



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

April 2019

#### A Note From Our President

As spring has sprung, the travelers and members with homes in other states are getting ready to leave our beautiful park, to leave the summer residents with the peace and quiet that summer brings.

While enjoying travels, campfires, happy hours and friends and family during the summer season, take a moment to think about the future of our park and candidates for the 2020 Board of Director's election. What might happen if we cannot muster at least five candidates for an election for the Board at the next Annual Meeting? candidates is not an election in 2020 and indicates a declining interest in our future. "The Life of a CO-OP" is a good read on possible outcomes as cooperative ages and slows down. If you are interested in reading it, you can request a copy from Heather in the office or email margery.zeller1@gmail.com for an electronic copy. There is also a copy posted on the bulletin board in the park library.

A near-term concern is Hardee County real estate taxes which are increasing significantly due to two high dollar sales of campgrounds in the area. The sales were in the \$1 million and \$2 million dollar which resulted in a range increase significant in appraised value. Florida law limits our assessment to no more than a 10% increase per year until we reach the appraised value. This

Cont'd next column

## Clubhouse Now More Accessible

The two electric doors located at the pool patio entrance to the Clubhouse have been installed thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor.

John Ray demonstrates how easy it is to access the Clubhouse now.



Con't

will increase our annual tax by about \$2000 a year for the next 5+ years.

Jim and Pat, our treasury team, are reviewing our tax situation and evaluating the difference between a private, for-profit campground and us, a non-profit cooperative, as it affects our taxes. They anticipate appealing our appraisal when the next Hardee County appraisal document is provided.

Best wishes and safe travels to all. We look forward to returning in the fall; but most importantly, enjoy every moment and BE HAPPY.

Frank King

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## SUMMER OFFICE HOURS

Monday—Friday 9 am—4 pm



863-735-1499



#### **Board Members**

President	Frank King, A-15
Vice-President.	Ed Landry, A-35
Secretary	Anne Warren, H-18
Treasurer	Pat Dubuc, A-34
Ass't Treasurer	Jim Krueger, H-20
At Large	. Bud Hodgkins, H-10
At Large	Bob Lewis, A-13

#### Rental Policies May 1 thru Apr 30, 2020

#### Reservations

- Can be made beginning May 1.
- For full hook-up site, use the reservation form on our website fl-skp-resort.org.
- Reservations are preferred but not required for the summer season.
- Overflow and dry camping sites are walk-in only and cannot be reserved.

#### **Deposits**

- 100% required for stays of 1-29 days
- 100% of first month required for stays of 1-2 months

#### **Cancellation Policy**

- There are no refunds for cancellations or early departure.
- Cancellations or early departure will fully release the lot for the Florida SKP Resort to rent to other Escapee members.
- If renter does not arrive by the second day of the reservation, it will be cancelled and given to the next renter.

#### **Limits on Length of Stay**

- Full-hook-up Sites............ 2 months winter season ............ 6 months summer season Note: This is a co-op park. Members' lots are used as rental lots. Members may return to their lots with 8 days' notice. Rental guests may be moved to another available lot if a member returns.
- Overflow Sites ......7 days winter season
   Not available during summer season
- Dry Camping......7 days year round



#### Winter Rental Rates Nov 1, 2019 thru Apr 30, 2020

Site Type	Daily Rate	Charge Basis Days	Limit	Rates	Dump Use Fee \$5.00
Dry Camping	\$ 13.00	1	7 days	\$ 13.00	\$5.00 each use
Overflow (20 AMP)	\$ 18.00	1	7 days	\$ 18.00 inc electric	1 per week free each additional use \$5.00
Overflow (30 AMP)	\$ 21.00	1	7 days	\$ 21.00 inc electric	1 per week free each additional use \$5.00
Full Hook-Up Site Daily	\$ 22.00	1	See monthly	\$ 22.00 + metered elec	N/A
Full Hook-up Site Monthly	\$ 575.00	30	2 months	\$ 575.00 + metered elec*	N/A

\*Stays charged at a monthly rate are based on 30 days and will be charged at a daily rate for days beyond 30 and less than 60.

