



# CRACKER CRUMBS



WWW.FL-SKP-RESORT.ORG

The Florida SKP Co-Op, 2219 SKP Way, Wauchula, FL 33873-4870

Summer 2020

## COVID-19 Policy Update

The Board has been working diligently to approve a policy that considers the wide range of responses that people have when assimilating the abundance of COVID information into their daily lives.

It is their belief that it is important that guidelines be provided for safety, but ultimately, we all need to assume responsibility for ourselves and our actions.

The Resort's COVID-19 policy which becomes effective October 1, has been posted on the Florida SKP Resort [website](#).

## Fall/Winter Arrivals—FYI

Call the office at least one week before you plan to arrive at the resort, and your site will be weed wacked before your arrival.



## Think Outside The Box

by Cathy Landry  
President, Fun 'n Sun Committee

The Fun & Sun Committee will soon be planning the November calendar and thinking about the upcoming season.

Although it will look different this year, I don't want to focus on what we can't do but what we **CAN** do during these unprecedented times. I am asking everyone, both members and visitors, to "think outside the box" and help us out. We are looking for any ideas for activities that will work and still remain safe and follow guidelines.



## Reservation News

Reservations are still available for Oct, Nov, Dec, Mar, and Apr and can be made online at [www.fl-skp-resort.org](http://www.fl-skp-resort.org) under the "Reservation Inquiries" drop-down menu on the home page. Our rental policy and rates are also under this drop-down menu.

## Yard Sale Donations

**See Julie Polter G-20  
or call 567-201-3314  
to make arrangements to  
drop off donations at the shed.**

I would rather plan some activities and have people that want to participate come. It should be a personal choice without criticism. As an example, one person mentioned a cornhole tournament outside with social distancing on the sidelines to cheer them on and participate. I will be writing down any ideas you forward me at [eclandry1@gmail.com](mailto:eclandry1@gmail.com). I look forward to all your creative ideas so that we can have fun and feel a sense of community again.



Florida weather produces many beautiful rainbows.

With so much upheaval in the country, people have caught up with us retirees: The days of the week are now called thisday, thatday, otherday, someday, yesterday, today, & nextday.



## Taking Public Relations To the Next Level

The PR Committee is looking for volunteers who have an interest and, ideally, some expertise in making information videos.

We envision creating a video using slides, video, interviews, and narration to introduce our community to those interested in membership.

It would be available on the website as well as here at the park for those who have expressed an interest in learning more about us.

The Committee is also asking for help in planning and implementing tours of the park for those who are visiting. If you are enthusiastic about introducing our little bit of paradise to our visitors, we are looking for people to create talking points and identify, recruit, and train tour guides.



If you are interested in collaborating on either of these projects, please contact Margery Zeller by text or phone call at 412-480-4535 or email her at [margery.zeller1@gmail.com](mailto:margery.zeller1@gmail.com).

## Board Action

The powers that be have been aware for some time that the lawnmower used to mow the green spaces has become more unreliable. Upon the recommendation of the Equipment Committee, the Board approved the purchase of a Gravely mower with a 60-inch deck. This purchase was made from the Equipment Reserve Fund. The dealer did not want the old mower so it will be used as a back-up here when needed.



*Summer park attendant, Kevin Polter, making use of the much more efficient Gravely lawn mower.*

## Board Members

**President** ..... Frank King, A-15  
**Vice-President**..... Ed Landry, A-35  
**Secretary** .....June Post, H-21  
**Treasurer** ..... Pat Dubuc, A-34  
**Ass't Treasurer** Diane Luppens, H-29  
**At Large** ..... Bud Hodgkins, H-10  
**At Large** ..... Steve Little, H-13



## Are Needed!

At the February 2021 annual meeting, we will be electing five new board members to complete the full complement of the required 7 members. Candidates are needed to fill the vacancies created by those rotating off the board and more if we are to have choices for an election.

Our community thrives on participation, and a board of directors is essential to the successful and efficient operation of the Resort.

Please give serious consideration to serving.



