



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.
Newsletter

February 1, 2022

Volume 10 Issue 2 Page 1

FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

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Office Manager: Sherry LaBrie
sherry@lightandlifepark.org

Office Assistant:

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

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

We are into a new season and a new year! I find it a pleasure to see and visit with those whom I have not seen for several months. As we kick into high gear and still face the virus spectral, I will continue to provide the guidance and advice that I believe will help us safely continue those activities that we are accustomed to.

I am pleased to welcome Lori Jones to the office staff. When you visit the office, stop to say hello, and welcome her. Hers will be the smiling face you see when you first step into the office. Although she is new to our procedures, she is learning quickly and will be an asset to the Park.

For the past several years, the Park has been blessed by a group of men and women called the Sugar Creek Gang. The group is reorganizing again this year, and Mel Stevenson has agreed to be the primary organizer. There is much to do, and I am seeking additional volunteers to become active in this group. Because of volunteers like those in the Sugar Creek Gang and others who volunteer on an individual basis, we can keep Park fees low while making continual improvements to the Park. Thank you to every one of you who volunteer!

All the recent Board and Resident meetings have been available via Zoom. We will continue to provide that as we move forward. I am working toward setting up Hood Hall so that it is easier to set up and tear down for Zoom. Since there are many of you who have never or rarely used Zoom, I am developing instructions to help you login and participate in the meeting if you wish. If you have trouble, please contact the office; we will help you get connected if you wish to Zoom in.

As you have noticed recently, there have been many more cases of COVID reported in the Park. This is not unexpected given the current prevalence of the Omicron variant of the virus in the country. I have been staying abreast of the CDC guidelines and adjusting advice accordingly. One of the guidelines they have issued is that family members who have been vaccinated do not need to

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quarantine when someone in their household tests positive for COVID. However, they are strongly advised to wear a mask when with people outside of their family. To protect others in the Park, I ask that you follow this guideline. Also, it is vital, if you have any COVID symptoms, that you stay home until you test negative, or the symptoms have run their course.

There have been several ideas suggested for improvements to or additional amenities for the Park. Some of these ideas will be quite costly to implement or construct and cannot be paid for with existing funds. To consider approving any of the costly proposals, someone needs to take ownership of it—someone who is willing to solicit plans, find funding, organize volunteers to help when possible, and see the project to completion. If you are that person, please let the Board know so they can work beside you as they consider improvements.

When I purchased the shrubbery for the gate, I was not aware that the irrigation system needed much repair. The repairs have been completed and the shrubbery is ready to be planted. Expect an email very soon asking for volunteers to help with the planting.

There has already been lots of activity in the Park this season. Shuffleboard, golf, cornhole, horseshoes, miniature golf, swimming (when the weather is cooperative), pickleball, tennis, walking, running, biking, and social activities. Be safe, have fun, and give God the glory.

Jan

Office Manager

February brings many things each year. This year it seems that it needs to bring a thaw since January ended coldly. There will be Valentines and 50th Anniversary activities, perhaps concerts and Missions Conference. Maybe we'll even get to have Mugs on Monday.

Whatever comes, we will still need to be cautious about being with our friends and neighbors if we are having cold symptoms or any other maladies that make us feel lousy. If COVID has taught us nothing else, it has taught us that it is better to stay home than to share whatever is wrong with us.

Things remain busy at the Park Office. We are happy to have Lori Jones at the front desk assisting with your requests when you visit. Please continue to be patient as she learns and we work together to provide what you need.

There are only a few places for sale right now. I know there are some who plan to sell soon. Please let me review some of the steps you need to follow. When you inform us that you would like to place your home on the market, we will have Stan do a pre-sale inspection. Once that is complete, you may give us your written description for the Property Sales list and the website Sales page.

Please be sure any prospective buyer has been approved to purchase a home. This does not mean approved to rent. If they have been approved, remember they may need to be Free Methodist, so check with the Office on what the percentage is currently.

Events this season will be scheduled as much as possible in a normal manner. Please be sure to check with the Office about dates for the calendar and use of the meeting areas. We encourage you to be creative and fellowship together in a safe way.

I would like to thank all those who help us on a volunteer basis. We are blessed to have a great staff, but often couldn't accomplish our goals without extra help. This Park has plenty who step up on a regular basis and help us get things done.

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Another way you can help us, is to break down your cardboard at the corrugated cardboard recycle bin. That helps everyone have room to get their boxes recycled.

Also, remember that the construction dumpster is available for you to dispose of large items, but a donation is requested to help us be able to pay for the disposal of those items.

