



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.
Newsletter

April 1, 2022

Volume 10 Issue 4 Page 1

FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

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Lakeland, FL 33810

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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

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

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 is hard to believe that another winter season is drawing to a close. The season has been very busy with golf, cornhole, and shuffleboard tournaments. We have had wonderful concerts. It has been especially rewarding to spend time with the many of you who come for the winter. It is so much fun to visit, play and work together.

Hurricane season is fast approaching once again. If you are leaving the Park for the season, it is imperative that you ensure that you have "wind-proofed" your residence. Here are some steps you need to take BEFORE you leave. If you are not able, please seek assistance from others in the Park.

- If possible, move everything that is outside your residence is moved to a secure indoor location.
- If there are items you cannot move indoors, ensure that those items cannot become wind-blown missiles. Are the items heavy enough to stay put, or do they need tied down?

For those remaining in the Park during the summer, we will be conducting a hurricane preparedness meeting sometime in the near future.

Through your volunteer efforts, improvements have been made in the Park making it look and function even better. Here are a few things that were accomplished this past season. The landscaping outside the gate has been upgraded and made more attractive. The bridge to the 30 acres is nearly complete. Additional stormwater infrastructure has been installed. Martha's Place received a facelift. The goat barn has a cement floor making it easier to clean. The flow of the stormwater ditch running south of the library has been improved and the area reseeded in preparation for a new sidewalk. Thank you one and all!

As always, if you have an idea that you believe will benefit or improve the Park, please let me know so your idea can receive consideration.

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It has been rewarding to see the number of people who have Zoomed into Board and Members' Meetings. Several have told me how helpful it has been to be able to stay connected in that manner. We will continue to offer the Zoom experience and make needed improvements as needed.

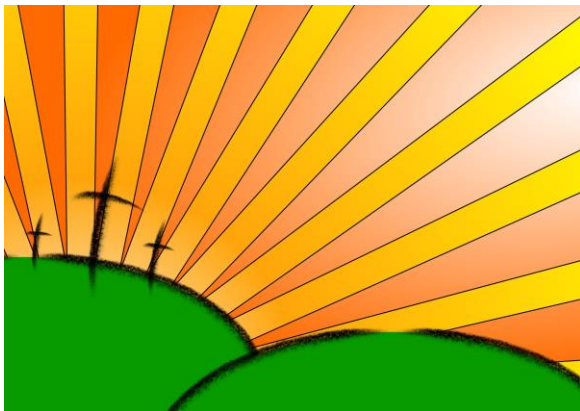
Although I have not been told of any COVID cases recently, we are being told there are still some concerns regarding variants. So, please follow this most important advice. If you are sick or do not feel well, please STAY HOME to protect the community.

Many of you are headed back to your other homes. The pace will slow down in the Park, but you will be missed. As you settle into the tempo of your other life, pray for us as we begin preparing for the next season. We will be praying for your safety as you travel and your health while you are away. See you next season!

Jan



Have a blessed Easter!!



Office Manager

April has arrived and already some of our snowbirds have flown the coop! We pray for safe travels going back to the other nests and safe summers so they can return in the fall.

As you go, here are some things for you to remember. Secure your belongings that have been outside to some place that is safe if we were to have storms. Tie down or anchor things that have been left outside your home. Remember, anything not anchored can become a missile and can damage a neighbor's property.

Make arrangements at the post office to have your mail forwarded to your other address. We do not have the cards available for you anymore.

To receive the Newsletter throughout the summer by snail mail, please drop off address labels for your other address and stamps enough to take care of your time away. We will send the paper copy once it is printed.

Owners who plan to make their places available to rent should fill out the appropriate form in the office so we can be aware. I will provide your information to anyone who inquires and is within your date range.

Please notify the office when you are leaving. You may email, call or drop by. What ever is easiest for you is fine for us.

We have had to say good-bye to some of our residents this year and that is very hard. Some have just had to make the hard decision to stay in one place and have chosen their other home. Some have sold and hope to return in the future as renters. Some have gone to their forever heavenly home. Whatever the case, they will be missed.

On the other hand, we have gained some residents this year. It has been a struggle for some because we got to the percentage of 25% Non-FM owners and had to have some of the potential buyers wait to find a place. We are currently back to 75 % for FM, but Non-FM applicants can only purchase if Non-FM owners sell. I know it will all work out as God ordains and we will continue to be able to gain new members.

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The changes in ownership for March are as follows:

5835 Mizpah Court was sold by Irv and Marilyn Rensberry to John and Darla Birrell. The Birrells were already members at 5310 Ebenezer Place.

5841 Moriah Place was sold by Doug and Sharon Holland to Roger and Jill Smith. The Smiths were new renters this season.

5351 Sharon Trail was purchased by Sue Noble from Wayne and Bev Hop. Sue is Shelly Falconer's sister and is a new resident.

5244 Zion Avenue was purchased by David and Ruth Ann Waid from Eugene and Ellen DePeal. The Waids were new lessees at 5332 Ebenezer Place this year.

5310 Ebenezer Place was sold by the Birrells to Beth Jeffery. Beth is new to the Park this season and will be year-round.

