

Message From the President

So....we are about to wrap up the summer - for the year-rounders, it is a relief from the summer heat and another fall to welcome back the snowbirds, greet old friends, and meet newcomers. For the snowbirds, it is a chance to escape the oncoming winter and have the opportunity to bask in the sun! It's a win-win situation for all.

We have had several very positive comments about the condition of the park - people who were off for part of the summer returned to see everything in great shape. I contend that we have one of the most attractive and well-maintained parks in the state. This has been achieved only by the hard work of our staff, both full-time and part-time, and it surely would have never been in the great condition it is without the help of many volunteers. There are far too many to recognize individually (and I am also afraid of missing someone), but we all owe them a great debt of gratitude. So, when you see someone volunteering within the park, please take a moment to thank them right there on the spot. There are unwritten rules about dealing with performance - praise in public and scold in privateand do it as soon as possible after the action. So, again, please let our volunteers know their efforts are appreciated while they are working!

Diane and I are looking forward to seeing you all in November! Safe travels to everyone.

Steve Little, President



BOARD of DIRECTORS

Steve Little - G-27	President
Skip Pratt - G-07Vic	e President
Marsha Hodgkins - H-10	Secretary
Dave Mayo - A-18	
Jane Lewis - A-13Asst	
Skip LaPlante - S-06	At Large
Denny Lupens - H-28	

SKP Resort Board Workshop November 8th at 9 AM

SKP Resort Board Meeting November 15th at 9 AM

SKP RESORT OFFICE HOURS

Monday - Saturday 9:00 Am - 4:00 PM (closed for lunch 12 PM-1PM)

Sunday 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Meet Our Attendants

TOM AND RHONDA HIBBITTS

The Resort's new park attendants on Site G-16, Tom and Rhonda Hibbitts, came to us from Torrey Oaks, where they worked for the past four years. The Hibbitts like the Wauchula area away from the hubbub of the Florida coasts. They have created a pleasant pattern of working six months while enjoying Florida's warm weather and sunshine and then spending the summers in Missouri, where they have two children. As a bonus, those 'children' live on opposite sides of the state and have each created campsites for Tom and Rhonda. That means they get to spend time with their eight grandchildren as well.



The Hibbitts have been living a nomadic lifestyle for many years. They have always camped in one form or another - tent, van, motorhome, trailer. Their current fifth wheel is their fifth RV. Over the course of nearly 23 years, Tom's job with the Justice Department moved them around as he worked his way up to supervising the construction of prisons with the Bureau of Prisons. As a consequence, the couple has lived in 10 states, and they have visited all of the others except 2. Tom was accustomed to moving around because his father, a Navy serviceman, was moved frequently. Tom said he attended 11 schools before he graduated. Rhonda, on the other hand, grew up in Missouri, which she still considers "home." Tom built a house there on Lake Stockton, as well as having built a house in Virginia during one of their temporary locations; both homes have since been sold. After his retirement, Tom worked at a Salvation Army food pantry for five years while Rhonda continued to teach preschool and kindergarten.

Tom and Rhonda met each other while they were at a church camp and then attended the same church and the same school. After a few years, they married on a New Year's Eve and will have been married 47 years in December. You might see the Hibbitts walking the streets in the park in the early mornings. Tom said he especially enjoys walking on a beach and picking up shells. His hobbies include woodworking, wood carving, fishing, and especially painting on wine bottles, palm fronds, and saw blades. He has been teaching his 12-year-old grandson how to paint scenes on skulls and saw blades. Rhonda also likes to walk, as well as to read, and refers to herself as a history buff, enjoying museums and old cemeteries. They both enjoy flea markets.

Birthdays: Tom 2/8; Rhonda 11/8

Phones: Tom 417-298-0605; Rhonda 417-298-0597

Emails: Tom trhibbs2@gmail.ocm; Rhonda rhibbitts1977@gmail.com

Anniversary: 12/31

Thoughts from the Fun 'n Sun President



Welcome snowbirds, travelers and residents to our next SKP season. Over the summer, it was wonderful to see many of you on the road meeting up with fellow Escapees and embracing the deep friendships already formed. We truly are a family whether we're on the road or in the park.