**Find us on  
Facebook**

The Florida SKP Co-Op Facebook page is THE place to see pictures and important announcements, especially during the summer.

This Facebook page is visible only to members of the group, BUT it's easy to become a member of the group. Contact Margery Zeller at [margery.zeller1@gmail.com](mailto:margery.zeller1@gmail.com) and let her know you would like to become a member.

Once you become a member you are able to add family and friends. BTW...if you're a member, let the group know what you've been doing by posting some pictures.

## Editor

Margery Zeller, Site H-32  
Cell: 412-480-4535  
Email: [CrackerCrumbs@flskpresort.org](mailto:CrackerCrumbs@flskpresort.org)  
Deadline for submitting articles  
**20th** of each month  
All articles are subject to editing...and all mistakes are made with love!  
Non-member subscription available via email for free.

# Summer Around the Park

**H**ow are we doing here, you ask? About 20% of the park delayed their departure, some staying into August and the Resort's normal summer population has increased about 40%.

Although there are no Resort-sponsored activities being planned, water aerobics, shuffleboard, Whine B4 Dine, and pickleball has been organized by the participants.

People ask what it's like here in the summer. Most people take advantage of the cooler mornings for their outside activities. A few of the pictures were taken later in the day.



Becky & Lynn Lunde practicing line dancing.



Noreta & John Ray getting their walk in..



Jim Bollhouse ↑ and Eva Herman ↓ know that early morning is the best time to get the weeding done.



Often you'll find Danny Lindstrom providing many of our long-time residents with a helping hand.



Florida weather is very interesting. Your clothes could be drying on the line in sunshine and when you come around the corner you see the storm clouds coming from another direction.



Enjoying a friendship that has lasted a lifetime.  
L-R: Vera Green, Lydia LaMaistre

**W**e had a few visitors in late spring finding refuge from the travel restrictions.



We appreciated the FB shout out we received from Sharon Benson who spent time at the Resort.



**A**lthough the retention pond is full from the summer rains, the retention pond was in fact almost empty in mid-April following the winter dry spell.



Wood storks enjoying a feeding frenzy on the easily accessible fish



Next came the vultures feeding on the dead fish.



The summer rains have refilled the retention pond. The brown rim in the forefront shows how high the water gets during heavy rains.



Little Blue heron taking flight.



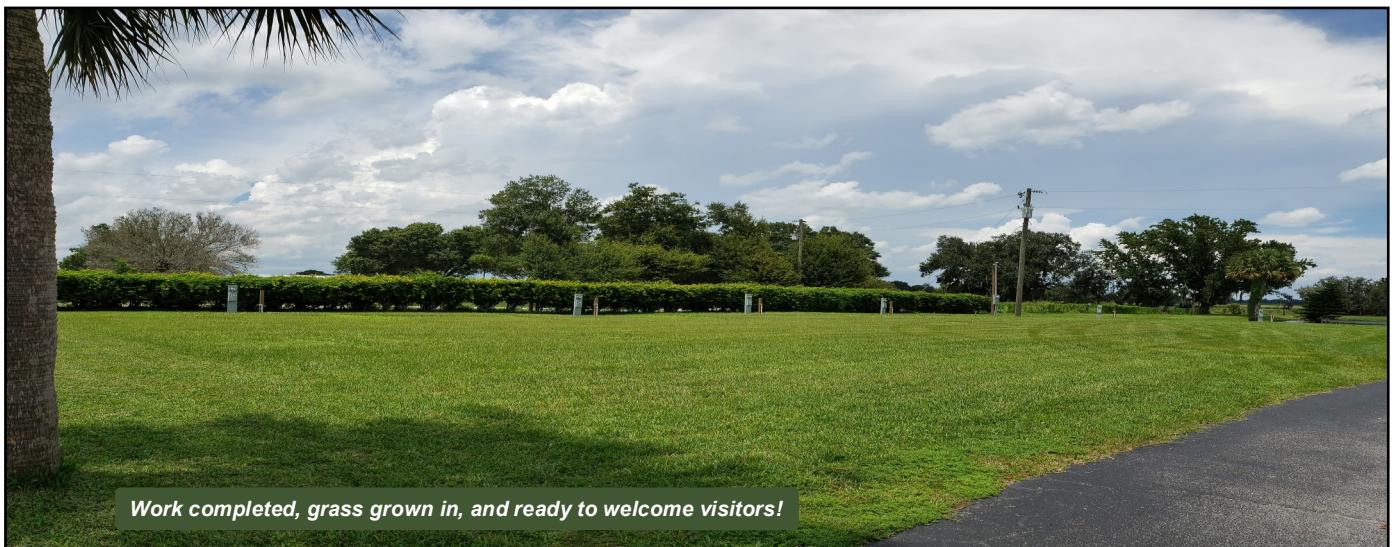
No Memorial Day picnic this year, but at 3 pm we gathered along the street for the playing of the national anthem to honor all those who made the ultimate sacrifice in the service of our country.