5882 Deeson Road was sold by Doug and Millie Graham to Gene and Connie Poole who are friends of Stan and Gloria Welton.

Welcome to your new homes!

I mentioned last month that I would like to hand off the Newsletter preparation to someone after 10 years of creating it. I have found someone who would like to do that so watch for new instructions in the May *Life and Times* so you know how to communicate your articles.

As you leave over the course of the next two months, we will be catching up on our office work and giving Lori a chance to get some training that she couldn't get while we were busy with the full-Park needs. I'm sure some much needed vacations will be taken, and we will begin preparing for the next winter season.

Easter is part of April this year. I look forward to our Easter worship times and the reminders of the sacrifice and price paid for our salvation. Knowing He Lives gives us reason to celebrate.

May you all be blessed with His presence during this Easter Season!
Blessings,
Sherry LaBrie

News from the Board of Directors

Change comes to us all, and change has come to your Board of Directors. Three members were elected to three-year terms on the Board. Becky Smith, Byron Davey and Larry Bidwell. Becky was re-elected for a second term. Byron is new to this Board, but has served on previous Boards. Larry Bidwell is serving for the first time.

In addition to these new people, I have been elected as the new President of the Board. This is a big job and I am pledged to do the very best I can, with God's help and the support of all the park members.

The other members you have elected to represent you on the Board are excellent people for this task and It is a great honor to work with all of them in directing our Park for the future.

As we enter the summer season and many of us will be leaving for home, drive carefully, stay safe, and may God bless each one of you.

Jim Falconer

Aquafit Water Aerobics

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

Splash times are offered during snowbird season, twice weekly, and free of charge. Currently we are not on a "set" day of the week due to weather conditions. However, spring is around the corner! 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.

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

CPC Golf News

Co-ed Three Club Tournament

April 1, 2022

Shot gun start at noon.

Restaurant gift card awarded to lowest score (1st place for man & woman)

Text or email Ed to pre-register.

The Player's Club

Ed Stockwell

517 861-0481

edstockwell48@gmail.com

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY
LIBRARY2GO SCHEDULE**



The Library2Go will be here from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM on the following days:

April 21

May 12

Purchasing Benches

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

Medical Equipment Available

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

Martha's Place Thank You

The users of Martha's Place would like to thank the many volunteers who helped make improvements at Martha's Place. It is beautiful and functional now for those who are regular users. Thanks so much for brightening our lives through your efforts.

Fellowship Dinner Returns

FOUR, FOUR Food, Fun, and Fellowship for members/residents within our Park housing units (homes, RVs, guest rooms, and cabins) and their house guests staying with them.

Dinner at Hood Hall at 5:30; Variety Show program at 6:15.

Please bring your own place setting and a dish of food to share with those at your table. You may arrange the menu for your table of eight in advance if you wish. Kindly remember to include new residents and singles.

That's April 4 (4/4)!

Fellowship Dinner and Program Committee
Marilyn Stone, Chairman
863-308-2813



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, Sherry LaBrie, by the 15th of the month prior to publication.

Please use this email: sherry.loflin69@yahoo.com. Email is the preferred method. 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 **May** deadline is **April 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.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Bucket Listers



The Bucket Listers "Happy Days" themed golf cart placed first in the annual Beautification Parade.

The Bucket Listers hosted several nights of trivia at Hood Hall on 3-1-22 and 3-15-2022. Numerous teams enjoyed evenings of fun and laughter and prizes.

The Bucket Listers assisted the Movie Club In showing the movie American Underdog the Kurt Warner Story on March 8, 2022. Over 150 were in attendance.

The Bucket Listers hosted a hotdog lunch on Friday of the craft show. We sold over 120 hot dog meals! We also sold crafts and caramel corn.

The Bucket Listers hosted Earl Galloway, gospel singer on March 13, 2022. It was an evening of Southern Gospel.

Once again, we made and sold over 300 homemade cinnamon rolls on March 14, 2022.

We continue to anticipate the completion of the sidewalk that will connect Shiloh Path with the library and pool. Your donations at work making our park better.

Thank you for supporting the Bucket Listers fundraisers! We appreciate your support. This past year the Bucket Listers have raised nearly \$1000.00.

Keep your eyes open for future projects!



Wood Shop Club

The Wood Shop Club has completed the display for the Memorial and In-Honor Bricks that were sold during the construction of the new shop building. They wish to invite everyone to come to the Wood Shop and view the new display just outside, to the left of the entrance ramp to the building.

A big vote of thanks is extended to all those who purchased Bricks and helped the Park complete the Wood Shop Building.

The Wood Shop Club Leadership Board

Gadabout News

To all the ladies of Light & Life Park: Verneta and I have had so much fun planning trips and having you go with us for these past few years. However, due to all these many health issues, we are going to have to give it up! We know having a Ladies Day Out should continue! We are looking for someone to take this over for next year!!! All you have to do is think of a place you would like to go and invite the others to go with you! You would announce the trips and put up a sign- up sheet to make sure you have enough drivers!!