Pop cans have their own container in the metal area. Wes Crist willingly and faithfully takes those for recycling and brings back cash. You may leave the tabs on, as we are no longer sending those to Shriner's hospital.

Plastic caps can be put in the laundromat or taken to Ed Hamilton's home. If you find the container in the laundromat is full, please notify the Office or Ed Hamilton so we can empty it.

Thank you in advance for your help with the things we do.

Remember that we have 2022 directories and calendars available in the Office. There are 2 Enjoyment books still available for 2 for 1 dinners in the Lakeland area.

This February let's remember to love one another as God has loved us. Let's find ways to extend that to our community outside the gate. God is love and he has enough to go all around!

Blessings,
Sherry La Brie

News from the Board of Directors

With another winter season in full swing, it seems and feels to me that your L& L Board, Par Office, cleaning, maintenance, Church and the entire Park has been fully active. As I write this article, the Bible Conference is in session, and I feel it has been powerful.

Your Board of Directors held two meetings in January and then had the Member meeting where we could share what has been completed, what is currently underway and what we plan for the near future. We finished up the month with a special Resident meeting to share information and clarify it for a recommended Bylaw revision. Our Park Office and employees communicate and work closely with us. This cooperation helps all of us. We seek to continuously maintain and improve your Park. Much of what we accomplish could not be achieved without the generous volunteer work of so many of our members. And this is an ongoing legacy of this Park.

The Bylaws Committee has great members with Becky Smith of your Board as chair. The proposed revisions they developed and are moving through the multiple month approval process are significant. We have sought to make these changes for years but fell short of getting it done. I am so appreciative of their progress. You, the membership, will be the ones, by your vote to complete this process. You will decide whether we make the changes. While I hope your vote will be a "yes", it is your choice.

At the end of our January Member's Meeting, I made a mistake at the end. Your secretary, Becky Smith, prepared the agenda properly, showing "announcements" after adjournment. I totally forgot and missed it. The announcements are important – there are so many things that take place at our Park. I apologize to those who wanted to make announcements and to all of you who missed hearing them. Unfortunately, it was after the meeting before I remembered. I am truly sorry.
John Fallot



Mel Starr will have copies of his latest medieval mystery, **MASTER WYCKUFF'S SUMMONS**, which was released in October 2021, available at 5843 Mizpah Ct He will also have copies of earlier books in the series. When Mugs on Mondays begins, he will have them available there.

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

**PARK WIDE FIELD DAY
Saturday, February 19, 2022**

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.

8:30 am Men/Women golf on the Cow Pasture Course

Sign up – see Cliff Nicholas

9:00 am Men/Women mini golf

Come play when you choose.

12:00 pm Lunch under the trees (in front of the mini golf course)

1:30-3:30 pm Play games of choice

-Shuffleboard

-Bocce Ball

-Corn Hole

-Mini golf

-Horse Shoes

-Pickleball (church parking lot)

-3:30 pm Ice Cream Sundaes

-7:00 pm Gathering at the Church:

Music (quartets)

Chalk Artist – Tom Ammons



**COME, PLAY FOR FOOD
AND ENJOY A DAY OF FELLOWSHIP!!**
(No prizes this year.)

For information contact:

Cliff Nicholas 231-429-0052

Carolyn Nicholas 231-429-0129



CPC Golf News

Monday through Friday, a men's scramble group meets at CPC. Come and join the FUN. All players are welcome! Times of play are 9:00 am and 2:00 pm. Contact: Tom Patch 810-882-7507.

Most Friday mornings at 10:30, the Ladies are welcome to join in the fun of playing best ball with teams of 3 or 4 depending on who shows up. When the men have a tournament, the ladies try to play another day. When Bible Study is over on Wednesday, that may be the new day. Contact: Flo Grabowski 931-797-2639.

February 2022 Golf Tournaments

Club Championship Tournament
Friday
Feb 4th, 2022

Four-person, Ladies Scramble
Friday
Feb 25, 2022

Tee off for both tournaments
12:00 noon.

Registration 11:30 AM (at the course).

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.



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 **March** deadline is **February 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.

Bucket Listers



Do you like the colored lights, at night, at the pool? They will be there until March 1, 2022, because they brighten the night.

On December 11, 2021, the Bucket Listers hosted a Christmas Night Out for all the ladies of the park at Hood Hall. We played Christmas games, sang Christmas carols, ate Christmas sweets, won prizes and had a great evening together. There were over fifty ladies in attendance. A wonderful time was had by all.