Podocarpus hedges continue to thrive.

# Summer Projects

Work on upgrading the boondock sites was completed in late spring.



# Summer Projects

Cont'd



*Newly landscaped seating area at the front of the Resort welcomes everyone.*



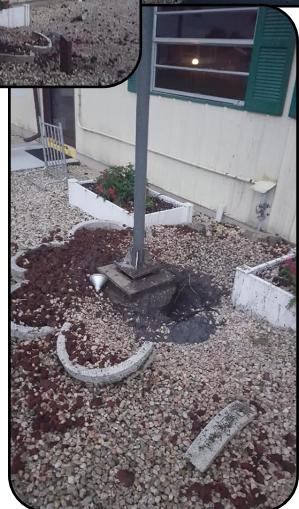
*Re-located card room gets a facelift with help from Heather.*



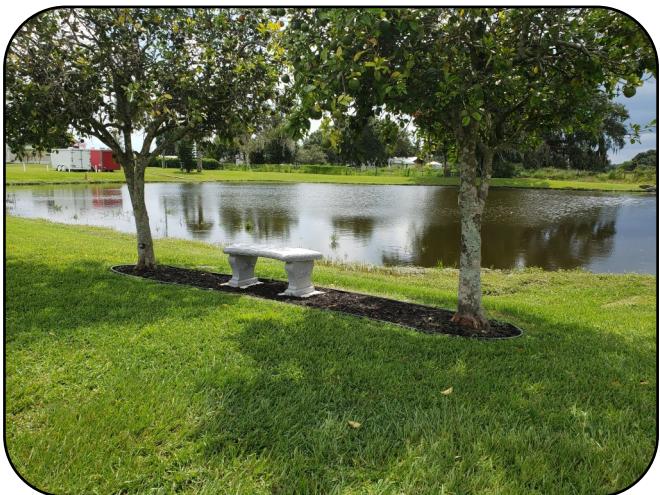
*Burning early in the summer provides an unobstructed view of the retention pond.*



*Lightning struck the Clubhouse flag pole scattering stone onto the street and up on the roof, leaving a large hole, and flipping the decorative border. Kevin did a fine job making repairs.*



*Skip LaPlante and Kenny Breault found a bench in storage, cleaned and painted it, and then placed it as the centerpiece of the landscaping they did around the orange trees by the pond.*



# What I Did on My Summer Vacation

**C**athy Landry writes: For those of you who don't know already, most of my summers are spent at the "Landry Complex". So in order to understand what that means, you need the back story.

Ed was born and raised on this rural street across from a lake in North Attleboro, MA. When we got married in 1976, we built our own home and raised three children on the same property. Next door, my niece Danielle came to live with her Mom and Dad at the age of 3. It was a wonderful place to raise kids, especially having family/cousins living side by side.

Fast forward to 2016 when Ed and I sold our home to our oldest son Ned. We have a full hook-up site on the side driveway to come "home" to any time we want. To make life even sweeter, my niece Danielle bought the house from her Mom and is now living there with her husband, three young daughters and a new mother-in-law addition for her Mom.