As I begin my fifth season as Fun'n Sun President, I would like to thank my committee for coming together as a team. We plan the calendar together and take turns implementing activities. Honestly, I could not do this alone so I'm grateful for the cooperation of my "team". I would like to give another shout out to all the volunteers, both members and visitors, who help out doing a variety of jobs and activities to make our park such a special place.

Last season was a huge success with so much participation and enthusiasm. I look forward to another great season.

Cathy Landry

What's Happening This Month?

Signup sheets and more info about activities can be found in the Clubhouse



Celebrate SKP Spirit Day! First Monday Each Month

November 6th Fun 'n Sun Meeting at 9 AM

Wear your yellow SKP Resort t-shirts to the Fun 'n Sun meeting and throughout the rest of the day.



The Office will close at Noon on Wednesday, November 22nd, and will be closed on Thursday, November 23rd.





Ice Cream Social Sunday, Nov. 12th 2 PM





November 29th at 1 PM

Olympic Restaurant 504 US Hwy 27 Avon Park, FL 33825







November Crafts will be held on the 3rd and 17th at 10 AM in the Clubhouse. Most classes last between 1 and 2 hours.



November 3rd Beaded Suncatchers

Bring any beads you have.
Check your costume jewelry
you no longer wear for beads.
Some beads will be available
but more are needed.
Cost: \$3 or FREE if you supply
1/2 cup or more of beads.

November 17th Decoupaged Wood Slices

This craft can be used as gift tags, ornaments, and even key keepers.

Cost: \$3



Sign-up in the Clubhouse

DAILY ACTIVITIES

Coffee & Table of Knowledge 7:00 AM



Shuffleboard 1:00 PM



Water Aerobics 2:00 PM





Whine B4 Dine

Thursdays at 4:00 PM Pool Patio

HAPPY HOUR
Every Monday &
Wednesday
4:00 PM



Schedule and Movies
To Be Announced
soon!

REGULARLY SCHEDULED ACTIVITIES

Monday Morning Breakfast 7:45 - 8:45 AM





Featuring McDolan Breakfast Sandwiches, Bran Muffins, Eggs made to order, Sausage, Bacon, Ham, Home Fries, Toast, Coffee & More!



Wood Carving

Fridays 9 AM







Yard Sale Donations

To make arrangements to drop off donations, please contact Ian Pratt G-7 at 937-418-9835

Pickleball Tuesdays & Saturdays 9:00 AM Starting November 14th







2:00 PM



Stitching Cards

Wednesdays 10 AM Card Room

ATTENTION MEMBERS!

Did you know the current **Site Exchange List** is now

available on the website

under the *Members Only*dropdown menu?

We encourage all members to review their current requests and submit a **Site Exchange Request** form if any changes are needed.

Thank You! Wait List Committee



It's nearly time to tune up those ukuleles for our first get-together. Or maybe you are considering joining our fun-loving group of ukulele players for the first time? If so, you will be very welcome. We will have something for everyone this winter, from absolute beginners to avid pickers and strummers.

Our thanks to Marsha and Bud for keeping the music alive at The Resort and to those of you who brought smiles to our faces this summer with your musical photos and recordings on Facebook and WhatsApp.

We will be crossing the Atlantic again to arrive at the park in November, so we have scheduled the first informal get-togethers for 2.30 p.m. on Mondays, the 20th and 27th, and the first acoustic music jam on Friday, the 25th, also at 2.30 pm (if this fits in with Thanksgiving plans). Structured lessons will start in December.

For new ukulele players and anyone who feels they missed some lessons last winter, the fun starts on Monday, December 4 at 1:00 p.m. We will introduce the instrument and have you up and playing in no time. Come along and try out one of our spare ukes, or bring your own. Our number one aim is that you will enjoy learning at your own pace.

