those you do not recognize and to find the address of other residents in the Park. Urgent text messages (severe weather, for example) will be sent by the office to those who have an account and have opted into receiving text messages. If you are not listed yet, please contact the office to get started.

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We have now transitioned the gate phone to a new provider. In the process, the phone number that the call box uses has changed. If you have a four-digit number you give to others so that you can let them through the gate, I recommend that you add the new number to your contacts using a name that is meaningful to you (I used the creative name "Gate"). The new number is 863-859-2973.

On another gate note, Amazon has initiated a new program that limits access to gated communities. An IR device was installed at the gate so that Amazon delivery personnel will be able to open the gate only if they have a package for an address in the Park. Since they are a leading delivery provider, I expect others to follow.

As you may have heard, two kids were born to our pregnant goat a couple of weeks ago. Unfortunately, momma and one of the kids died a day or so later. The remaining kid is in the capable hands of Rhonda, the farmer who helps us out. She is training the goat to receive bottle feeding. Once she feels confident, she will be returning the kid to Mike. He and Cindy will be caring for the kid at their house. We do not have a name for the goat yet. Stay tuned, though; we are thinking about having a "Name the Kid" fundraiser.

There have been several requests lately from members for a person to stay with the member(s) for longer than two weeks. Although there are a couple of current rules that touch on the subject of long-term guests, none provided specific guidelines that could be used for granting or denying these requests. At the April 5 Board Meeting, a rule was approved that provided the needed guidelines and a process by which such requests could be considered. If you currently have someone staying with you, the office will be contacting you to start the request process. A copy of this rule was sent out to the membership recently. If you did not receive a copy, please contact the office.

The hurricane season starts next month. That means we must begin thinking about getting ready. If you are a seasonal resident and have not yet left for your other home, make certain that all outdoor items are secured before you leave. That means putting everything that you can inside your residence or shed. Everything else must be secured so nothing can become airborne. Year-round residents do not have time to do this for you. If you are staying here during the hurricane

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season, begin getting your hurricane supplies ready. Watch for more details and a date for a hurricane preparation class.

While we are physically separated from many of you, be assured that we pray for you. We will pray that you have a restful vacation (from the Park) and that you return safely. Please pray for us as we do the work of the Park. Pray that we are productive, that we rely on God's wisdom, and that we stay safe and healthy. We are already looking forward to your return.

Stan Welton

Office Manager Notes

Vacation has come and gone for the La Bries and when we got back so many of you had gone to your other homes. I hope you all had safe travels. We will hold down the "fort" until your return.

This summer we plan to work on several items that we didn't have time to address during the winter season. I hope to have the reservations done in the next couple of weeks and of course, we'll be working on the directory.

There are some projects we want to work on that involves the County. We will be searching for contacts there and hoping to create some good relationships for information in the county.

Just a note about something that happened as people got ready to leave. I was told that there was a container left in the metal area down by the dump that had plastic bottles and glass in it. I went and found it was a large garbage can and I had to put it in the dumpster after a rain which made it very heavy. We have tried to let you know that we can only recycle cardboard. I'm sorry that someone was so diligent to collect the "recyclables" but they cannot be recycled here. Please just dispose of all trash except cardboard in the dumpster unless you are willing to carry it somewhere else where they will recycle it. Thank you for your consideration.

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I want to remind you that our CERT trained individuals are not to be called with the expectation that they will pick up someone who has fallen. In fact, no one should pick up someone to prevent hurting the patient and/or hurting themselves. CERT will come check that they are responsive and remain with you until help arrives if that will help you.

We are enjoying sunny and pleasant weather here now. I'm sorry so many of you felt you had to go home so soon. I hope you have a great summer and that your weather is good, as well.

One more reminder. If you are here year-round or not at home for a spell, please do not park in your neighbor's drive way unless they have given you permission. This is true any time, but especially while neighbors are away. It is not a good thing to find someone unexpected in your drive when you come home.

Blessings,
Sherry La Brie

News from the Board of Directors

Your Board of Directors has changed a bit due to the last election, but the revised group is busy trying to serve you. The wind and rain storm of Sunday, April 11th, broke several trees and limbs, so the cleanup was somewhat extensive. As of this writing, volunteers are still helping our paid staff cut, chip and pick up. This combination saves our Park a lot of money. And it is as enjoyable as work can be.

We have had less damage because of the recent tree trimming. (And we know we need more trimming and removal.) At our house, I just finished replacing and adding some screws and clearing off thousands of acorns and leaves from the roof and gutters before the storm hit. So, we were fortunate. Some neighbors have not been so fortunate.

The Building and Grounds Committee has been especially busy with projects aimed to improve your Park. Jim Falconer, Phil Moore and Larry Putman help to oversee some projects. It is tough to estimate how much can be completed before the snowbirds leave. And last month I missed listing Larry as also being one of the Finance Committee. (Sorry Larry.)

