



# The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.  
Newsletter

August 1, 2022

Volume 10 Issue 8 Page 1

## FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

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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

5340 Ebenezer Place  
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

The rainy season has finally arrived with nearly predictable afternoon and evening rainstorms. I was starting to wonder when (or, if?) the rains were coming to fill our pond and the Jordan. Well, the rains came; and the waterways are filling up; and with that, the wildlife that had traveled elsewhere have begun to return. Recently, I've seen a wood stork and a blue heron; a big turtle surfaced in the pond (where was it staying?); and, although they hadn't disappeared, there is at least one smaller alligator hanging out. I love living in Florida and being in the Park!

With the returning rain, mowing becomes a challenge during the summer. The Park staff and a few volunteers keep the acres of grass mowed, and it grows faster than the traffic moving on Kathleen Road! Some areas, in fact, must be mowed twice a week. However, we do not trim around your residences. So please be sure that you have someone who is trimming the weeds and grass around your home. If I see something that needs attention, I will let you know.

This summer, the Board began meeting every two months via Zoom to stay current about things happening in the Park. The next meeting was August 1 at 9:00 a.m. For these meetings, Zoom invitations will go out the day before the meeting, so look for that sometime in the late afternoon or early evening the day before the meeting. If you are able, please join in. If you need help joining Zoom, please find someone to help you ahead of time (check with your grandchildren—they will know what to do).

Things remain unchanged regarding the property that we are interested in purchasing. Continue to be in prayer about this possibility.

The construction of the bridge behind the library is progressing very well. The curbs have been poured, and once the concrete has cured, our volunteers and staff will pour the concrete for the deck. The bridge should be open and ready for use when the new season is in full swing.

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So far it has been a quiet hurricane season. However, most storms occur after July, so we remain alert. We had our annual hurricane preparation meeting presented by the education team from Polk County Emergency in July. We have assigned zone captains to prepare the Park ahead of the hurricane season and to be feet on the ground to assist with any emergencies that arise. If you are living in the Park, be sure to review the emergency preparation checklist to ensure you are prepared. If you need direction on how to prepare, visit <https://www.ready.gov/hurricanes#before>.

I have spoken to members of the Park recently and have been surprised with the number who have not yet visited our rebuilt website. If you haven't taken the time to visit, please do so! One new element being added to the web site very soon are links to the monthly newsletters. The website address is <https://lightandlifepark.org>. Explore the menus to see what has been added and to become familiar with the site.

As the waterways fill up and the wildlife returns, I anticipate having more opportunities to practice nature photography. Unfortunately, when I have taken my camera with me recently, there just haven't been many photo ops. I am looking forward to finding the new opportunities to share with you.

*Jan*

**Beautification Parade  
2023**

February 23, 2023  
(Rain date is the 24<sup>th</sup>)

Theme is Bible Stories

Luncheon in Hood Hall following parade.

**Shuffleboard**



We try to play shuffleboard on Mondays at 1:00 and on Thursday evenings at 6:00 if the weather permits.

**Office Manager**

As you can see the newsletter is delayed this month. I guess it's not a good idea to let the editor take a vacation near the deadline. At any rate, it is done as quickly as possible.

Vacation was very relaxing and gave me some time to appreciate coming home. As I walked in the Park this morning, I was glad for the peace that is always there when walking in the early morning. There was a hush over the property Sunday afternoon as we arrived. We are so blessed to be able to live in a place where God's creation and love are so evident.

We have had a new lot for lease become available for a new RV or Park Model to be permanently placed. It is 5340 Ebenezer Place. Please let us know if you are interested in leasing that lot.

Lori Jones and Greg Thomas were a great team at keeping things going while I was on vacation. Greg has brought fresh eyes and ideas to the office and Lori is juggling things so well as she keeps tabs on all of us.

We have been finalizing many of our reservations. Certainly, we have less space available than we need. Many are on our waiting lists to get in and stay. Please let me know if you do not plan to come and you have left a request for a space, or if you are a member and know you will be renting for a period of time. Those with reservation requests will be contacted soon with what we were able to accommodate.

There will be a Baked Potato Dinner on Monday, August 8 at 5:30 pm in Hood Hall. Please sign up by Friday, August 5. Cost is \$6.00.

There are currently only 3 homes listed for sale. We are actively showing those and hoping to see percentages of FM to NFM get worked out soon.

It is hard to believe that August is here. Before we know it, the snowbirds will be headed south. Enjoy your summer and get ready to return to your winter home.

*Blessings,  
Sherry LaBrie*

**News from the Board of Directors**

Greetings from Michigan, where it is HOT! We have had several weeks in the 90's as high as 96° some days. It seems like the Florida weather has followed us home to Michigan this spring.

Your Board of Directors met in June by way of a group "Zoom" call on the computer. It is a very good method to keep in touch with the Park when we cannot be there in person. Discussion was held on staffing needs in the office and park and general plans for the summer. Some of the projects planned are as follows:

The Library bridge is being widened and re-designed for less restriction in the water flow during heavy rains. Also, the foundation for the bridge in the new sidewalk from Shiloh Path to the pool will be poured and ready for completing the sidewalk this next season.

