



The Life and Times

Florida's Light & Life Park, Inc.
Newsletter

June 1, 2022

Volume 10 Issue 6 Page 1

FLORIDA'S LIGHT & LIFE PARK, INC.

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Lakeland, FL 33810

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(Cell: 863 608-3982)

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Office Manager: Sherry LaBrie
sherry@lightandlifepark.org
(Cell: 863-255-3776)

Office Assistant: Lori Jones
lori@lightandlifepark.org

Office Hours:

November 15-April 14: 8 am- Noon
April 15-November 14: 9 am - Noon

Lots Available for Lease

The following lots are set up for an RV or Park Model and available for lease

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

As many of you know, I enjoy photography. One of the marvels in the Park is the variety of wildlife and insects that can be found. Recently, I was able to take photos of five different butterflies while standing in one spot! The other day, I discovered an owl roosting during the day near the banana plants that I was able to photograph. I was also able to take a shot of a dragonfly that posed for me with wings spread wide. Since some of you aren't here to see it for yourself, view it on Facebook (facebook.com/lightandlifepark OR search for Light & Life Park on Facebook). It amazes me that so many different pictures of wildlife can be taken from within the Park.

If you own a residence in the Park, remember it is your responsibility to ensure your flowerbeds and the area around your residence is kept trimmed and neat. It is important that visitors to our Park find it attractive and inviting. If you need help locating a service to do the trimming for you, please contact the office.

We have contracted with Heartland Commercial Pool Service to maintain and monitor the pool. Although we must continue to test chemical levels daily, it is a lightening of the work that is needed by staff and volunteers.

Over the past year we have been testing a digital work order application. When a work order is submitted, the office staff enters it into the application assigning it a priority and due date. Almost immediately after it has been entered, the maintenance staff receive a notification on their phones with the details of the job. I can track all work orders on the app and receive a notification when a job is completed. Since we are using a digital system, please begin submitting work orders by email to office@lightandlifepark.org with the subject line "Maintenance Request."

Continue to be in prayer regarding the property purchase. As I mentioned last month, the owner has some concerns about the timing of the sale. In addition, there are family dynamics that will prove challenging. Keep lifting this situation up in prayer.

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We have several projects scheduled for this summer. With the help of several volunteers and the cooperation of the weather, we should be able to complete them all. We have already opened access to a major water valve that will enable us to limit the number of residences that have the water shut off in certain situations. We continue working to improve the stormwater drainage from the gate to the Jordan. The next step is to rebuild the bridge behind the library so that more water can flow unhindered. Once that is completed, we will begin working on building the bridge for the new sidewalk between the pool and the library.

The hurricane season starts with the publishing of this newsletter. If you have left the Park for the summer, you were to have ensured that all outdoor items were secured. Should you have items that you wish to keep that are not secured, please contact a friend who is still in the Park to secure them for you. Otherwise, the Park may dispose of them; we do not have the manpower or time to follow-up on everything that may pose a danger when there are high winds.

For those who are still here, we negotiating a hurricane preparedness meeting as soon as we can. We will notify you of the day and time.

While many of you are enjoying family, friends, and God's creation in other locations, I will continue to document the beauty around the Park.

Jan

**Beautification Parade
2023**

February 23, 2023
(rain date is the 24th)

Theme is Bible Stories

Luncheon in Hood Hall following parade.

JUNE

Office Manager

Office Manager

June has arrived. Our summer season seems have kicked in as it is warmer, and the summer rains have started. Fortunately, the very warm mornings have not started yet, but I know they will be here any time. The love bugs have also disappeared.

We managed to remain very busy in May. Office hours were shorter, but activity continued. We processed 10-15 applications to rent (some had been pending a while due to the busy season) and 7-8 applications for membership. I guess next season could be busy again, since so many want to be in the Park in the winter.

The grass is green and growing so of course, we hear plenty of mowers every day. Work continues on drainage and Park facilities.

The Office is reviewing procedures and policies. We are cleaning up some of our forms and trying to fine-tune some of the things that we do. Summer always gives us a chance to look more closely at things and hopefully, to help us do better.

We are also beginning to take vacation. Tom & I just returned from our first, shorter vacation. Lori is getting ready for June and Stan and Gloria continue to consider their options. Everyone is ready for a restful break or renewing family connections.

The only closing that was completed in May was for Ray and Kathy Hewgill, who have been in the Park quite a while. They have sold their place at 5248 Zion Avenue to Paul and Pamela Warfle. Pamela is the daughter of Jack and Karen O'Dell. We welcome them to the Park.

It may be premature, but if anyone is considering renting their home for some of the winter months, please let me know. I will be working on reservations in the next few weeks.

I hope summer is going well for all of you. For those who have yet to have consistent warm weather, I hope it becomes summer soon for you.

*Blessings,
Sherry LaBrie*

News from the Board of Directors

I hope everyone is enjoying the spring weather. In Michigan this week it has been in the 90^os. It feels like Florida!

The recent Missions Conference at the Park has caused me to reflect on the different ways we support Missions. One example in our Park is Tom LaBrie. With Sherry's help, he formed a plan to raise cows and donate the profits for a mission project. He leased the use of the south 30 acres for pasture, pays for all of the expenses, including the new fencing and does this all on his own time. And as the cows produce a profit, it goes to their choice of Missions Projects.

Tom is only one of many others in our Park working for Missions in different ways, The mission field is not always around the world, but sometimes right next door in our community. Such as Briarwood, for another example. Many of you have given time, materials and love to the people in Briarwood; I cannot begin to name all of you who have been the "hands of Jesus" to them, but God knows each one of you. I salute all of you for your selfless acts of kindness.

