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

February 2018

## Message from Our President

The Park is in full operation and it's great to see all the participation by members and guests not only in the activities but as volunteers as well. We have had a lot of great meals and activities with Cracker Capers just ending. A fun time was had by all.

The Landscaping Committee has beautified our park planting street palm trees, putting new pavers under our benches throughout the park, and planting shrubs around the storage shed. Sue Mannery keeps our flowers looking great in front of our clubhouse. Great job, guys and gals.

Thanks to Fun 'n Sun and the crew that installed the cupboards and counters in the Clubhouse. They are a great addition.

We want to thank the park attendants, Tom and Denny, for replacing the stainless steel sink in the kitchen.

A reminder that all committee chairs must give a report and turn it into secretary, Anne Warren, before our annual meeting.

*Bob Lewis*

## Board Members

**President** ..... Bob Lewis, A-13  
**Vice President** ..... Frank King, A-15  
**Secretary** ..... Anne Warren, G-27  
**Treasurer** ..... Bill Oates, H-34  
**Ass't Treasurer**... Cheryl Lamoreaux, S-7  
**At Large** ..... Earl Cooper, A-4  
**At Large** ..... Norm Milliard, F-4



As per our by-laws, the CO-OP Annual Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, February 19, at 9 am in the Clubhouse. The annual meeting packet has been given or mailed to all members.

This year's agenda includes the election of Board Members, Treasurer's Report, Committee Reports and consideration of proposed changes to CO-OP documents.

### Proxy Voting

Your vote in person or by proxy is important. It is the responsibility of members who are unable to attend, to complete the proxy in their packet, sign it, and put it in the accompanying self-addressed envelope addressed to our secretary. Proxies must arrive at the Clubhouse before February 19, 2018 in order to be counted.

### Member Contribution

Also included in the Annual Meeting packet is a list of committees and organizations. Members are asked each year to indicate their preferred activity in which to share knowledge, labor, and time toward the betterment of Florida SKP CO-OP as stated in our by-laws. Members are asked to turn in their preferences at the annual meeting.

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## Town Hall Meeting

On Thursday, February 15, members will have the opportunity to ask questions about the 10 proposals included in the annual meeting packets that will be voted on at the annual meeting.

The four candidates running for the four Board vacancies will also be introduced. They include Bob Lewis and Anne Warren running for second terms as well as Ed Landry and Margaret McIntyre running for the first time.



We extend our gratitude to Earl Cooper and Bill Oates who will be rotating off the Board of Directors. Elected in 2016, Earl served as Assistant Treasurer during his tenure. Bill Oates has served four years on the Board and as Treasurer all four years.

## Special Events



**Tuesday, February 13**

**Dinner 5:00 pm**

**Dancing 6:30 pm**

Music by Bobby Remp

Prime Rib Dinner

prepared by

Chef Extraordinaire John Bisson

and his esteemed staff.

The meal includes baked potato, salad,

hot dinner rolls, and dessert.

Dinner is prepared and served by the men.

**Tickets are \$20 pp**

available from

John Bisson A-39

Joe Belanger H-34

Art Dubuc A-34

Bob Lewis A-13

(Limit 100)



**Florida SKP  
Birthday Party!**

Join us for cake  
as we celebrate 29 years!

**Saturday, February 3  
2 pm**



**Wednesday, February 28**

**Dinner at 5 pm**

Bring Place Setting

**Dancing at 6:30 pm**

**Tickets: \$8 pp**

Ticket Sales Begin February 12



**Sunday, February 4**

**6:30 pm**

**BYOB & Snack to Share  
and cheer on your  
favorite team.**

## Special Events

# Craft Fair & Art Show February 17 9 am - 2 pm

**Concessions  
11 am - 1 pm**

## Craft Fair

A variety of craft items will be for sale. This event is open to the public and is being advertised outside the park.

## Art Show

Judging ..... 9 am – 10 am

Winners for each category will be chosen by a select panel.