Also, in the works is a plan to provide emergency generator power to the offices during times when the power is off.

Work is being planned to upgrade the Park landscaping at the Welcome Circle near the Villas, just inside the Park gates.

Heartland Pools' representative Kevin is on the job maintaining our pool on a regular schedule.

Our wastewater system is coming up for re-certification soon. Stan will be working with an engineering firm and preparing for the review.

As of this date (July 5) we are still waiting for acceptance of our offer to buy the property outside our Park gates. The elderly lady co-owner has been ill, and her granddaughter has been waiting until her condition improves.

August is the month for vacations. Marie and I hope you are all able to enjoy the summer season and reunions with relatives and friends.

God bless you and keep you safe.

**Jim Falconer**

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

The Park has quieted down since many snowbirds have already gone north. We too are heading there.

To date, I only know of 6 couples at our Park that will be celebrating their 50th anniversary at our Open House on February 10th, 2023. If you do hear of any other couple, please let me know. 734-646-8080, [bks4545@gmail.com](mailto:bks4545@gmail.com)

Brenda Stockwell  
50th Anniversary Open House Chair

**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, twice weekly, and free of charge. Currently we are not on a "set" day of the week due to weather conditions. Updates are posted on L&L Facebook and Neighborhood News. Kindly share this with your friends!

**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. It costs \$9.60 to mail a shoebox full of stamps.

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

They now collect picture post cards both unused and used. If used, please leave the stamps on the cards. Thank you.

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

If you would be willing to deliver them, contact Colleen Sellers for information.

Thank you.  
*Colleen Sellers*

**A note about pop/soda cans:**

Thank you for saving your aluminum cans which are taken by us to a recycling center in east Lakeland. The money received is being used to buy benches for the Park.

I am happy to pick up your pop/soda cans to haul to the Recycling Center, however it will make my job a lot easier if you remember the cans from canned goods **CANNOT** go in with the aluminum pop cans. These are picked up by someone else and need to be kept separate.

There is a bin in the metal recycling collection center near the dumpsters which is marked "POP CANS"--that's the one to use!

Thanks for your help.

Wes Crist

**2023 CPC golf tournaments!**

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

Ladies Four-person Scramble  
1-20-23 (Friday).

Club Championship Tournament  
Feb 3, 2023 (Friday)

Ladies Club Championship  
Feb 24, 2023 (Friday)

Two-man Blind draw tournament  
March 10, 2023 (Friday)

Three club Co-Ed tournament  
April 1, 2023 (Saturday)

The Player's Club  
Ed Stockwell  
517 861-0481

[edstockwell48@gmail.com](mailto:edstockwell48@gmail.com)

**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.

**HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY LIBRARY2GO SCHEDULE**



Library2Go has suspended service for the rest of the summer due to staffing issues. Watch for changes in the Fall.

**Bowling**

Bowlers...If you are even the least bit interested in bowling come join the Park league starting in January. It is a great way to meet people and have fun at the same time.

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

We will start bowling January 3rd, 1 PM, Orange Bowl Lanes.

Barb Hartson  
[bfhartson@gmail.com](mailto:bfhartson@gmail.com)



**Summer Fellowship Dinners**

The next Summer Fellowship Dinners will be on Monday, August 8th at 5:30 pm in Hood Hall. Cost is \$6.00. The September dinner is the 5<sup>th</sup>. Watch for more information to come.

The menu is Baked Potato Bar, salad and hot fudge brownie sundaes.

There are sign-up sheets in Hood Hall. You will need to sign up by Friday, June 2.



### 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 or new editor Barb Hartson, by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to publication.

Please use this email: [sherry.loflin69@yahoo.com](mailto:sherry.loflin69@yahoo.com). Email is the preferred method. You may also drop your submissions off at the Park Office or email Barb Hartson [bfhartson@gmail.com](mailto:bfhartson@gmail.com). The September deadline is August 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 2023.

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

Thank you for your cooperation.

### Bucket Listers



As you continue to enjoy your summer in the north remember the individuals who like to put jigsaw puzzles together in the park. This means as you clean your house, cabin or go to yard sales this summer and you find interesting jigsaw puzzles pick them up and put them in your pile that you have started of items to bring back to Florida.

The jigsaw puzzles in Hood Hall are available to anyone in the park to take and complete at the hall or take to their residence to complete and return.

The Bucket Listers will be selling gourmet caramel corn and a hot dog lunch at the craft show on December 9, 2022.

The Bucket Listers will also be sponsoring Trivia Night and Movie Night on alternating Tuesday nights in January, February, and March next year.



### Gadabout News

I have taken over as coordinator for the ladies' events from Peggy Dunn and Verneta Dunn. They will still help when they can. Also, Lana Kendall, Barb Hartson, Ruth Bridgeforth will be helping too.

We are looking forward to another season here in the Park next year. Lord willing, I will be back mid-November to first of December. We welcome your input on other places to go.