And let us not forget Pastor Jeff and his volunteers at "The Sub Hub". Although, they have closed since we left, they showed us how a business could be used to provide food that was great and given with a smile and an opportunity to witness for Jesus to our nearby community.

May we all look for our unique ways to encourage and support those who carry the Good News of the Gospel to people in need, whether near or far away. That is how each of us can help fulfil the great commission of Jesus.

May God bless each of you.

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

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. However, spring is around the corner! 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

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.

HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY LIBRARY2GO SCHEDULE



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

June 2
June 23

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.

Summer Fellowship Dinners

The next Summer Fellowship Dinners will be on Monday, June 6th at 5:30 pm in Hood Hall. Cost is \$6.00.

The menu is Shepherd's Pie, gelatin salad, biscuits, cookies and ice cream.

There will be sign-up sheets in Hood Hall. Watch for them. You will need to sign up by Friday, June 2.



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.

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 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 email Barb Hartson bfhartson@gmail.com. **The July** deadline is **June 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



Enjoy your summer wherever you are we are!
See you in the fall!



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:Email_coachfollc@gmail.com)

Bowling

Bowling Leagues still meet every Tuesday morning at the Orange Bowl Lanes at 9:30 for the summer only.

Thanks,
Barb Hartson
bfhartson@gmail.com



Library Information



Is there a prophet who can speak for our times like the prophets of old? For me, if anyone fits that description, it would be Charles Colson. Now gone on to heaven, but his message remains. We have a number of his writings in our library. It is as if he is now present and speaking to the church of 2022. I encourage your reading.

230 Cols The Faith: What Christians Believe, Why They Believe It, and Why It Matters
 261 Cols Chuck Colson Speaks
 261 Cols A Dance with Deception
 261 Cols How Now Shall We Live
 262 Cols The Body: Being Light in Darkness

Recommended by Les Sellers, Librarian

Book Reviews by Gloria Welton

The Golden Thread: Experiencing God's Presence in Every Season of Life
 by Darlene Zschech

We all at one time or another feel like we're barely holding on. But there is hope in the presence of God, the Holy Spirit that can calm the chaos. This is the "Golden Thread" God gives us to a new beginning in the middle of crises.

"I know your faith will be lifted and increased with this new treasure." (Chris Tomlin)

Darlene Zschech is a beloved worship leader and songwriter of "*Shout to the Lord*" and tells of her experiences as she writes about God's goodness.

This book is essential for anyone who has struggles in life whether it be illness, a new job, moving to another location, or battling any change or doubt. The author encourages us to find joy in the middle of crisis by writing about her own issues, weaving the scriptures into the chaos. Rather than seeing her life changes as unrelated events, Darlene and her family have learned to trace God's goodness through every crisis - even as she faced the battle for her life, cancer.

This book was very well and candidly written by Darlene Zschech, It has rich and specific biblical instructions along with personal wisdom about how to navigate successfully through our own dark places. We discover if we're truly committed to the Lord.

Continued next column

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One reviewer called this, "The dark night of the soul" where we question if that's all there is to our relationship and service to the Lord and where do you go from there. Her book encouraged me to see that place in my journey with God as the one of closure to where I've been, letting go of my anxiousness about what's next and waiting patiently for the Lord to reveal the new adventure He had for me."

You will find it in the 248, Christian Living, section of the nonfiction.

Death by the Book

The Bleecker Street Inquiry # 2

by Julianna Deering

Have you ever heard about the Golden Age of Detective Fiction? Written during the 1920s and 1930s by famous authors such as Agatha Christie Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, These novels were great "whodunits" where the author mislead the readers and the villain was the least likely suspect'

Death by the Book, the 2nd in the series, *The Bleecker Street Inquiry* by Julianna Deering takes place around 1932. It reminds me of the famous detective, Sherlock Holmes and his sidekick Dr. Watson, along with Agatha Christie's twists and turns in plays. I was mesmerized from the very beginning.

Drew Farthering parallels Holmes who wanted to focus on his engagement and wedding plans. Instead, he finds himself caught up in another mysterious case when the family lawyer is found murdered, with an antique hatpin and a cryptic message.

Soon the police make an arrest in connection with the murders, but Drew isn't certain they have the right suspect in custody. His investigation seems to be drawing him closer and closer to home.

Then a doctor is killed on a golf course belonging to Drew's country club and a note is found pinned to his chest; the same handwriting and paper but with a different inscription. Just when they believe the murders will stop, then there is a third murder!

This is a page turner with plot twists, surprises, and a lot of analytical skills utilized by Drew. Look on the New Book section. 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@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...

Last night T.S. thought he was going to meet Jesus in a more face to face way. This afternoon following Church I visited with him at Lakeland Regional where he is doing much better. Our Church service this morning had a reported attendance of 89 which is down twelve from the week before which was down 29 from the week before that. The temperature outside is a nice mild 84.

Life consists of a series of random events. These events may or may not have meaningful impact at a particularly given moment. God sits on the throne of heaven therefore each happening is noticed and holds/retains an importance we may not perceive.

T.S. is alive today, in our physical realm, eating hospital food and talking with his wife. He loves Jesus. Our attendance is down because we have sent so many (360?) back to their other homes where they are living witnesses for Jesus. We, the remnant, enjoy sitting inside an air-conditioned building while also appreciating the mild warmth outside.

God is good. June is beautiful.

In Christ,
Pastor Chuck