The Bucket Listers hosted an ice cream float fellowship on January 19, 2022. The turnout was great, and the Floats were enjoyed by all.

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

Looking forward to the completion of 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

Gadabout News

The Gad-Abouts ladies' group is alive and well after our first cancellation. By the time you see this news our second trip will be in the works. Pay close attention to the February trip on the Wild dolphin Cruise out of Clearwater. It is on Thursday, February 10. Watch Neighborhood News to get all the information and find out when the sign-up will start.

The rest of the trips are:

- Saturday February 26, Downtown Lakeland Farmers/Flea Market and Lunch downtown.
- Thursday, March 10, Senior Day at the Strawberry Festival, Plant City
- Thursday, March 24. Lunch at Polly's Pantry and Gift Shop, Wildwood and Russell Stover Candy Outlet

These trips are for all the ladies of the Park! Come and join us and make new friends and have a day out with some wonderful ladies of Light & Life Park.

Questions or Suggestions? Call Flo Grabowski 931-797-2639 or Peggy Dunn at 248-766-5537, or Verneta Dunn at 810-441-9408.

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.

Blood Pressure Clinic

Blood pressure clinics start on January 5 from 11-12 noon at Hood Hall and will be every other week until end of March. Please wear a mask while getting blood pressure taken.

Thanks,
Judy Crowe

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

Bowling

Bowling League has started. Please check with Barb Hartson to see if any week is canceled or postponed.

Bowling takes place at the Orange Bowl and teams of 3 or 4 are scheduled together. If you don't have a team, contact Barb Hartson.

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 Anniversary Open House

The couples celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary in 2022 are:

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

All are invited to attend this casual occasion on Friday, February 11, 2022, from 2 - 4 pm. Mark the date on your calendar.

Brenda Stockwell
734-646- 8080 (call or text)

Wreath Making Class

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

Call or text 734-646- 8080 call or text 734-646- 8080 which size you 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

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY LIBRARY2GO SCHEDULE



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

February 17
March 10

Beautification Parade 2022

It's that time once again! The Beautification Parade with a theme of "TV Shows from the 60's and 70's" will take place on February 24. as the theme for next year's parade. Can't wait to see all the fun entries from our creative neighbors.

Are your ready? Have you figured out your decorations? Watch for more information on lining up and participating from Neighborhood News.

AARP SMART DRIVING UPDATE

After 12 years of offering the AARP Sat Driving Course at Light and Life Park, AARP, at this time, will not supply us with instructors to teach the class. This is because of the pandemic.

AARP does not wish to expose its instructors to large groups of students. As a result, all classes in Polk and Hillsborough Count are cancelled until at least March 2022.

You can still take the course using the computer. You can go to the AARP website at www.aarpdriving skills.org. Use the promo code: Driving Skills

I am very sorry.

Al Pogue

Craft Show Mar 10-12

Just wanted to let you all know that we are planning to have the craft show this year!

First, I would like to thank Sharron and Don Moore for spearheading this event for several years!! We so appreciated you doing this!

I am working with a committee to put it on this year. I have representatives from the Wood Shop and from Martha's Place helping me out.

At this time, we are planning to do set up on Thursday March 10th, be open all day on Friday and Saturday morning.

We are hoping for a lot of involvement from our community and welcome all who want to bring their projects to sell or show!

As more details develop, we will keep you informed!

Many blessings!
Becky Smith
becsmith62@gmail.com
231.349.2993

Library Information



The following are book reviews are by Gloria Welton.

A Sound Among the Trees

by Susan Meissner

Susan Meissner has written an excellent novel with clearly researched history. It is written during the Civil War era and is an awesome page turner.

"Meissner delivers a delightful page-turner that will surely enthrall readers from beginning to end. The antebellum details, lively characters, and overlapping dramas particularly will excite history buffs and romance fans."

– *Publishers Weekly*, starred review.

Karren White, the author of *The Beach Trees* Stated: "In *A Sound Among the Trees*, author Meissner transports readers to another time and place to weave her lyrical tale of love, loss, forgiveness, and letting go. Her beautifully drawn characters are flawed yet likable, their courage and resilience echoing in the halls of Holly Oak for generations. A surprising conclusion and startling redemption make this book a page-turner, but the setting—the beautiful old Holly Oak will keep your interest for all of the pages.

As a young bride, Susannah Page was rumored to be a Civil War spy for the North, a traitor to her Virginian roots. Her great-granddaughter Adelaide, the current matriarch of Holly Oak, doesn't believe that Susannah's ghost haunts the antebellum mansion looking for a pardon, but rather the house itself bears a grudge toward its tragic past.