GAD-ABOUTS TRIPS 2023

January 12 - Ringling Museum of Art, Circus & Bayfront Gardens, Sarasota

January 26 - Lavender & Lace Tearoom, Lake Alfred

February 09 - Old Testament Tabernacle in the Wilderness, Tarpon Springs

February 23 - Flea Market, TBA

March 09 - Strawberry Festival Senior Day, Plant City

March 23 - Bok Singing Tower & Gardens, Lake Wales

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

Flo Grabowski

Cell 931-797-2639

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

## Library Information



### Book Reviews by Gloria Welton

#### After Math

by Terri Blackstock

Terri Blackstock has written another suspense thriller! Her books, to me, are well-written with a definite lesson to learn. It is a suspenseful story, sweet romance, and rings hope for the future. Her books are easy to read and difficult to put down. Her novels are Christian mysteries that have a balance of suspense, an intriguing, thought-provoking topic, a bit of romance, and a compelling, uplifting message.

Thus, *Aftermath*, is a book worth reading. Why? It provides a great story that is apropos for today. There is a political rally and a concert. Three best friends attend together. Then there is an explosion, and only one friend survives. Can you imagine the trauma such an event would have on the surviving person? Guilt for being alive, shock because it happened, and unable to deal with the flashbacks that cause her to relive those moments. With likeable and relatable characters it hits all of the emotions. *These issues are wrapped up in a message of hope and healing. Life is scary and hard, but we are not alone. How we live this life matters and having faith when it seems impossible provides not only the hope we need to persevere, yet is also what will see us through.*

This book explores through characters eyes, such issues as mental disorders, cancer, terrorism, fear and trauma, mental health, grief, loss, along with faith in trying situations and forgiveness and human frailties.

When police stop Dustin Webb with a warrant to search his trunk, he knows there's been a mistake. He's former military and owns a security firm. But he's horrified when the officers find explosives, and he can't fathom how they got there. He knows he didn't put them there, who's trying to frame him?

Jamie Powell, a criminal attorney, was Dustin's best friend growing up. They haven't spoken nor seen each other since he left for basic training, Dustin thinks of Jamie when he's arrested. Jamie knows she's putting her career on the line by defending an accused terrorist, but she'd never abandon him. Someone is framing Dustin to take the fall for shocking acts of violence . . . but why?

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#### Continued from previous column:

An incredible story, a page turner, and hope for the future. You will find this book in the new section of the library.

#### Nancy Wake: World War Two's Most Rebellious Spy

by Russell Braddon

By Russell Braddon was born in Sydney in 1921. He wrote a number of biographies, novels, histories, and his own POW experience.

This true story about Nancy Wakes, one of the greatest spies during World War II, was told to the Russell Braddon by the woman herself. The author gathered so much information through multiple interviews that he was able to put together a very detailed sequence of events. He provided an inside view of daily life with the men who worked tirelessly to overcome a formidable enemy without a lot of gory details.

Nancy Wake was an affluent woman and wife in France. The war to her was far away until her husband was called up for military service, Nancy felt she had just as much of a duty to fight for freedom and she did! She joined the SOE and became a Special Operations Executive, CEO, a spy! The extraordinary courage of this woman changed the course of the war.

Nancy was so good in being a spy that by 1943, her fearless undercover work had earned her a place on the Gestapo's 'most wanted' list. Nancy often frustrated the Nazis in whatever she did, from smuggling food and messages to the underground Resistance, to parachuting into the heart of the was to lead 7,000 Resistance fighters.

The events of this book are true, The book was originally published in 1956 so close after WWII ended. Therefore, many of Nancy's friends and colleagues were living to recount their close feelings and the broad spectrum of events together to the author whom they trusted. Her main accomplishment brings together situations in WW II France that Many people would not know.

**'Of all the variously talented women SOE sent to France, Nancy Wake was perhaps the most formidable' – Sebastian Faulks**

You can find this book on the new bookshelves, biographies, of nonfiction section of World War II. It's engrossing and hard to put down.



Happy reading!

### Light and Life Free Methodist Church

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Lakeland, FL 33810

Phone: (863) 858-6361  
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Email: [church@lfmc.org](mailto:church@lfmc.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...

There is an underlining principle in following Jesus in being surrendered and generous. These two ideas get intertwined. In Luke 21:1-4, the good news says, "As he looked up, Jesus saw the rich putting their gifts into the temple treasury. He also saw a poor widow put in two very small copper coins." (NIV). No matter the economic standing of the individual there was an expectation of acknowledging God's gracious provision.

God calls us to be generous. His word tells us all we have comes from Him. I have found that our flesh sometimes finds it hard to "let go and trust God." Knowing who our provider is while recognizing, again, all we have comes from Him, why is it many times so hard to be generous with His stuff?

When we are able to release control of His gifts to us, it allows us to be generous. "For God so loved the world [He made] he gave his only begotten son...". God so loved His creation He surrendered His son to do what needed to be done to set us all free to become whom he created us to be out of His generosity.

God gives us the active opportunity to surrender a portion of His provision and be generous. As demonstrated in Luke 21, wealthy or poor, we acknowledge Jesus and the work of His Spirit in many ways including our tithes and offerings.

In Christ,  
*Pastor Chuck*

