



From Our President

Happy New Year to all our members and visitors!

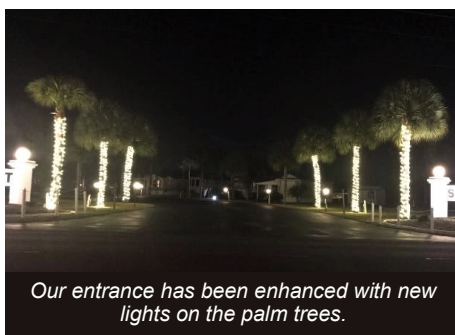
Since the season began November 1, many members and visitors have been working especially hard getting us up to speed for the winter season. The necessary deadlines have been met to support budgets and proposals for the annual meeting as well as starting the committee work and tree trimming. I am so appreciative of the many members willing to put in the considerable effort to meet the deadlines.

January finds the park and the calendar full. Thanks to the efforts of many volunteers, we look forward to a memorable season of making friends, renewing friendships, and learning a new skill or craft all while enjoying the beautiful south Florida weather.

I better understand why we have a summer season - to allow us to step back, slow down and recharge our batteries; but I would not want it any other way.

Wishing you a healthy and happy 2020.

Frank King



Our entrance has been enhanced with new lights on the palm trees.



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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 |

Update on Site Upgrades

At the December 17 meeting, three of the four conditions for the site upgrade project were met, paving the way to a final member vote.

Those conditions included presentation of the site plan, determination of the actual cost, the permit process having begun and the timeline for completion established.

The timeline for completion is dependent on how long it takes to get the permits. That process has begun, but it is not possible to define the timeframe.

By a vote of 62 to 19 including 43 proxies, the project was approved by the members.

Assessment Benefit

As a follow up to Proposition 7 Site Upgrade being approved, a statement was emailed to all members on December 27.

The statement showed a credit of \$240 from the 2018 budget excess of \$30,000.

The membership was then assessed \$240 from these credits resulting in no direct cash outlay from the members.

Finally, the value of each membership assessment has now been increased by \$240.

In the New Year,
may your right hand
always be stretched out
in friendship, never in want.

December 3 Board Meeting Highlights

- Wauchula State Bank in Zolfo Springs is closing in February. Plans are being made to move the safety deposit boxes to the Wauchula office with police escort.
 - Frank made the following public service announcements:
 - ◊ Do not feed the ducks.
 - ◊ Bag all trash before putting in the dumpster.
 - ◊ Be politically correct with regard to religion, politics, race and sexual preference.
 - The Budget Committee presented the 2020 budget to the Board with the following goals
 - ◊ Funding increased needs and maintaining member fees at the present level.
 - ◊ Strengthening our reserves by adjusting target levels to reflect higher anticipated costs .
 - ◊ Strengthening our reserves by adding a component for kitchen and recreation equipment.
- It was the committee's recommendation that the
- ◊ Board be flexible when needed while working within the existing budget.
 - ◊ Board provide autonomy to Fun 'n Sun for decision-making while following IRS regulations.
- The Board approved a special meeting for the members on December 17 to vote on Prop 7, to approve the development of the boondock sites.

December 17 Board Meeting Highlights

- The 2020 budget was passed.
- There have been changes in the Florida state laws pertaining to co-ops and not-for-profit corporations, and SKP Co-op shares characteristics of the two. We anticipate moderate legal expenses to hire an attorney to help us navigate these changes and to ensure we are legal.
- Future plans for re-doing the outside walls, gutters and downspouts of the clubhouse have been put on hold until we go through another rainy season to see how our new system works.
- Ed presented an update on the gate valves that control our water supply. The gate valve manufacturer confirms that they are not made to be buried. A plan has been put in place to deal with the sediment that is in them from being buried. Ed has found covers to keep out sediment and give easier access. (See article on page 8)
- Three computers and one printer have been purchased for the back office, and their installation is being completed.
- A straw vote of those present indicated there was interest in learning more about 3 1/4 acres of land across from the retention pond that is for sale. It will cost each member \$8 for every \$1,000 of the selling price to purchase the property. The membership will be kept informed about this opportunity, and nothing will go forward without a formal vote of the membership.
- Beginning in January 2020, board meetings will begin at 9:00 am. The next board meeting is Tuesday, January 14.

Cracker Capers Food & Services Auction

Tempting treats and practical services will go on the auction block at the Food & Services Auction on Friday, January 24, at 1:15 pm during Cracker Capers.

