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SPRING COMES TO MAGNOLIA PLANTATION, CHARLESTON, SOUTH CAROLINA

Photographs by Jean Scionti

Heading North?
How about a stopover?
See Jean's Article on Page 2



"Happy Trails"



APRIL 18, 2022

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A VISIT TO MAGNOLIA PLANTATION

By Jean Scionti



Spring has arrived, and for many snowbirds, it means time to head north. I have decided to suggest a stopover along the way if you are planning to drive. Magnolia Plantation in Charleston, SC, is a great place to visit even for a weekend getaway, as it is only 309 miles from Flagler Beach, Florida.

A number of years ago, my husband and I were driving back to our home in Massachusetts. It was quite a long haul, so we'd stop occasionally along the way. This time we decided to tour Charleston, South Carolina. I have never forgotten our unscheduled visit to Magnolia Plantation, located on the Ashley River. It is one of the oldest plantations in the South and dates to 1676.

Magnolia was originally a rice plantation, with extensive earthworks of dams and dikes built in fields along the river for irrigating land for rice cultivation.

I was amazed at what we saw there. The Swamp Garden as well as Cypress Lake made me feel as though I was walking through a fantasyland.

The gardens on the plantation are considered un-restored, meaning they let plants grow as nature intended them. Form, balance, and symmetry are thrown to the wind.

The biggest show is in the spring (mid-March to late April), when azaleas, dogwood, roses, irises, wisteria, gardenia and dozens of other blooming plants and trees burst forth.

These gardens have been photographed and visited by such notables as Matthew Brady, John James Audubon, George Gershwin, Henry Ford, and Eleanor Roosevelt. In 1981, The Philadelphia Enquirer wrote: "The star attraction of Magnolia is acres and acres of brilliant azaleas, camellias, roses, hibiscus, lilies and more. The ever-changing color is linked by centuries old brick lined paths and mysterious black lakes that once were planted rice fields."

The following quote mirrors how I view Magnolia Plantation: "I have seen gardens, many gardens in England, France and Italy ... But no horticulture that I have seen devised by mortal man approaches the unearthly enchantment of the azaleas at Magnolia gardens." Lady Baltimore Magazine, 1906

Romantic-Style Gardens

"Magnolia is the last large scale of Romantic Gardens left in the United States. A good definition of a romantic

garden is an "Extravagant Liar". Truly, this is what a romantic garden is designed to do, to "lie" you into forgetting the normality of everyday life. Romantic Gardens are designed to take the viewer to a place where emotion takes precedent over reason. Surprise awaits around every corner. "

Most of this article has been gleaned from online information. I found it almost impossible for me personally to describe the beauty of this plantation. My husband and I have been back to visit Magnolia Plantation at least three times since that first encounter. Understand, my husband could care less about gardens and plants, but this place took hold of his sense of wonder, and he too enjoys our visits there. Happy trails...you will love it! (See cover page pictures.)

TRIVIA

By Rich Bencal



Once again, it's time to put your thinking caps on and take a guess at this issue of trivia questions. Good luck. The answers appear elsewhere in the newsletter.

1. What was the name of the first casino on the Las Vegas Strip?
2. When did the Golden Gate Bridge open?
3. When was the GI "Bill of Rights" signed into law?
4. When did Medicare start?
5. When was the Wall Street Journal first published?
6. Where was the first public beach to open in the United States?
7. Who was the bus driver on the TV show "The Honeyymooners"?
8. Who played this character?
9. What Airline was the first to show in flight movies?
10. Who were the hosts for the TV show "Hee Haw"?

WHERE'S MY CALENDAR?

We will no longer be putting the community office's calendar in the bag with the POP newsletters. You may log into the PORA website, ourpora.org and click on the "calendar" tab to view and/or print a calendar of events from there. You may also pick up the calendar that is produced & printed by the community office at the clubhouse. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you. *The Editors*

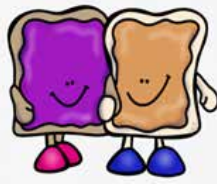


RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL P&J DAY

By Betty Vandermyn



One of Steve and my favorite foods in the world is peanut butter. Chunky peanut butter is our number one but creamy will do in a pinch. You can usually find a jar sitting on our counter and we don't always eat it with jelly. However, in honor of our adoration for peanut butter, I would like to recognize that April 2, 2022, is National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day. Peanut butter and jelly go so well together. These two super delicious flavors can be consumed at any time of the day without any guilt and yes even at 3am in our home. National Peanut Butter and Jelly Day is celebrated on the 2nd of April across the globe so I thought I would entertain you with a little history of peanut butter and jelly I found on the internet.