When Marielle Bishop marries into the family and is transplanted from the arid west to her husband's home, it isn't long before she is led to believe that the house she just settled into brings misfortune to the women who live there.

With Adelaide's richly peppered superstitions and deep family roots at stake, Marielle must sort out the truth about Susannah Page and Holly Oak— and make peace with the sacrifices she has made for love.

Enjoy! Find it on the **New Book** shelves.

Church of the Small Things

by Melanie Shankle

As I chose this book for this month's book review, I found myself wanting to sit down and forget about all those chores we need to do and just read this book.

The book talks about the ordinary daily life; actually, it is significant! Is it okay to find fulfillment in the simple acts of raising kids, working in an office, and cooking chicken for dinner?

Continued next column.

Continued from previous column:

In *Church of the Small Things*, Melanie Shankle reminds us that God does extraordinary things in our most mundane moments of faithfulness. Her humorous reflections on being a mom, wife, and writer, helps us embrace a meaningful life as we find the beauty and the laughter that lie right beneath the surface of every ordinary, incredible day. God uses the smallest acts of faithfulness to love and influence the people around us—and sometimes that looks a lot like packing sandwiches for lunch, working in a cubicle, or playing tea party one more time even though you feel like gnawing your arm off.

This is definitely a book it will read this next summer! You will find this in the New Book section and then in Biography. Let me know what you think.

Power Play

by Rachel Dylan (Capital Intrigue Series Book 3)

If you are into a lot of suspense, political intrigue and multiple plots, this is the book for you. It has all of that and even more. This says it all, "*Power Play* is a riveting look into political intrigue, lies, and half truths with a bit of revenge thrown in. Readers will be pulled into the storyline as we watch various well-written characters come together to solve the two diplomatic deaths. *Power Play* is filled with a lot of intrigue, the workings of "diplomacy," unexpected dangers, touches of faith, a bit of sweet romance and enough twists and turns that will have you unable to put it down."--**Fresh Fiction**

State Department attorney Vivian Steele witnesses two ambassadors collapse as if poisoned at a diplomatic dinner in Washington, DC. She is recruited to be a member of a joint FBI task force assigned to investigate. But she soon finds her by-the-book ways clashing with a special agent in the Diplomatic Security Service, Jacob Cruz. A former Navy SEAL and in charge of the event's security, Jacob takes the attack personally and is driven to act quickly, even ahead of the rules and regulations.

As Viv starts to work her diplomatic sources, her past as a State Department lawyer comes back to haunt her, and secrets held tightly by the government thrust her into a web of danger. Afraid, Viv turns to the one man bent on protecting others. But can she accept Jacob's reckless ways as exactly what she needs to stay alive and to discover the truth behind the attacks?

Again, you will find it in the New Book section, for a while and then by author in the Fiction Section. By the way, you may want to read the first two books, *End Play* (Book 1) and *Back Lash* (Book 2) first.

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 Ministries

First a huge thank you to those of you who started the ministry in Briarwood years ago! Second, thanks to all who have been volunteering to help prepare boxes.

Thanks to those who donate money and/or food so that the ministry can continue.

The ministry has expanded to help with essentials that most of us take for granted.

We are actively seeking a place/shed to store larger donations, such as furniture and appliances, so when the need arises, we can respond more quickly. Many of you have offered larger things but we haven't had the truck or the storage for them, so if you know of any help in these areas ...

Food for this outreach can be delivered to Hood Hall and monetary donations can be made through the church. Although those two things are important, your prayers go farther than either, and I'm sure have a lot to do with the expansion of this ministry.

Much Love and Many Blessings!

In His Grip,
Randy & Karen Williams



A Note from Pastor Chuck...

The recently completed Bible Conference was...a success? The word does not do justice to the moving of God's Spirit upon the presenters or the attendees.

Stan Key and Kenny Martin "preached" Spirit filled messages that brought us to "the mountain" to hear, see and respond to our Living God. Stan led us through Abraham's journey of faith while challenging our own walk with the Lord. Kenny, each night, brought Jesus to our sanctuary and confronted us with uncomfortable "good news."

Time will tell if we will allow God to work in our surrender to His speaking into our lives. Many have left prayer requests and concerns at the altar. Is this just a shot in the arm or is this the beginning of a fresh walk following Jesus? We will see based on the fruit of the Conference. May God's awakening wash over us every day!

In Christ,
Pastor Chuck