Attendees will vote for

## Best of Show

and the winner announced during Monday morning announcements.

*Last Year's Winning Pieces Will Be On Display*

Crafts (Beading, Ornamental, Craft Painting, etc.)  
Woodworking

Sewing (Small Quilts only, clothing, etc.)

Needlework

Painting on Canvas (Acrylic, Oil, Watercolor, etc.)

*Must be framed and on an easel for displaying.)*

Other (Misc.)

Photography (Traditional/Digital)

## Monthly Activities

# Let's Eat Out! (LEOs)

Wednesday, February 7

Hibachi Buffet

2870 US Hwy 27N

Sebring

Sign Up in Clubhouse



# Afternoon Coffee

**Tuesday, February 6  
Tuesday, February 20  
3 p.m.**

**Site: F-04  
(Bring lawn chair)**

**Hosted by  
Norm & Ginny Milliard**



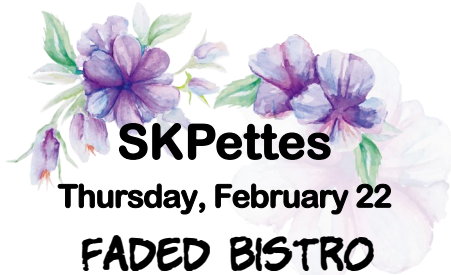
## SKP Area Get-togethers

**SKP Lunch—Chapter 57** sponsors a monthly gathering of Escapees in Clermont, FL the first Thursday of the month from November to April at 11 am at the Golden Corral, 1555 Grand Hwy. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Rose Irons, 339-896-3799.

**Escapees** in the area meet for a monthly lunch in Lake Placid, 35 miles from the resort, the fourth Thursday of the month at the Golden Corral, 322 US-27, at 11:30 am. Everyone is welcome. For more information, contact Rose Irons, 339-896-3799.



## Monthly Activities



**Thursday, February 22**

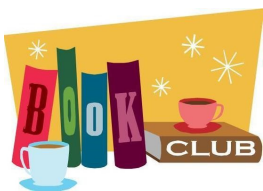
### FADED BISTRO

420 N. Ridgewood Drive  
Sebring

We'll meet at the Clubhouse  
at 12:45 for a 1:30 arrival.

Depending on the weather,  
you might want to bring  
along a sweater because  
we're going to be enjoying  
lunch in a fresh air garden  
setting. Choices for lunch  
include salads, sandwiches,  
small plates or dinner entrees.  
You can accompany that with a  
craft beer, glass of wine, cock-  
tail, or other beverage.

Sign up in the Clubhouse.



**2nd Friday  
of Month  
February 9  
1 pm**

*Station Eleven*  
by Emily St. John Mandel

This 2014 novel is an unusual and  
surprising survival story after  
world-wide virus wipes out most  
of human population. However, it is  
quite unlike most apocalyptic novels!

Available on Kindle.

Questions?  
Laurie Milliard H-37 or  
425-770-1902.



### Romeos

**Thursday  
February 22  
11 am**  
Meet at Clubhouse

### WILD TURKEY TAVERAN

2751 US-27 N  
Avon Park  
Sign up in Clubhouse



**Sunday 18 ~ 2 pm  
\$2.00**

**Ice Cream Sundaes with  
Cheryl's Famous  
Praline Sauce**



Sign up in the Clubhouse.

## Get Involved

### Blood Drive



**Monday, January 5  
9 am—1 pm**  
Sign up in the Clubhouse.



Non-perishable food donations for the  
Hardee County Help Center can be  
placed in the basket inside the Club-  
house double doors. Donations should  
be unopened and within the 'use by'  
date.

SKP Food Donation  
December 14—January 23  
104.5 lbs.



### Meeting

Everyone's a committee member!