There are thirty-three Resort ukulele players on our mailing list, and we hope to welcome many back to the fold this winter. We plan to continue teaching and collectively improving our performance as a group. These sessions will be on Mondays from 2.30 until 4.00 pm starting December 4. Players who have the time, the will, and tough enough fingers are welcome to come to both Monday sessions.

Finally, something for all acoustic musicians. On Fridays from 2.30 until 4.00 pm, we will continue our joyful music jams. Old songs, new songs, requests, lots of smiles, and a chance to 'count us in' but absolutely no pressure. Come along to play, sing, or just listen. We are looking forward to seeing our regular fans sitting in the background, too.

Until then, happy strumming, Mike and Rosie Sinclair A15







In May, the Escapees power-washed the outdoor furniture and moved it indoors for hurricane season. Afterward, we were rewarded with pizza.



Thank you, Danny Lindstrom for your endless hours of keeping our green spaces looking pristine.



Skip LaPlante and Captain Kenny decorated our streets with American flags as 36 SKPs observed Memorial Day with a burger grill out.



Tomasa stayed busy all summer, cutting grass, trimming bushes, and spraying weeds and ants.

Board of Directors Meetings for the 2023-2024 season

NOVEMBER 15 at 9 AM DECEMBER 20 at 9 AM JANUARY 10 at 9 AM FEBRUARY 14 at 9 AM MARCH 13 at 9 AM APRIL 10 at 9 AM

FEBRUARY 8
Town Hall & Meet the Candidates

ANNUAL MEETING MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2024 9 AM



Check out the Herb Garden!
Feel free to pick all the herbs
you need. The Herb Garden is
available for all - visitors and
members!



Escapees Chapter 57 Monthly Luncheon

First Thursday November - April 11:00 AM Golden Corral 6855 Gall Blvd., Zephyrhills, FL

MEET RONNIE AND KATHY PERRY



Ronnie and Kathy Perry (and their cat Winnie) became members of the Florida SKP Resort in December of 2021. Their 41 ½ ft. fifth wheel is located on site A-07. The couple usually arrives in mid-January and stays here until late March before returning home to Gloucester, VA.

Ronnie grew up on a farm in NC near Raleigh. He was in the Army National Guard in Richmond, VA for six years and served as a crew chief for the assault helicopter group.

Kathy grew up near Richmond, VA, and was active in riding and showing horses. The couple, both employed by Dupont for about 38 years, met at work and started dating. During their last 15 years at Dupont, Ronnie welded steel and exotic metals, and Kathy worked in the labs, testing Kevlar fibers. They retired in 2009.

The Perrys have traveled to most of the U.S. states and the Canadian province of Newfoundland in their RV. Four of their trips have been with Fantasy Tours, including the Balloon Fiesta in Albuquerque, NM. They hope to travel some more to see the 3 or 4 states that they have missed so far. Kathy would like to visit a quilting town in MO that she has heard about.

Ronnie loves the park and would prefer to spend more time here. At home in VA, Ronnie enjoys yard work and even mows for some of his neighbors on his zero-turn mower. Ronnie and Kathy are NASCAR fans and have been to races at speedways at Talladega, Richmond, Martinsville, and the trials at Daytona. Kathy is very active with her church, belongs to a quilting guild, and loves to scuba dive and snorkel. The Perrys have four children and eight grandchildren.

Birthdays: Ronnie June 6; Kathy October 24
Anniversary: September 19
Phones: Ronnie 804-319-6149; Kathy 804-382-4292
Emails: Ronnie hotpud1@yahoo.com; Kathy
kathywperry@yahoo.com

Palm Tree Trimming

The tree service will start trimming palm trees on Monday, October 30th.

Please move vehicles, decorative items, and other obstructions.

Fire Ant Treatment

The Bug Doctor will be treating private lots at the Resort for a discounted rate of \$100. Treatment is scheduled to begin in early November. If you are interested in your lot being treated contact Gary Wyatt S-07.