#### Summer Rental Rates May 1, 2019 thru Oct 31, 2020

Site Type	Summer Rates	Limit
Dry Camping Daily Rate	\$ 13.00 + \$5.00 dump fee each use	7 days
Overflow (20 AMP)	N/A	N/A
Overflow (30 AMP)	N/A	N/A
Full Hook-Up Site Daily	\$ 20.00 + electric @ \$6.00 per day	See monthly
Full Hook-Up Site Monthly	\$495.00 + metered electric*	
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\*Stays charged at a monthly rate are based on 30 days and will be charged at a daily rate for days beyond 30, 60 and 90 days.

## **April Special Events**



Ham-Bean & Turkey Noodle
Soup Lunch

Monday, April 8 ~ Noon \$5

Bring your own table setting.

Sign Up in the Clubhouse

## **April Monthly Events**

## LE0 Let's Eat Out!

# Dee's Place

Good Food at a Fair Price
With Good Friends

## Wednesday, April 3

Meet at 138 N. Ridgewood Dr. Downtown Sebring

at 11:30 am

Sign up in the Clubhouse



#### All ladies are invited.

Join us as we gather for one last afternoon of merriment and a tasty lunch before the winter residents and visitors depart.



at Inn on the Lakes in Sebring

is expecting us on Wednesday, April 10

Meet at the restaurant at 1:30 pm 3101 Golfview Dr. Sebring

Check out the menu and sign up in the Clubhouse.

Limit: 24

# **ROMEOS**

All men are invited.



Wednesday, April 10

Meet at 11:00 am

at 1000 Sebring Square

facing Sebring Parkway near the Winn Dixie

Sign up in the Clubhouse



## **April's Activities**

## Monday Breakfast 7:50 am Ala Carte Menu



Weekly Announcements 9:00 am

## Shuffleboard

Mon - Sat @ 1 pm

For More Info Kenny Breault A-31



## **Pickleball**



Palm Lane here at park

Equipment available from Chris Blakely, H-26.

# April Crafts Friday at 9 am

April 5
Bird Nests Jewelry ~ \$4
Instructor: Marsha Hodgkins H-10

April 12
Coin Purse w/
Wool/Felt Applique ~ \$3
Instructor: Marsha Hodgkins H-10



## **Board Meeting** Tuesday, April 9 9:30 am



# Thursday 10:00 am

\$9 for 3 Games (Includes Shoes)

Bowl of Fun 943 S 6th Ave Downtown Wauchula

All Welcome!

Continues through summer.

# Meeting Monday, April 1 - 9:15 am



Wednesday ~ 7 pm \$3.00

**Last Bingo April 3** 

## Whine B4 Dine

Thursday ~ 4:00 pm Poolside Patio

Bring your beverage of choice and a snack to share.

**Continues through summer.** 

Kitchen Cleaning Volunteers Needed Monday, April 15 9:00 am



## On the Home Front

Given enough time, podocarpus shrubs become thick, luxurious, full to the ground.



The soft, finetextured foliage requires minimal trimming.

# Fun 'n Sun Members Approve Replacing Dying Hedges

With some of the proceeds from this year's fundraising efforts, it was proposed and approved to replace the row of the western front hedges because they were dying and being overtaken by vines.

They are being replaced with podocarpus, a handsome and hardy low-maintenance shrub that does well in sun or shade. It is a conifer that is drought-resistant once it is established. It's evergreen, salt-tolerant, and cold tolerant, so it does well in any area of South Florida.



When first planted, our shrubs will look like this.

## On the Home Front



he co-op has only two sources of income that cover all of our annual operating expenses: members' annual maintenance fees and rental income. If our rental income goes down, our maintenance fees must go up to make up the difference.

#### Yard Sale Shed

As you pack up to leave, think about next year's yard sale and lighten your load.