Be creative or be practical. Here are some things that have been donated in years past: homegrown honey, cakes, shed power washing, pies, homemade jams, smoked mac & cheese, homecooked dinner for 4 hosted by someone in the park, bread, cookies, fudge, car washing. You're only limited by your imagination.

It promises to be a fun time as we introduce our very own fun-lovin' Judy Hoffman as this year's auctioneer.

We need donations and buyers, so mark your calendar and come with cash so you can be the high bidder for some delectable goodies and worthwhile services.



Donations are needed for the indoor yard sale on Saturday, January 25.

Plan to do your annual RV cleaning and donate your items to a good cause. Many RVers say "If I haven't used it in a year, I don't need it." Lighten your rig's weight and unclutter your mind.

Contact Jan Pratt at site H-09 or by calling her at 937-418-9835 to make arrangements to drop off your donations.

Help will also be needed to set up after the auction Friday afternoon and to work the floor the day of the yard sale. Let Jan know if you would like to help.

**Caring For Our Park
Past, Present and Future**

January Special Events

Cracker Capers

Tuesday, January 21

What is a Cracker? 1:00 pm

Learn about the Cracker lifestyle and the cowboy heritage of Florida.

Wednesday, January 22

Spaghetti Dinner 5:00 pm

Ticket Sales Jan 6-16. \$8 / pp Bring table service

Dancing 6:30 pm

Live Music with Bobby Remp

Thursday, January 23

Caper Games 9:00 am

Lunch Noon

Caper Games of Chance 7:00 pm

Friday, January 24

Game Day Awards 1:00 pm

Caper Food & Service Auction 1:15 pm

Saturday, January 25

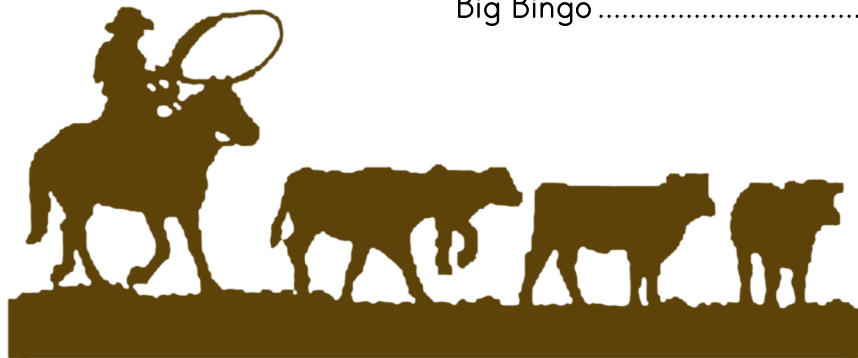
Annual Yard Sale 8:00 am-?

Breakfast 8:00-11:00 am

Ala Carte Lunch 11:00 am

Sunday, January 26

Big Bingo 7:00 pm



Wednesday, January 22
5:00 pm

Tickets \$8.00
Bring table service

Live Music & Dancing with Bobby Remp
begins at 6:30 pm

Tickets on Sale
January 6- 16
From Fun 'n Sun Board

Lanette Breault A-31
Janet Gibson G-12
Rose Irons F-10
Cathy Landry A-35
Jane Lewis A-13
June Post H-21
Jan Pratt H-09
Sue Wszalek S-02

Narrow Boating In England & Wales

Peggy Shafer will be talking about narrow boating on **Wednesday, January 8, from 3-4 pm** in the clubhouse, which is similar to RVing only it is on the water.



The boat has a distinctive design, made to fit the narrow canals of the United Kingdom.

These boats rent for much less than a cruise ship. They are pet friendly and have similar domestic facilities of land homes, i.e. a kitchen, sleeping accommodations, and flush toilets.

There are many places to stop along the canals of England and Wales.

You're invited to an



Saturday, January 11

2 pm

PROVIDED BY AN
ABSENT-MINDED ELF WHO GOT
CARRIED AWAY WITH
TOY-MAKING IN DECEMBER.
(THAT MEANS IT'S FREE!)

Sign up in Clubhouse

A Night of Nickels & Veggies

by Cathy Landry



Come join us for an interesting evening on **Thursday, January 9, at 5 pm.** The Fun 'n Sun Committee is introducing a "Vegetarian Potluck Dinner."

A small group of members will be cooking up two of our delicious dishes for anyone who comes. We ask that you also bring a vegetarian dish to share and your place setting including a bowl.

After dinner, please stay and join us for a fun game of "Nickels." It is an easy game that will keep you laughing and hoping to win yourself a pile of nickels to take home! Sign up in the Clubhouse. Bring nickels or buy at the game.