To me this winter/spring season passed quickly. I'm glad it was also a safe one. I hope you enjoyed it. Projects will continue, and again next season we

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hope to get several more completed. Thank you for your help! If our Park had to hire people to do what volunteers do, your dues would be much higher. The additional benefit is that by working together we get to know our neighbors. The friendships are well worth it.

John Fallot
Board President

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 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.)
- Raised money for sidewalk from Shiloh Path to library and pool.

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

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

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!

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



Blood donation

The Light and Life Blood donors have done it again! You exceeded the One Blood goal! 87 people will benefit from the 29 units of blood received.

It is a privilege to work with such a "giving community".

Thank you.
Blessings,

The Fosters

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.

Jean Whipple takes several items to Talbot House weekly when she is here.

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.

Summer Dinners

As we look forward to the return of Fellowship dinners in the fall, we will have to be satisfied with our monthly summer dinners. The first dinner will be Monday, May 10 at 5:30 pm.

We will enjoy a Baked Potato Bar, fruit salad and dessert. The cost is \$6.00. Please sign up in Hood Hall by Friday, May 7.

There will be some COVID 19 rules to follow. Please arrive with your mask. Once you are at the table to eat, they may be removed.

50th Celebration

The Open House is getting closer. Everyone is welcomed to attend and join in celebrating with our 3 50-year couples.

If you or you know of any other couple that will be enjoying 50 years, please let me know.

Brenda Stockwell
bks4545@gmail.com
734-646-8080

Gadabout News

Ladies Day Out plans are being made for the 2022 season. We are thankful we were able to enjoy several trips this past season while still following the Covid guidelines. We enjoyed lunch at Lavender and Lace all sitting together, but in our own room. The next trip we all ate on the porch at Cracker Barrel together at various tables, and all outside. The Airboats held 16 of our own ladies, and the next 10 went on the next boat with just our own groups. We only rode together in the cars with people we were used to being with. So, it worked out and we had lots of fun and enjoyed getting to know each other better. Hopefully, by next January, the Lord will bless us with more time to be together.

If you are new to the Park, or a visitor, please know these trips are for you, too. We publish our trips on Neighborhood News, then give all the times and details. We hang a copy of the details in Hood Hall on the Bulletin boards inside and outside. We put a copy in the Laundry and Library!

These are the plans we have come up with for next year, but Verneta & I would like to hear from you.

What type of trips do you like? Do you like the Flea Markets, Fine dining, adventure trips, or shopping? Do you know of a place you would like us to plan to go?

On the schedule now are:

- Friday, Jan 14 - Auburndale Flea Market and lunch at Peebles BBQ.
- 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

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

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.

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 Shriner's 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



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 **June** deadline is **May 15**.

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: bhartson@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.

**Library Information**

DID YOU KNOW that our library has a quantity of books on Florida trips? If you are planning a trip soon, check us out.

Is there a newly published book you wish our library had? Let me know.

Following is a list of the 2021 fiction books we have on hand:

Bartels, ALL THAT WE CARRIED
 Bergren, ONCE UPON AN IRISH SUMMER
 Brunstetter, THE ROBIN'S GREETING
 Ciesielski, BEAUTY AMONG RUINS
 Coble, THREE MISSING DAYS
 Connealy, BRACED FOR LOVE
 Dobson, THE CURATOR'S DAUGHTER
 Eason, ACTIVE DEFENSE
 Fabry, A PIECE OF THE MOON
 Fisher, THE MOONLIGHT SCHOOL
 Franz, TIDEWATER BRIDE
 Green, SHADOWS OF THE WHITE CITY
 Goddard, PRESENT DANGER
 Hannon, BLACKBERRY BEACH
 Hunter, BOOKSHOP BY THE SEA
 Maclare, HER STEADFAST HEART
 Peterson, DESTINED FOR YOU
 Peterson, ENDLESS MERCY
 Rosenberg, THE BEIRUT PROTOCOL
 Sawyer, FROM THIS MOMENT
 Whitlow, TRIAL AND ERROR

Les Sellers, librarian

Book Reviews by Gloria Welton

A Thousand Sleepless Nights
By Michael King

A Thousand Sleepless Nights by Michel King was a realistic and heart wrenching story which chronicles the life of Nena Hutching, a woman determined to keep the land left to her by her father. However, in the process of fighting for her land, her children--who feel unloved and unseen--are lost to Nena. After she discovers she has cancer, Nena's husband Jim works to bring their children back home so that their mom can see them one last time. Their return home brings startling results and forever changes their lives, as well as the life of her husband.
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This novel has something for everyone. Watch how the characters dealt with the issues they faced was inspiring and thought-provoking. This book is highly recommended to anyone who has faced, is facing, or knows someone who has faced or is facing cancer. This book has reading realistic stories with believable characters and resolution.

Michael King was a New Zealand author whose novels are highly treasured, wrote *A Thousand Sleepless Nights*. Michael King was one of New Zealand's leading historians and biographers. In 2006 he was named one of 100 most important New Zealanders that have ever lived. He died in a car crash in 2004.