**Monday, February 5  
9 am**  
**Election of Officers**

## Weekly Recurring Events

### Socials

Breakfast..... 7:50 am M  
 Happy Hour..... 4:00 pm M, W, F  
 Table of Knowledge Coffee..... 6:45 am M-F  
 Weekly Activity Announcements..... 9:00 am M  
 WhineB4Dine..... 4:00 pm Th



### Activities

Bible Study..... 9:30 am T  
 Bingo..... 7:00 pm W  
 Bowling..... 10:00 am Th  
 Cards & Games..... 7 pm M, Th, F, S, S  
 Chair Exercise..... 10:00 am Th  
 Crafts & Woodworking..... 9:00 am F  
 Exercise..... 9:00 am T, W, F  
 Golf..... 9:30 am S  
 Line Dancing..... 10:00 am M  
 Mexican Train..... 1:00 pm T  
 Movies & Popcorn..... 7:00 pm T

## February Crafts

Friday ~ 10 am—noon

Please sign up by the Thursday before.

**February 2 ..... Valentine Design-a-Tee**

Put a valentine on your t-shirt. Acrylic paints and fun technique.

Bring a t-shirt in your choice of solid color. Cost \$1.00

Instructor: Marsha Hodgkins H-10

**February 9..... Freezer Paper Stenciling**

Back by popular demand. Bring any fabric item (aprons, shirts, totes, shorts) and add a creative design using the freezer paper technique.

Cost \$1.00

Instructor: Marsha Hodgkins H-10

**February 16..... Potluck Silverware Holder**

Cost \$2.00

Instructor: Marsha Hodgkins H-10

**February 23..... Balloon Bracelet**

Cost TBA

Instructor: Lanette Breault A-31

### Editor

Margery Zeller, Site H-32

Cell: 412-480-4535

Email: CrackerCrumbs@flskpresort.org

Deadline for submitting articles is the 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.

## On the Home Front



## Cracker Capers Wrap-Up



### Birthday Wishes

2/1 ----- Bob Clark  
 2/3 ----- Ann Ed  
 2/5 ----- Rick Dicerio  
 2/9 ----- Julie King  
 2/14 ----- Val Young  
 2/20 ----- Jewell Gosselin  
 2/22 ----- Elsie Pettinato  
 2/23 ----- Janet Gibson  
 2/26 ----- Beverly Miller  
 2/26 ----- Ed Landry  
 2/28 ----- Nancy Pearce

### Anniversary Wishes

2/6 ----- Donald & Jean Masella  
 2/7 ----- Richard & Helen Frenz  
 2/12 ---- James & Brenda Caldwell  
 2/23 ---- Gilbert & Barbara Hagen  
 2/27 ----- Bob & Judy Hoffman

## Income Benefits Future Fun 'n Sun Activities

*Reported by Janet Gibson  
Fun 'n Sun Treasurer*

Food Auction..... \$1,218.00  
 Yard Sale..... 1,967.81  
 Casino Night..... 168.00  
 Bag Raffle..... 215.00  
 \$3,568.81

Concession stand at Caper Game Day  
and yard sale did very well.

All meals, Soppy Joes & Spaghetti,  
were great successes with the Spaghet-  
ti Dinner having a full house. There was  
great attendance for dancing after the  
dinner with music by Don & Allan. Eve-  
ryone got out on the floor, enjoyed  
themselves, and worked off their spa-  
ghetti dinner.

**Volunteers & Participants THANK YOU**

## Tournament Winners

### Corn Hole

#### 1st Place

Kenny Breault & Tom Cable

#### 2nd Place

Steve Little & Don Masella

### Pickleball

Chris Beatty & Joan Tarkin

### Shuffleboard

#### 1st Place

Kevin McIntyre & Katsue VonPloennies

#### 2nd Place

Kenny Breault & Bob Spangler

### Consolation Round

#### 1st Place

Ed Landry & Sue DiCiero

#### 2nd Place

Art Dubuc & Doris LeBlanc

### Honorable Mention

Leo Tolzdorf

★ **Big Bingo Winners** ★  
 Bev Miller, Sue DiCerio, Tom Cirou

## On the Home Front

### Park Defibrillator

In the case of an emergency, there is a defibrillator accessible 24/7 in the mail room.