Monthly Activities



All ladies in the park are invited.

Please join us!

Wednesday, January 15

Meet at 1:30 pm at



Lakeshore Mall

721 US-27, Sebring

Sign Up in Clubhouse

LEO

Let's Eat Out

Wednesday, January 29

Meet @ 1 pm at

Hibachi Buffet

2870 US Highway 27 N

Sebring

Everyone is invited!

Sign Up in Clubhouse

ROMEOs

All men in the park are invited.

Please join us!

Wednesday, January 15

Meet at 11:00 am at

Avon Park Diner

610 US Hwy 27 S

Sign up in Clubhouse



Sunday, January 19

Note Time Change **3 pm**



Preceded by



2 pm

Sign Up in Clubhouse

Monthly Activities



Afternoon Coffee

Tuesday, January 7

Tuesday, January 28

3 p.m.

Site: F-04 1272 Travel Trail
(Bring lawn chair)

Hosted by

Norm & Ginny Milliard



Everyone's a member!

Monday, January 6 - 9:15 am



Board Meeting

Note Time Change

Tuesday, January 14
9:00 am



Monday, January 20
9:00 am



Leaping to February

by Cathy Landry

This year, February has an extra day on the calendar so the Fun & Sun Committee would like to recognize Leap Year by having a dinner. What shall we have and who will prepare it?

To most of you, the thought of preparing a dinner for a crowd can be scary and overwhelming. Let me make a suggestion that worked well two years ago. Eight of us got together and divided up the tasks: Hawaiian chicken, confetti rice, cole slaw and dessert. Each couple bought the ingredients and prepared food for their portion of the meal. We got together for a trial dinner to critique the taste and discuss any concerns. This process worked very well and simplified the meal preparations.

We are looking for any couples or small groups of women/men who would be willing to help out with a portion of the Leap Year Dinner. Please step forward and give it a try! Let any Fun & Sun Committee members know if you are interested.



Friday, January 17 1 pm

We'll be meeting in the clubhouse library to discuss "Educated" by Tara Westover.

This memoir follows the author's life story from an isolated rural setting to her college successes. Inspiring and thought provoking!

All are welcome! Questions? See Laurie Milliard on H-37.



l-r Back row: Robert Mellis, Skip LaPlante, Bobby Hoffman, Judy Hoffman, Rose Irons
Front row: Lanette Breault, Earl Cooper, June Post



The park was well presented at the Hardee County Chamber of Commerce Christmas parade in downtown Wauchula on December 7 to kick-off the holiday season.



A bit of whimsy decorated the outside of the Clubhouse this year thanks to Denny & Diane Luppens.



Weekly Activities

Check the January calendar for the complete schedule of weekly activities.

Monday

Table of Knowledge Weekdays 7:00 am



Coffee Available
25 cents / cup

Monday - Friday
7 am in Clubhouse

Breakfast 7:50 am



Ala Carte Menu

Weekly Announcements 9 am

Colored Pencil Class Mondays ~ 1 pm

Contact Gary Wyatt, S-07,
for more information and
for materials list.

330-248-3326



Monday
3-4 pm



Happy Hour

Mon & Wed ~ 4 pm
Clubhouse

CARDS



GAMES



Mon-Thu-Fri-Sat-Sun

7 pm

Tuesday

Chair Exercises Two Classes Now Available



Tues & Thu Mornings
except board meeting days.

9:00 am Balance & Strength
10:00 am Sit and Be Fit
Totally seated exercises.

See June Post, H-21, for details.

Wednesday



on Palm Lane

Wednesday 9:00 am

Equipment & Instruction Provided
Players & spectators welcome!
Bring a chair.



\$3.00

Wednesday ~ 7 pm

Movie Night Tuesdays ~ 7 pm

1/7 Judy
1/14 The Biggest Little Farm
1/21 The Public
1/28 The Tomorrow Man



50¢ for movie & popcorn

BYOB

Bring Your Own Bowl

For Your Convenience...



Soda, water, ice cream,
and coffee are available for
sale in the clubhouse at a
very reasonable price.

Purchase of these items is on
the honor system. Please be
sure to pay.



We've been coming
up short and risk
losing this conveni-
ence if it continues.

Thanks for your cooperation!

There are heavy-duty
cardboard boxes under
the sign-up table
in the Clubhouse.
Help yourself!