Boo & Boo Who

by Rene Gutteridge

Boo is charmingly lighthearted but deeply spiritual, with vividly rich characters and unforgettable scenes.

The biggest thing to happen to Skary, Indiana, is renowned horror novelist Wolfe Boone—or, "Boo," as the locals fondly call him. For the past sixteen years, the reclusive writer has been the town's greatest attraction, having unintentionally turned the once-struggling Skary into a thriving tourist-trap for the dark side: from the Haunted Mansion restaurant, famous for its "bloody fingers" (fries splattered with ketchup) to Spooky's Bookstore (where employees dress like the walking dead).

When a newly reformed Wolfe suddenly quits the genre and subsequently starts to pursue Skary's favorite girl-next-door, Ainsley Parker, the little town made famous by his writings becomes truly horrified. Soon, a scheme is plotted to put the fright back into Skary—and get their most famous resident out of love and back into the thrill business.

A town of religious hypocrites is converted to genuine, faith-filled people by the one man who is least likely to know the first thing about God. A dramatic comedy, it's sure to warm the hearts and tickle the funny bones of all who read it. Its message of faith, love, and forgiveness will impact its readers long past all the laughs.

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Boo is followed by book 2, *Boo Who*, *Boo Hiss* and *Boo Humbug*. We have the first 2 of the series in our library. Come and enjoy!

Whisper**How to Hear the Word of God**

by Mark Batterson

Mark Batterson states, "God often speaks loudest when we're quietest". His book ***Whisper, How to hear the Word of God***, teaches us that if true conversation is what you desire, then it can happen by learning how to speak to with Him. Mark Batterson illustrates his core message with an abundance of stories about physiology, inventors, theologians, leaders, and biblical characters like Joshua, Moses, and Samuel.

God speaks through Scripture, but also through shared desires, doors that are opened or closed, dreams and visions, other people, promptings to start or stop, and last but not least: pain and suffering. When it comes to discerning God's will Batterson employs five tests: the Goose-Bump Test, an alignment between your spirit and the Holy Spirit, Next, peace and wise counsel, but also the craziness of the answer or instruction, and as fifth the released-from and called-to test, that gives you the room to maneuver. God speaks, so make sure you're ready to listen as His faithful servant.

The voice that spoke the cosmos into existence is the same voice that parted the Red Sea, and made the sun stand still in the midday sky. One day, this voice will make all things new, but it's also speaking to you now!

Mark Batterson wants to introduce you to the seven love languages (Scriptures, Desires, Doors, Dreams, People, Prompting, and Pain) of God, each of them unique and entirely divine. Some of them you might suspect, but others will surprise you. By learning to tune in to and decipher each language, you'll be able to hear God's guidance in simple as well as life-altering choices. God is actively speaking through Scripture, desires, doors, dreams, people, promptings and pain. Batterson gives you the tools you need to unlock each of these languages.

Read this book for yourself! Easy to understand and follow along, it will bring encouragement to your soul. You can find this book in the nonfiction area, middle shelves, under Christian Life (248) directly across from the fiction J and K.



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: Ruby Smith

Briarwood Ministries

Thanks to all of you, Briarwood neighbors have received 214 boxes of food. That represents over 2600 meals you've provided to these kids and their parents so they can enjoy something to eat every day!

I hope you know how much this means to this community, the food insecurity, hunger and even theft, these boxes help reduce. But we are instructed by our Father to do all we can do to help the poor, and there will always be needs.

I met two new families who are moving into Briarwood. One is a single mom and her son who are gutting and remodeling their new home. The second is a mom and dad with 5 kids who are moving in the first of the month. Neither of these families have any furniture or appliances and have asked for our help. Of course, I said yes on your behalf!

I know that many of you have left to colder climates, but we still need your help down here in the heat! Donations can be made directly to the church so we can help with these needs. Please just mark them as Outreach or Briarwood.

Please keep this ministry in your prayers. I don't think there could be anything more important you could give, than your prayers!

In His Grip,
Randy & Karen Williams
704-488-1843
704-502-0466
allforyum@aol.com

A Note from Pastor Chuck...

Thank you to all you faithful followers of Jesus! The Church has experienced a very unusual year. While we have faced a variety of challenges, Jesus has been steady, a rock of salvation. Blessed be the Lord, He is my rock, my fortress, my deliverer, in Him will I trust.

As we enter May we come with fresh expectations. The year and a half of COVID-19 seems to be receding into the pages of history. We look forward to meeting in the building, in particular, as temperatures are on the increase. We will enjoy more relationship building opportunities. There is the sense of more freedom to travel without all the restrictions. There is the hope of singing in the building minus the masks most of us have been wearing. We look forward to what can be in the Kingdom - higher up and further in.

May your faith in Jesus allow you to catch a fresh dream for your life. Live in the knowledge of His all-encompassing love for you. "May your love abound more and more in knowledge and depth of insight, so that you may be able to discern what is best and may be pure and blameless until the day of Christ." (Philippians 1:9-10)

In Christ,
Pastor Chuck