1. It is said that peanut butter was considered to be a super delicacy in New York City's tearooms during the early 1900s.
2. in 1901, peanut butter and jelly topping on bread was introduced by Julia Davis Chandler
3. The Good Housekeeping magazine urged all the homemakers to use meat grinders to prepare peanut butter at home and then was spread generously on bread. This article was published in the May 1896 edition.
4. In June 1896, Table Talk – a renowned culinary magazine, published a detailed peanut butter sandwich recipe.
5. In the United States of America, peanut butter is popularly paired with jelly on regular bread.
6. It is said there was a sudden drop in the price of peanut butter during the late 1920s. This is because the peanut butter sandwich was highly popular with kids.
7. During the second world war, peanut butter and jelly was considered part of the United States ration for military soldiers.
8. In 1968, Goober was introduced by J. M. Smucker Co, it was a beautiful jar product that contained vertical stripes that were made using peanut butter and jelly.
9. Preschoolers and high school students highly love peanut butter and jelly sandwiches. It is considered

the favorite food among most Americans.

10. The largest peanut butter and jelly sandwich ever made was in Pennsylvania in 1993. It was a 40-foot-long sandwich which consisted of 150lbs of peanut butter and 50lbs of jelly.

So, go mark the National Peanut butter and Jelly Day on April 2 and, feel free to indulge in as many peanut butter and jelly sandwiches as you wish. I know we will. YUMMY!

CERT

By George Byrne-Team Leader



Hello neighbors. Your CERT is alive and well! As a rule, we meet on the third Friday of the month at 11am in the clubhouse. All residents are invited. At our last meeting on 2/25/2022 we discussed scheduling training seminars at our future meetings and for the community. At our April meeting our team is planning to host professionals from the Emergency Operations Center to give us a refresher course in cribbing techniques, using our own equipment. Also, a lecture on "Stop the Bleed" is being planned. We are trying to work it into one of the coffee sessions. I will be conducting CPR/AED classes this coming June. Watch the bulletin board for the dates and signup sheet. As you can see we are keeping busy. That's why we encourage everyone to join our team and attend our meetings or just come to observe. Everyone is welcome! Helping us is helping your community. Thank you and God bless. As always, stay safe.



Mission Statement: To provide emergency assistance to our community when State/Local emergency services are delayed or otherwise unavailable. All residents are invited to register with us any special needs or emergency assistance you (or someone you know) may require in the aftermath of a catastrophic event. This information can be helpful in executing search and rescue, planning, and purchasing necessary supplies and equipment. **To register contact Donna Copeland, dmcopeland50@gmail.com, 704-886-7706.** Currently, we have 52 members and are always looking for new people. Please join us at our next meeting. For more information give me a call at 845-728-4679. For information on how to sign up for red alert warnings log on to WWW.FlaglerEmergency.com. You may also register for special needs evacuation assistance on this site or call **386-313-4200.**



Edna Welch
 Celebrates 89 years on April
 17, 2022!
**Happy Birthday &
 Congratulations Edna!**

APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- 1. Michael Smith
- 2. Joe Cortese
- 4. Lynn Ceman
- 4. David Easter
- 5. Nina Raneri
- 6. Sharon Mayes
- 6. Ed Reese
- 6. Gerri Remondi
- 9. Patty Watkins
- 10. Debra Clack
- 10. Millie Plishka
- 13. Sue Dymnioski
- 14. Ann Meek
- 14. Carol Marchetti
- 14. Susan Hawksby
- 14. David Hinton
- 14. Norma Watson
- 15. Phyllis Cox
- 17. Edna Welch
- 18. Mike Ledrich
- 19. Jack McCollum
- 20. Hugh Logan
- 21. Connie Gray
- 21. Sue Proper
- 22. Rebecca McDonald
- 22. Teresanne Johnson
- 24. Glenda Cortese
- 25. Irma Reed-Castellanos
- 25. Kathy Gallagher
- 25. Kevin Gallagher
- 25. Keith Mowling
- 25. Judy Ward

- 25. Paula Watson
- 26. Butch Laforge
- 26. Phyllis Yarina
- 28. Russell Patnaude
- 28. Mike Amodio
- 29. Rosemary Carrigan-Merry
- 29. Olaf Hausenchild
- 30. Carol Abel
- 31. Barry Levan



CONGRATULATIONS!
Chuck & Lynn Allspach
65th Anniversary, April 20, 2022
 Chuck & Lynn Have 2 Daughters, 1 Son, 6
 Grandchildren and Expecting Their 10th Great
 Grandchild In September.

APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

- 3. Nancy & Steven Cronin
- 9. Ed and Claudia Zoller
- 15. Pete & Lucy Case
- 15. Don & Claire Hamel
- 18. Ann & Jerry Meek
- 20. Chuck & Lynn Allspach
- 22. Paul & May Goeller
- 23. Ray & Sue Proper
- 26. Steve & Betty Vandermyn
- 27. John & Peg Mercurio
- 27. Joe & Glenda Cortese

We try hard to get it right. However, if we have missed your birthday or anniversary, or have the dates or name spelled wrong, please contact Betty Vandermyn at elzbthvnd@att.net or Dana Matlock at dbmatlock@live.com so we can correct our information for the newsletter. Thank you

A TALE OF TWO BUNNIES

By Jean Scionti



This is about my two children who once needed something to brighten their Easter.

My daughters, ages six and eight at the time, were looking forward to the Easter holiday. Then, my eldest

daughter came down with a combination of chicken pox and scarlet fever. My youngest skipped the scarlet fever and had a light case of the pox. They were miserable and I was joining in on that misery.

Two days before Easter I went grocery shopping. I went down one aisle and spotted a giant pink stuffed bunny on a decorated display shelf. The four-foot bunny was not for sale, but I had an idea. I went to customer service, told the clerk my tale and asked if I could buy the bunny. He sympathized and checked with the store manager. For sixty bucks, I could have it. Yes!

That took care of one child but what about my youngest. I, again, went around the store looking at the decor and low and behold, there was yet another bunny. This bunny was not four-feet tall; but then neither was my daughter. So back to my clerk friend with my cart stacked with two bunnies and before I could ask, he sort of knew and said yes you can have that one too for thirty dollars! Yay!

This is the best part; I have "Harvey" for that's what I named the pink fellow sitting in the larger portion of the grocery carriage and "Peter", not a very original name, strapped into the upper child section of the cart. I'm in line at the checkout. In front of me is a woman with her moderate size Easter baskets: beside me, another lady with smaller decorated baskets. I am assuming these are their gifts for their children. Then there is me with my two overgrown stuffed bunnies.

I could see that they were looking at me in disbelief. From their facial expressions, I surmised that they were thinking, "Look at that woman! She is ridiculous and overindulging her kids." I turned to both of them and said, "Ah, my two children are very sick and need a little joy." The lady in front of me smiled; the woman beside

me just said "Humph!"

My daughters loved their bunnies and kept them right through high school. Quite a number of years later after my kids left home and no longer cared about "Harvey" and "Peter," I decided to send them on their way. "Peter" was shot...not literally...but beyond saving. "Harvey" was still in good condition, so I tried to give him away. In the end, I watched him happily sitting in the passenger seat of our station wagon on his way to the dumps. I have a picture of him sitting in the car with his usual happy smile; he knew his job was done!

The moral of this story, if there is one... follow your instincts and don't allow yourself to be judged by anyone! Happy Easter!



NO-NO, HOT!!

By Joe Cortese



Parents have frantically yelled that warning to young children as far back as I recall. In my youth no doubt my parents barked the same warnings at me but that usually didn't work until I actually put my hand in the fire. The lessons I've learned best in life were mostly through trial and error, it didn't matter how many

Clergy, teachers or lectures from parents I received, I usually didn't learn until I got burned. So negative experiences can teach good lessons and on the flip side of that record I guess positive experiences teach also, but not as good as fire!!! (No-No, Hot)

I was thinking about a man I worked with (who was a former enemy) and one of those lessons learned, after a long walk over the hot coals. When the smoke cleared this event not only gave me an important lesson for life, but also a motto that I've used as a moral compass point and as the 60's band Friend & Lover sang "and now this man, he is a friend of mine."