I love coming back to the "Landry Complex" surrounded by family and a sense of community, especially during this pandemic. My daughter, parents, sister and brother all live a short distance away so spending time with them during the summer has always been special.

Ed and I consider ourselves truly blessed to have this opportunity that most full time RVers don't have. Life is good!



Flocks of Ibis are frequent visitors to the retention pond.

**B**ob and Judy Hoffman write: While our summer travels were curtailed until the end of August, we drove all the way to beautiful sunny Sebring, Florida. Main reason for this lovely vacation was dropping "Miss Dolly" off at Stewart's RV. Her left side was sagging and she was scheduled for a lift and tuck.

As you can see it was a little more than a boo-boo. Miss Dolly sat there for four days and nights exposed. We were very lucky.



## Spacex Launch Watch Party



Back row, L-R:  
June Post, Donna Hixson, Noreta Ray  
Front row, L-R  
Ray Heaton, John Ray

We frequently get to see rainbows and beautiful sunsets here at the Resort.



**L**anette Breault writes: We are not going anywhere this summer. We were not going before...Sooo, we have done a major "weed" on our flower garden.

Trying to grow some string beans, but it looks like the bugs are getting them first. We bought some new plants, 2 Firecrackers. They are supposed to attract butterflies and hummingbirds, we will see!





Beth, Sam, & Grandpa Ken performed together.

**K**en & Joan Tarkin enjoyed a visit from their son & family. Grandchildren Beth, Sam & Joe hosted a music show for residents. The recital and refreshments were enjoyed by 25+ people.

Ken & Joan entertained together.



Ken joins his granddaughter, Beth, in a duet.



The Tarkin Tribe enjoyed a campfire and invited residents to join them.

**N**orm & Laurie Milliard write: Our COVID-19 adventures & misadventures started last spring with ambitious plans to travel to New Jersey in May for our daughter's graduation from Princeton in June. Our campground reservations were made, our son, Ryan, and his wife from Seattle arranged to come out for the graduation, and we planned to stay on the east coast for the summer and go on some camping trips with our daughter and the grandkids.

We never imagined that a virus would cause all the graduations in the country to be cancelled, quarantines put in place, and campgrounds, parks, playgrounds, restaurants closed for weeks, then months.

One good thing about these events is that we got to watch Heather's thesis defense on a Zoom call. That would not have happened in a normal year. She was so calm and knowledgeable making her presentation, and even more impressive fielding the questions from the professors on her panel.

Then we got to see the panel come back and confer her doctorate in Environmental Engineering from Princeton University! A highlight of our lives!

We kept waiting for things to open up in the country, and some places (like Florida) have, but not New Jersey or Seattle. We finally decided to rent a house for a week on the Outer Banks in North Carolina with Heather and her family in late July.

It was a wonderful vacation! We loved spending time with them, having good talks, good meals, swimming in the ocean and the pool, reading books with the grandkids, and just soaking up grandkid time.

A third grandson will be arriving in mid-October, and we will be leaving around September 1st to be with them to help with meals, chores, childcare, AND to hold that new baby! Still lots of uncertainty about this virus, but we are staying flexible, as any good RVer would.

**S**teve and Anne Warren write: Due to the virus, we have not been able to go to any local bluegrass festivals which we do every summer. The weekly Wednesday concerts on the local village green have all been cancelled. Of course church services have been cancelled, but they can be seen "virtually" on one's computer, if one can get online.

Our grandson, Josh, was to be married on 6/20/2020 at our NY home. Due to the virus, the wedding date was changed to September 19. One change the bride and groom have made is that the wedding can be seen virtually so that people don't have to be quarantined before the wedding and when they get home to Florida, California, etc.

For years we have taken our grandchildren camping in NY or PA. Because of the virus no camping with the grandkids this summer but our granddaughter does have a set up in her back yard and loves it !!

All is okay in NY, and we plan to arrive at the resort in early November.

**M**arsha Hodgkins completed this quilt made from scraps. while she and Bud are volunteering at a Vermont state park this summer.