Weekly Activities

Thursday



**Thursday
10:00 am**

**\$9 for 3 Games
(Includes Shoes)**

Bowl of Fun
943 S 6th Ave
Downtown Wauchula
All Welcome!

Whine B4 Dine



**Thursdays
4 pm
Pool Patio**

Whether beverage of choice is
pop, water, beer, or wine...
all are welcome!



Thursday ~ 1 pm

Work on your knitting, crocheting, or any other handiwork project while visiting with fellow stitchers.

For More Info: Jo Mellis A-20

Friday

January Crafts

Friday at 9 am
Sign up in Clubhouse

January 3
String Art

January 10
Paper Map Craft

January 17
Punch Needle Embroidery

January 24
No Class

January 31
Green Friday
Cork Photo/Recipe Holder

Fridays ~ 9 am

**Informa
Woodcarvers
Gathering**



Family News



1/04 Dick Pearce
1/07 John Cashman
1/07 Lorraine Young
1/09 Bill Oates
1/11 Joan Tarkin
1/12 Art Dubuc
1/12 Betty Miller
1/14 Denny Luppens
1/15 Stanley Bobek
1/17 Becky Lunde
1/19 Diane Beatty
1/19 Phoebe Bolin
1/26 Joan Cashman
1/29 Donna Hixon
1/29 Ken Bollin
1/29 Tom Cirou



1/10 Ken & Phoebe Bollin
1/14 Jim & Elinor Gooding
1/14 Dale & Jackie Schmidtendorff
1/17 Mel & Katsue VonPloennies

Congratulations, Graduate!



Our very own Heather Scheel completed her studies at South Florida State College in December after 19 months of study.

She received a Certificate in Accounting and is Quickbooks certified.

Arrivals/ Moves/Farewells

New Members

Chuck & Mari Roth G-14

Farewell

Loren & Marilyn Kaufman . G-14

NEW MEMBER



Roger & Lavonne Hogan, H-35

by June Post

FINALLY! After many years of working as a loan officer, Lavonne Hogan is able to spend a season with us at the Florida SKP Resort. And in a couple of years, her husband, Roger, a supervisor for the Department of Corrections in New Jersey, will be able to do the same, if that is the choice the couple makes. Their goal is to sell their house and begin full-time RVing in their motorhome once these working years are behind them. Roger and Lavonne have had their lot, H-35, since January 2017 but have previously put it in the rental pool.

The daughter of Bob and Emma Beckwith, Lavonne grew up in Colorado. She met Roger while he was serving in the Marine Corps with her brother. The Hogans married in 1989 in Las Vegas, moving to "South Jersey," Roger's childhood area following Roger's stint as a Marine.

Traveling is a family hobby. Roger and Lavonne have four sons, all of whom have RVs. There are five grandchildren with only one granddaughter. The Hogans have been to many Jeep Jamborees in KY, WV, VT, and ME. Other favorite trips include CO; Moab, UT; and the Finger Lakes of NY. For their 30th anniversary in 2019, Roger and Lavonne took an Alaskan cruise

In addition to traveling and attending Jeep Jamborees, Lavonne likes gardening and hiking. Roger's hobbies also include motorcycling, 4-wheeling, and rebuilding jeeps.

Lavonne's Birthday 4/30

Roger's Birthday 12/08

Anniversary 6/25



That on the bulletin board next to the back office you will find the following documents pertaining to Co-op business: current budget, balance sheet, profit & loss, current Fun 'n Sun and Board minutes, committee list, rental pool, and site exchange list.

What is That Hole in the Ground by the White Water Tank?

by Ed Landry



It is one of nine (9) water valves buried throughout our park. They have been

buried for 32 years and to our best estimates still work, simply amazing. Our water system is a looped system which means that by design we can isolate smaller sections of the park without shutting down the entire park. As you can see, for now, we have a hole which needs filling in but we need to do so keeping the valve nut accessible.

Park Directories

A 2019/20 directory with contact information for current members has been produced.

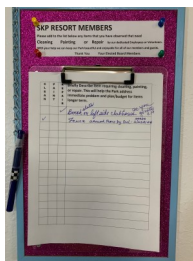
There is one copy for each membership. They are for personal use only and are not to be distributed outside the park.

The directory also includes a members' site map to make it easier to find each other.

Please use the form on the last page of the directory if you have changes or additions to your information throughout the year. Place the completed form in the office mail slot in the mailroom or email to Heather in the office at skpresortwau-chula@gmail.com

Updated information will be provided as it becomes available.