Arrangements to place yard sale donations in the shed over the summer must be made by contacting Margery Zeller at

- ♦ 2213 Leisure Lane (H-32)
- ♦ margery.zeller1@gmail.com
- ◊ 412-480-4535

Do not leave donations in front of the shed without contacting Margery. Anything left outside must be in a plastic container to protect it from the rain.



Your book, DVD, audio book, and magazine donations have kept our library busy this season. Thank you all!

To keep our library vibrant, we ask you to continue to donate any of the above items, especially current or near current items. We are particularly in need of non-fiction and large print books and DVD's.



#### Wi-Fi Update

Norm Milliard has reported on the work that he and Young Norm did on the park's wi-fi system over the winter.

- 1. The whole wi-fi system is on automatic battery back-up.
- All software upgrades are covered by the vendor and are done remotely.
- The upgrade is applied to our system at 2 am when the three Comcast routers get automatically reset then upgraded for ½ an hour.
- 4. A local resource has been found who will be available to troubleshoot the system in an effort to ensure that wi-fi breakdowns during the summer are handled.
- Wi-fi support for the office has been brought up to speed.
- 6. Residents are forewarned to be cognizant that the security of the system is still uncertain.
- There is still some connectivity issues in certain areas of the park that will be addressed next season.



The Fun 'n Sun Committee invites you to share your ideas of what activity you would like to see considered for next season's calendar.

Email suggestions to either
Cathy Landry
eclandry1@gmail.com
Susan Wszalek
rwszalek@gmail.com

#### Golf Cart Owners...



The Safety and Emergency Committee recommends that each member owning a golf cart obtain a fire extinguisher for it. We recommend a dry chemical fire extinguisher with a 20 BC rating.



If you have the skills and talent and you could perform in the capacity of a member of our board directors, please consider running for the 2020-21 season. We have four board vacancies that need to be filled, and we must have those volunteers by early January in time for our secretary to prepare packets for the annual meeting. Please contact one of the Search/Election Committee members: Ron or Susan Wszalek. Joan Lindstrom, JoAnn Silva, Anne Schumann, Betsy Hixson, or June Post. Thanks.



Αp	ril	Bi	rth	d	avs

April Birtilaa	<b>,</b>
4/13	Patricia Dubuc
4/16	Barbara Bolhouse
4/16	Jean Masella
4/16	Ronald Haury
4/18	. Leigh Ann Cooper
4/19	Jane Lewis
4/19	Rose Irons
4/22	George Weiss
4/22	Margery Zeller
4/23	Dick Naughton
4/27	Bill Ĕwald
4/29	James Bolhouse
4/29	Barb Fletcher

#### **April Anniversaries**

4/1	Danny & Joan Lindstrom
4/7	Marty & June Parr
4/23	Ernie & Eva Herman
4/26	Dick & Mary Lou Naughton

#### **May Birthdays**

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5/1	Dave Irons
5/3	Lee Belanger
5/7	Joann Silva
5/8	Emma Beckwith
5/10	Marty Parr
5/11	Dick Ward
5/15	. Christina Baideme
5/26	Linda Sandel
5/27	Bobbie Hoffman
5/27	Ken Hixson
5/29	Kitty Ewald
	Nancy Yvon
5/31	Frances Harig
	_

#### May Anniversaries

way Alliliversaries
5/5 Terry & Christina Baideme
5/6Richard & Fran Harig
5/9 Swede & Joan Lindstrom
5/11 Dick & Nancy Pearce
5/18James & Helen Dwyer
5/20Art & Pat Dubuc
5/28 Frank & Julie King
5/30Kenneth & Delores Griffey
5/31Tony & Elsie Pettinato