Don't be intimidated about using it! The machine literally talks to you and gives step-by-step instructions on exactly what to do. Don't panic...get it and use it!

### Experimental Fire Ant Treatment

In the coming days, you may see Paul Zeller walking around some of the green spaces and public areas of the Co-op cranking a small, hand-held broadcast spreader. He will be applying a new fire ant bait as an experiment to see if we can effectively rid larger areas of the Co-op of fire ants on a more permanent basis.

Unlike the insecticide that is applied by the professional pest control companies where people and pets should stay out of the treated area until the insecticide dries, the new bait is applied in dry form, and it is applied at an extremely low rate in terms of ounces per 1000 sq. ft. Therefore, the area treated with the new bait is safe immediately after application.

It will take a while for the new bait to work after it is applied, but it is supposed to kill the entire colony, including the queen. We hope to have a follow-up report in time for the next issue of Cracker Crumbs.



### Guest Registration

Please remember to stop in the office and fill out a guest registration form when family and friends visit overnight.

### Reservation Update



The reservation program, begun as an experiment in February 2017, is just completing its first year. It was begun to maximize the use of empty rentable lots. Almost immediately lots filled, and we began getting reservation requests for this year.

Because we are a member-owned co-op, a reservation program presents unique challenges to meet the needs of the members and our guests.

This year our process is to poll members for lot availability by April 30 for the coming year and begin taking reservations during the summer.

Last year all available reserveable lots were reserved before September. The early results show lot rentals up 18% in November and 50% in December as measured by income.

This program is still in the experimental stages but is expected to continue next year pending approval at the next Board meeting.

### Park-Wide Lighting Improvements

Thanks to the forward thinking of the Planning Committee currently led by Norm Milliard we have replaced almost 90% of the park's lighting fixtures to LEDs. It is expected that this will save us thousands of dollars annually.

Currently, all the fluorescent lights in the clubhouse are being replaced with LEDs. This will reduce electrical usage of these lights by at least 50%. Equally important, it virtually insures that bulbs will not need to be replaced.

(cont'd next column)



### Member Picture Board

Kudos to Julie King who replaced all the plastic holders on the member picture board in the Clubhouse with non-glare plastic pockets.

If you would like an updated picture put on the board, here are some guidelines to follow:

1. Ask a friend or Margery Zeller to take a picture.
2. Use a solid background, i.e. a wall in the Clubhouse.
3. Get a closeup of the faces.
4. Try to take the picture in portrait position.
5. Send a copy of the file or the picture to be scanned to Margery Zeller.
6. We are standardizing all the pictures to include names for easy transfer if a member exchanges sites.
7. If you are a new member and your picture is not on the board, please get in touch with Margery, H-32.

(cont'd from previous column)

The old style fluorescent lights have a ballast, a user of power and potential fire starter. When completed, these will be totally eliminated. The installation takes about 10 minutes a unit and should be completed by mid February.

LEDs typically pay for themselves in savings in a year or less. The cost of redoing the clubhouse is \$1250 plus our labor.



## NEW MEMBER



### Robert & Jo Mellis, A-20

by Susan Wzsalek

New SKP CO-OP members Robert and Margaret (Jo) Mellis are owners of lot A-20, but this year are temporarily on H-34.

Robert was born in Scotland, moving to the States at age 20. Jo was born in Maine. They have two daughters, Lynn in CT and Stephanie in VT, and four grandchildren.

They met through a mutual friend while working in Boston. Jo's career in retail included Reeds, Jordan Marsh, and Macy's. Robert's career in the field of journalism has taken him to several newspapers in the States as copy editor.

Upon retiring in 2000, they traveled full-time in their sailboat for 7 years traveling 15,000 miles. They spent a year in Cambodia and Vietnam, traveled to Africa three times and to 35 countries where he taught journalism.