See Something, Say Something



If you notice anything that needs cleaned, repaired, or painted, note it on the blue clipboard on the wall in the clubhouse just to the right of the door going in to the laundry

room. This will help us address immediate problems and plan/budget for items longer term.

A few of the tasks that were put on the list and completed:

- Ceiling repair and hall to pool painted.
- Screen repair of the front door to the clubhouse.
- Repair of the picnic table on the back porch.
- Power wash the yard sale shed.



Editor

Margery Zeller, Site H-32

Cell: 412-480-4535

Email: Margery.zeller1@gmail.com

Deadline for submitting articles
20th of each month

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

Board Elections

This year the terms for four board members expire. They include Jim Krueger, Ed Landry, Bob Lewis, and Anne Warren. Each of these board members have made a valuable contribution to our park.



Now it is time for other members to step forward to fill these positions. Any member desiring to be a candidate for the Board of Directors may nominate themselves by giving written notice to Anne Warren, Secretary, H-18, no later than Wednesday, January 8.

Members elected to the board in February will serve two years and will be expected to attend the Board of Directors' meetings between November 1 and April 30.

White Posts Get New Address Numbers



Safety Committee members, Marsha & Bud Hodgkins, affixed fresh address numbers to the white posts on each site.

The white address posts on each site are required as part of the Hardee Cnty Emergency 911 Plan. As required by

this plan, our Zoning Rules, Article III, Section 1E state:

1. Each site has a numbered post. It is located on common ground and marks the right front corner line of the site.
2. No additions such as decals, name tags, reflectors, etc. shall be added to the E-911 numbered post.
3. Nothing shall be placed in such a manner as to obstruct the viewing of the post and the number by Emergency Personnel.
4. The post shall not be removed except for mowing, trimming, access to the site, or maintenance.

Update on Administrative Practices

During the past year, members of the Board put a lot of time and effort into improving our business practices, i.e. financial accounting.

The Board decision last December to move our financial bookkeeping from a volunteer-driven position to an outside accounting service has made very important strides toward more accurate, timely, efficient and standardized methods of handling the park's finances.

Another step in this process of streamlining has been to consolidate our member information. Ken Tarkin has designed a database that now provides a seamless path from wait list to membership list and the site exchange list.

This major improvement involved combining the previous two membership lists (Quickbooks and the Excel file maintained in the office).

This process has brought to light some of the failures to keep personal information updated on the appropriate list. Having just one list will minimize these problems.

As members return the personal data forms sent out with the 2020 budget, the information will now be updated in the database.

All updated personal information should be returned to Heather in the park office as soon as possible.



To everyone who donated gift cards and money to help the Wauchula Police Dept. and the

Hardee County Sheriff's Dept. make Christmas special for underprivileged children in Hardee County. Bev Miller presented \$511 to both departments.

A Stitch in Time



A very nice portable sewing machine has been gifted to the crafters. Anyone may use it IN THE CLUBHOUSE. It is not to be removed from the clubhouse. If you need one to use for short-term, see Marsha at H-10 to sign out one of hers.

The LEOs (Let's Eat Out) group packed the house at Nicholas Family Restaurant in Wauchula.



Hardee Help Center



We have the power to make a meaningful difference in the fight to end hunger in Hardee County.

All donations of non-perishable groceries are needed and gratefully accepted.

Place your donations in the basket inside the main doors to the Clubhouse.

For more information, talk with Ray & Kathy Heaton on G-17. They donate their time to the Food Pantry every Tuesday.

The SKPettes enjoyed their annual Christmas lunch at the beautifully-decorated Hotel Jacaranda in Avon Park.

Hardee County Emergency Numbers

| | |
|---|----------------|
| Life Threatening | 911 |
| (Law Enforcement, Fire, and EMS) | |
| 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

This year's Christmas Eve program included "The Twelve Days of RVing."
Those attending the program brought a delectable selection of cookies.

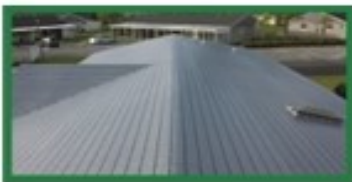


Team Randall responsible for the mashed potatoes included: Skip Pratt, Bruce Randall, Team Captain, and Bob Clark.



KP duty started early Christmas morning with the peeling of 40 lbs. of potatoes. Bud and Marsha Hodgkins roasted the turkeys, baked the hams, and made the gravy. Dick & Mary Lou Naughton made enough stuffing for the crowd. Compliments abounded and everything was sincerely appreciated by the large crowd at the Christmas dinner.

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