#### June Birthdays

6/3	Carol Torns
6/6	Jim McBride
6/6	Lynn Lord
6/7	James Jones
6/7	Gary Hohman
6/8	Ken Tarkin
6/12	Mel VonPloennies
	Robert Mellis
6/14	George White
6/16	Judi Ward
	Walter Lindstrom
	Craig Sandel
6/17	Linda Cahill
6/17	Anne Schumann
6/17	Ted Wallin
	Jan Pratt
6/20	Barbara Bobek
	Monica Behun
6/21	Terry Regennitter
	Steve Warren
	Bob Iles
6/27	Kenny Breault
6/29	Kenny Breault Terry Baideme

#### **June Anniversaries**

6/2	Jim & Arlene Krueger
6/4	Skip & Jan Pratt
6/4	Ted & Donna Wallin
6/6	Joe & Lee Belanger
6/8	George & Lillian White
6/9	Rick & Sue DeCerio
6/15	Anne & Steve Warren
6/17	Bill & Jan Maas
6/27	Dave & Rose Irons
6/29	James & Paula Jones

#### **July Birthdays**

7/3	Donna Wallin
7/3	Joseph Behun
7/7	Joseph Belanger
7/9	Lanette Breault
7/9	Bob Schumann
7/14	Dale Mahnken
7/15	Skip Pratt
7/16	Sue DeCerio
7/16	Dolores Griffey
7/17	Noreta Ray
7/25	Brenda Caldwell
7/26	Paul Newhouse

## July Anniversaries

7/2	Joe & Monica Behun
7/16	Mike & Tammy Milliard
7/19	Dolan & Doris LeBlanc
7/25	Gary & Susan Hohman
7/29	Čhris & Rita Blakely
7/30	Bob & Emma Beckwith

<b>August</b>	<b>Birthdays</b>
9/2	•

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9/2	Rob Beatty
8/9	Susan Mannery
8/7	Frank King
8/8	Kathy Heaton
	James McBride
8/10	Eva Herman
8/10	Cindy Henderson
	Ćhris Blakely
8/15	Norman Milliard
8/16	Judy Hoffman
	Dolan LeBlanc
8/17	Jim Krueger
8/17	Susan Wszalek
8/21	Linda Ward
8/2	Ann Castle
8/24	Ginny Milliard
	June Post

#### **August Anniversaries**

8/3	Paul & Margery Zeller
8/22	Val & Lorraine Young
	Ray & Kathy Heaton
8/22	Řobert & Jo Mellis
8/29	Norm & Ginny Milliard
	Earl & Leigh Ann Cooper
	Ken & Joan Tarkin

#### **September Birthdays**

9/9	Bill Maas
9/11	Anne Warren
9/12	Sharon Weiss
9/15	Katsue VonPloennies
9/20	Kevin McIntyre
9/24	Paul Zeller
9/26	Ann McBride
9/29	Ernie Herman
9/30	Carol Ann Iles

#### **September Anniversaries**

9/:	′3 <sup>-</sup> Nelson &	& Ann Castle
9/	/5Brenda & <i>A</i>	Alex Rutchka
9/	/11Ed & C	Cathy Landry
	/18 Bob 8	
	23 George & S	

## October Birthdays

10/08	i omassa
10/10	Bob Crysta
10/11	Joan Lindstrom
10/14	Earl Coope
10/18	Laurie Milliard
10/19	Bev Ciroι
10/20	Donald Chase
10/24	Donald Lindstrom
10/26	Betsy Hixsor
10/28	Lynn Lunde
	Jan Maas

#### **October Anniversaries**

10/6	Gerald & Rita Molitor
10/10	Kenny & Lanette Breault
	Bob & Anne Schumann
10/24	Lynn & Becky Lunde
10/25	Donald & Doris Chase

## On the Home Front

## **Let Us Know**

Please let the office know a few days in advance of when you are vacating your site. This helps us know who is in the park in case of an emergency.

#### **Departure Checklist**

Editor's Note: As the April issue of Cracker Crumbs is getting the final edits, it is a very windy day here in the park with gusts up to 25 mph. This checklist from the Safety Committee is a timely reminder to batten down the hatches before you leave for the summer to prevent damage to your neighbors' property or your own property.