*Enjoying a friendship that has last a lifetime.  
L-R: Vera Green, Lydia LaMaistre*



*First time in recent years we have had Roseate Spoonbills stop by the pond.*

**J**ulie Polter painted the shed on the park attendant's site, G-20. It makes a very attractive impression to those parked at the Clubhouse while they are checking-in or getting mail.



**R**ose Irons writes: Dave and I are happy, healthy, and thankful for our life at SKP Resort.

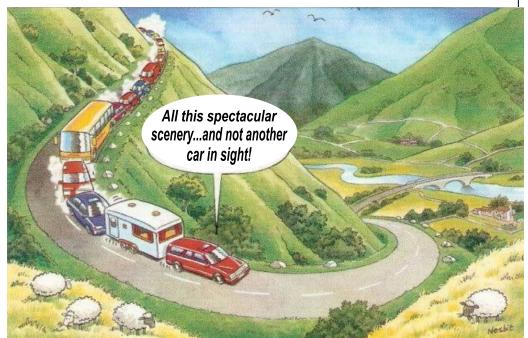
We are thankful for Facetime with our families, Netflix and Prime for entertainment, and ebooks for our love of reading 📖. We are doing short trips to camp at Ortona and Franklin Locks here in Florida and staying isolated on the river.



*If you are quarantining,  
it doesn't get much  
better than this!*



We hope spring next year will allow us to take a long RV trip to make up for cancellations in 2020. Attaching cartoon showing where I want to be next year.



**R**obert Mellis writes: From the kindness of strangers, we received a batch of apples at the SKP Resort yesterday. Jo's crafty fingers and mind converted those to an Apple crisp. Mmmmmmm. Delicious!



Note: A variety of fresh fruit and vegetables have been made available to us in August courtesy of the local Methodist church and our fellow residents. It has been much appreciated by all.

**G**ary & Audrey Wyatt write: Our summer has been quite boring from what we had planned. Not getting as much visiting done as is our usual.

We did get to meet up with Skip and Jan Pratt in central Ohio Amish country.



L-R: Skip, Jan, Audrey & Gary

Our biggest event was Gary's Art Show in New Brighton, PA. There was a nice article published in *The Times*, New Brighton, PA. An excerpt from the article reads, "Wyatt has specialized in color pencil creations for 20 years. He had his art featured late last winter in an exhibition in Florida."

The eastern Ohio artist, now retired and traveling full-time in an RV with his wife Audrey, attended a small opening at the Merrick, in New Brighton, this past Sunday.

"I consider myself a professional artist because of entering many competitive art shows in the past few years, and belonging to several artist groups in Florida and Ohio," he said.

"I have developed a system using colored pencil that I call painting with colored pencil. I use Prismacolor pencils that are wax-based pencils that are easy to blend," Wyatt said.

By burnishing and blending the colored pencils starting with white and building the hue as he goes, he creates what looks like a painting with acrylic."

Skip and Kenny installed drip irrigation to keep his plantings healthy during the hot summer and offered to put in irrigation to the corner bench garden to save the Landscape Committee the work of watering. Here are pictures of the install getting a little help from their friend.

**C**indy Henderson writes: "All work and no play makes Jack a dull boy." Now there are projects for both the motorhome at Crystal River and the park model in Wauchula so Denny is keeping busy. First installing a dishwasher in the park model. Next raising the bed to a more comfortable level and installing gas struts to allow for easy storage under the bed. Third, routing HDMI cable for the various TVs in the park model. Fourth, a 3-day job locating and replacing a cracked sewer pipe at the motorhome lot in Crystal River. Finally, changing out a faucet in the kitchen of the park model. And finally, making sure he is not a dull boy.



Routing cable.



Sewer Repair



Dividing their time between the Resort and their Crystal River lot, Hendersons relax at the Resort with afternoon swims and at Crystal River with what else?? Fishing!

**S**kip LaPlante with the help of Kenny Breault dedicated much of the early summer to developing and beautifying his site.