Bob made a slide show of his pictures of Africa that, hopefully, we can entice him to share with us along with a talk about their experiences there.

After sailing the oceans blue, they bought an RV and began 'land cruising' visiting all states except OK and KS.

(cont'd next column)

## NEW MEMBER



### Rick & Sue DiCerio, H-29

by Marsha Hodgkins

Susan and Rick DeCiero have been visiting the Resort since 2011 when they put their name on the Wait List. They became Escapees on their first trip out with their RV after researching full-time RVing for five years. They traveled out West and around the country the past two years and returned this year, hoping their name would soon be at the top of the list.

Fran and Dick Harig were the first Resort members they met here. They have often helped in the kitchen. I remember them working on the Annual Meeting Lunch several years ago, when our grandson, Jack, was here. They took him under their wing, and he enjoyed helping out with them.

(cont'd next column)

(cont'd from previous column)

Robert's interests are birds, photography, and lately he has joined our carvers. Jo enjoys knitting and, after a brief intro to pickleball during Cracker Capers, is thinking about joining Wednesday pickleball

They both feel strongly about encouraging younger folks to experience the RV lifestyle and become Escapees.

**Birthdays** ..... Robert 6/14, Jo 11/4  
**Anniversary** ..... 8/22

(cont'd from previous column)

Sue and Rick, married for 45 years this year, have three children. Their daughter lives in Gainesville and their two sons live in Massachusetts. Sue and Rick lived in Marlborough, Massachusetts and surrounds for most of their lives and met during high school.

You will see them walking around the Resort most days; hiking is one of their top interests. Rick also enjoys flying in his experimental plane, old cars and playing pool. Susan loves to read all types of books and authors, enjoys line dancing and playing cards. Her favorite card game is "Hand and Foot."

Before retirement, Rick was involved in mechanical engineering with an emphasis on designing heavy structures. Susan worked in administration for the VNA and then in long-term care. They are enjoying their retirement and have more trips planned. They became Florida residents in 2012 and joined the Sebring Elks this year.

**Birthdays** ..... Rich 2/5, Sue 7/16  
**Anniversary** ..... 6/9



## Arrivals/ Moves/ Departures

### Departures

H-13 Robert & Elizabeth Crain  
H-29 Alan & Mona Toof

### Moved to a Different Site

H-31 Bob Crystal to S-05

### New Members

H-13 Steven Gibson

H-29 Rick & Sue DiCerio

## Looking Ahead



### Upcoming Events

March 3  
Bonworth Fashion Show

March 10  
Danny's Fish Fry  
Dancing

March 18  
Corned Beef & Cabbage  
Frankie E Live

58th Escapade  
Sedalia, MO  
May 27—June 1

## Upcoming Community Events

### Ape-ology Workshop at Center for Great Apes..... Wauchula

Get an inside account of the closing routines for the day and the nighttime rounds as the chimpanzees and orangutans settle in for the night. \$30  
Call Lauren at 863-767-8903 ext 224 to register.  
Saturday, February 10 - 10 am --1 pm

### 77th Annual Hardee County Fair..... Wauchula

Saturday-Saturday, February 17-24  
Daily Schedule at <https://www.facebook.com/HardeeCountyFair>

### Paul Bunyan Lumberjack Show..... Wauchula

Friday, February 23 - 9 pm  
Hardee County Fairground

### Florida Flywheelers Antique Engine Club

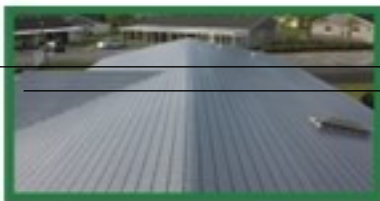
### 26th Annual Antique Engine & Tractor Show..... Ft. Mead

Wednesday—Saturday, February 21-24  
<http://www.floridaflywheelers.org>

### Pioneer Park Days..... Zolfo Springs

Thursday-Saturday, March 1-3  
[Www.PioneerParkDays.com](http://www.PioneerParkDays.com)

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