This checklist is provided by the Safety/Emergency Committee to help keep our RVs and homes safe during summer storms. Storms can be fierce here, and we need to prepare ahead of time.

Pu	t away	flags	and	flag	poles

- Put away patio furniture/chairs
- Put away garden tools and equipment
- Put away trash cans and grills
- Put away plant pots.

Anything you can hold with your hands could become a torpedo in a heavy wind or storm. Do not leave plants outdoors if you are not here to take care of them and move them indoors in case of storm.

Remove	detached	steps	and	store	safely

- Turn off propane and water
- \_\_\_ Turn off electricity if you are not keeping your a/c or humidistat running
- Close and lock hurricane shutters/awnings
- Close and lock windows; cover with reflective material if desired
- \_\_\_ Check sheds and homes for leaks and loose shingles.

  Repair before leaving
- \_\_\_ Clean out behind sheds. No loose items can remain there during the summer.

#### **Summer Residents**

It is important for everyone to band together to keep the Resort safe. Rose Irons, F-10, is the Safety Committee contact during the summer.

It is important to help prepare the clubhouse and pool for storms as well.

- Put away pool equipment and toys
- \_\_\_ Put away pool furniture
- Put away any loose items around the outside of the clubhouse

Thank you! Have a safe and happy summer!

#### **Update on the Park-Owned Sites Project**

Frank King explained at the March Board meeting the process going forward regarding the upgrading of the parkowned sites.

The Board has identified a group of people to work with them over the summer to acquire the necessary quotes from various contractors.

Once all the information has been gathered, the membership will vote either in person or by proxy to decide if the project will move forward.

If the vote passes, construction will begin and there will be a \$240 credit given to all members and \$240 will added to their assessment. The cost to all members will be zero and the value of each lot will increase by \$240.

## **Season in Review**

## We Celebrated

It was a full house for the Resort's 30th birthday party.



## **We Made Friends**



Wine & Cheese Get-together

**Happy Hour** 

**Afternoon Coffee** 



Whine

**Different Days Different Times Different People** 



Game Night

## We Learned New Games

Mahjong







## We Worked



Removal of Front Hedges





## We Ate...It Bears Repeating, We've Got the Best Cooks!



## We Learned



About Namibia

About Highlands Hammock State Park



**About Making Whirligigs** 



**About iPhones** 



**About Water Birds, Snakes, and Turtles** 

**About Making Reindeer From Fronds From Our Tree Trimming** 



# **We Laughed**





**The Gladhatters From Highlands Little Theater** 

# We Honored & Remembered



**Burning Individual Stars & Stripes** in Memory of Those Who Served.





**Proper Flag Retirement Is to Burn It** 

## **For Your Information**

#### Have You Heard?

Costco is opening a new warehouse at 7433 Grand Harbour Parkway in Heritage Harbour. It will be located on SR 64 West just before you reach I-75.in Bradenton. No word yet on when it will open.



# **Hardee County Emergency Numbers**

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Life Threatening	911
Hardee County Animal Control	(863) 773-2320
(Law Enforcement, Fire, and EM	MS)
Hardee County Sheriff	(863) 773-4144
Ambulance	(863) 773-3313
Hardee County Emergency	(863) 773-9390
(Storm, Disaster, etc.)	
Power Outage—Peace River Electric	(800) 282-3824

The RESORT is located on the north side of Hwy 64, just over 2 miles east of where Hwy 64 intersects with Hwy 17.

Code for Gate Beside Site A-1......13-35-13

Code for Drive-Through Gate Between Sites A-28 and A-30......32-14-22



#### Notary Services Available

Heather Scheel, our office support staff member, has received

her training and been commissioned as a licensed notary public. She is now available to provide those services for the convenience of park residents and guests.

#### **Editor**

Margery Zeller, Site H-32

Cell: 412-480-4535

Email: CrackerCrumbs@fl-skp-resort.org

Deadline for submitting articles 20th of each month

All articles are subject to editing...and all mistakes are made with love!

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