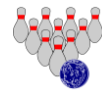
We tried to have 2 trips a month for Jan, Feb, and March, and you can pick the day of the week! If this sounds like too much work, how about getting your bff's together and take one month and plan two trips for that month. That way, you could split up the work and we can all enjoy going out together. If you and your group would like to try to take a month, you can choose Jan, Feb or March! There are so many fun places to go and nice places to have lunch around Lakeland! Flea markets, festivals, shopping places, and fairs are all fun if we go together! I still have a list of places I could suggest to you. Think about it, pray about it, and talk to your friends and let us know! Call Peggy Dunn 248-766-5537 or Verneta Dunn 810-441-9408! Thank you again for your help, this year, Flo Grabowski!

Peggy Dunn

Bowling

Bowling Leagues still meet every Tuesday afternoon at the Orange Bowl Lanes.

Thanks,
Barb Hartson
bfhartson@gmail.com



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

- * Bruce & Vonnie Denton
- * Richard & Carolyn Lindley
- * Carolyn & Cliff Nicholas
- * Charles & Rose Richard
- * Ted & Donna Zook
- * Bob and Kathy Zook

Brenda Stockwell
50th Anniversary Coordinator
734-646-8080

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

Shuffleboard

With many leaving for their northern homes we are seeing a decrease in players on the courts. We will continue to play shuffleboard on Mondays at 1:00 and on Thursday evenings at 6:00 if the weather permits.

It has been an interesting year with many from Canada not coming to Florida. We are looking forward to next year hoping that our Canadian friends will be able to return to Florida and shuffle with us.

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

Library Information



This has been a good winter of usage and participation in your library. We thank you for always leaving the library in good order, for returning materials in proper time, and for the many donations made. I must remind you to be sure to check your places before leaving for any books or DVDs or any other library materials that need to be returned.

We have a collection of audio books on CD in our library. You are welcome to check out any and return them by mail upon arriving home.

Bon voyage! Have a good and safe return until we meet again.

Les Sellers
Librarian

Book Reviews by Gloria Welton

A Lion Called Christian

By Anthony Burke and John Rendall

There is just something about animal stories, whether it is animal - human or animal – animal. The interaction is unique and the bond great. According to the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) the human- animal bond is defined as, "...a mutually beneficial and dynamic relationship between people and animals".

Because we love animals, we provide them with food, shelter, medical care, entertainment, and affection. The ways in which humans benefit, go deeper than basic needs: **stress reduction increased healing and independence, improved mood, more physical activity, immunity boosts and social connections. Pets also help with emotional support.**

A pet doesn't care how much money you make, what type of car you drive, what you look like, or whether you wear name-brand clothes. Pets provide us with impartial, unconditional emotional support and love.

In the late 1960s and early 70s, it was not unusual to see exotic animals in department stores. Not today. In *A Lion Called Christian 2* friends from Australia moved to England for a year. They went to Harrods, a luxury and expensive department store where they were intrigued by a lion cub.

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Christian was a loyal and devoted pet who had an easy-going personality. The three of them bonded very closely. Think about this lion licking and snuggling up to grown humans! I don't want to give the book away. *A Lion Called Christian* is worth checking out of the library. A very easy read. Who knows, you might learn how humans and animals but need to be loved!

Go to the middle nonfiction shelves (where there are 3 bookshelves. Look under 599 to find this and other interesting books. Enjoy!

When God Disappears

By Shane Stafford

Have you ever felt as if God is nowhere around? A distant unreachable star millions of light years away? What about when we make the same mistakes over and over? When the chasm between what we do and what God intends seems so wide, we cannot even see the other side? This does happen over and over because we **are** human with a sinful nature.

Shane Stafford, the author of *When God Disappears*, writes about six different encounters written in the Gospel: Encounters with Zacchaeus, the Woman at the Well, the Man with a Demon-possessed Sin, and the Woman Caught in Adultery. Along with those encounters with Mary, Martha, and Lazarus and his 6th one with Peter. *When God Disappears*, he helps us to do the same: to see ourselves in these messy, all too-human Jesus encounters and to experience the grace and hope of a God who has not forgotten us.

Sanford's difficult health issues (Hemophilia, HIV through a blood transfusion, and Hepatitis C) have given him a beautiful outlook about God. He has experienced prejudice and rejection from Christians. He himself has experienced deep pain and betrayal. His humility is amazing. You have all heard about these encounters, but he gives a unique insight to what we have all experienced.

The book provides a Study and Reflection Guide for each encounter and is worth a read. You will find this book in nonfiction, 248, Christian Life on the middle shelves closest to the windows and directly across from the fiction against that wall. Let me know what you think.

Happy reading!



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 Bellinger
Secretary: Pam Hill

Briarwood Outreach

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

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

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



A Note from Pastor Chuck...

Let me start this month's article off with the idea of "God ain't no joke!" This is the time of year when the northern states are starting to experience the wonder of Spring. There is an energy, hope and promise that bursts forth in the Springtime! Psalm 19 tells us, "The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth." Let us rejoice in the goodness of God and in the ways He reveals Himself.

April fool's day? Psalm 14: The fool says in his heart, "There is no God." April's fool...all creation itself cries out declaring His existence and glory.

Our God is an awesome God!!!

In Christ,
Pastor Chuck