In telling this story I begin by admitting that I don't really know where it all began but at the time I was working as a hazardous material inspector. I was one of six persons in that job position and that job demanded that we report directly to the field (job sites) where 90% of our job responsibilities lie, which also meant we did not report to the office often. On one of those

continued on page 7

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rare occasions in the office I was busy in my cubical trying to catch up on paperwork when this man showed up also. He came in and began talking with a co-worker just on the other side of my cubical which set my hair on end, my blood pressure rose, and my face became red just hearing his voice. My loathing was so great that I visualized thrashing this man and other random acts of great violence when suddenly I saw a horrific sight right there in my cubical. I looked into a face of pure hate in the small mirror across from my desk and that's when the fire got me.

I was sitting in my cubical burning with hate for a man who quite literally didn't even know that I was there. The only person I was hurting was myself, bam! In a rare occasion of total clarity my better self-took over and I knew exactly what to do. I got up and walked up to that man who immediately began turning red at realizing that I was in the office and told him "You and me right now, outside." He gladly followed and was rolling his sleeves up as we got to the parking lot, but he wasn't ready for what I had in store. I turned around, looked him straight in the eyes and apologized. I told him that I had forgotten how this war started but I remembered that we were once friends, and I was certain that much of the blame was mine and asked for his forgiveness. We made up and became good friends.

Thinking on that event inspired me to write a motto I adopted latter on, "try hard to not hold grudges because if you live long enough, you'll end up hating everyone, including yourself." Now I can't say I've been 100% successful in the practice of this motto because even my better self is human. But, in the years after I have quoted that motto many times I've never gone wrong with that advice.

It seems the world is overwhelmed with an overabundance of reasons to hold grudges but I'm trying to live with my motto, It seems good to my soul and as John Lennon said "all we are saying, is give peace a chance."

APRIL BRAIN TEASER



What makes this number unique: 8,549,176,320?

Look for the answer in the May issue.

ANSWER TO MARCH 2022 BRAIN TEASER



A sundial has the fewest moving parts of any timepiece. Which has the most?

An hourglass—It has thousands of grains of sand

BLOCK CAPTAINS

By Donna Copeland



On Sunday March 6, 48 of Claremount/Habersham residents said "Welcome" to our new neighbors who moved here in the last 2 years and "Farewell" to longtime neighbor Marci Adrion who is returning to Indiana. We try to have a block party at least once a year and have been unable the past 2 years, so we were excited to start this up again in 2022. We will miss Marci but knowing she will be closer to her sister and family we can send her off with our best wishes.

As I mentioned at the quarterly PORA Board meeting having a neighborhood Block party is not a labor intense planned event. I ordered the pizza, made a salad and a cake for dessert purchased from Publix with help from fellow neighbors. Set up the tables and put out a trash can. About one-half hour total. So, talk to your block captain and offer to organize it. Also had loads of help with clean up. Our future events will probably move to the club house or the cul de sac on Habersham because we've grown so big, we need a little more room than my driveway allows. You just need to contact the office and make sure the club house is not in use when your event is planned. So, plan a party get to know all your neighbors. It's fun!!

At the PORA Board meeting I also mentioned that you might contact your block captain and tag along with them to deliver the POP and offer to deliver one of the future month's POP. Another great way to meet and greet your neighbors and make a new friend.



WANTED – POP CONTRIBUTORS

Please join our elite group of article contributors who share their stories with us. We would love to hear yours. No writing experience necessary.

Email your article to both editors, Dana:

dbmatlock@live.com & Betty: elzbtvnd@att.net

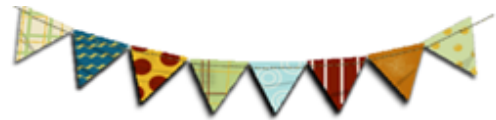
WELCOME COMMITTEE

By Bob Matlock



Last March, 2021, for the month, we welcomed 16 new residents from 9 home closings. This year, year to date, we have had three closings for six people. What? Don't people want to move to our beautiful community anymore? Of course, they do! In fact, there are people interested in buying a home here, should one become available that would meet their needs. Stay tuned. So. It is now the month of April. I hope you have been following my monthly scintillating attempts to help us understand who and when someone decided to define and name the various time periods (months) in a greater time period (year). I'm sure you have found my past months naming information interesting and absolutely worthless. Well, April has had its problems getting named. The most prevalent theory says that its roots are in the Latin noun "aprilis" and the verb "aperire." Both of those words denote an opening up, to open or to blossom. Historians generally agree that is a pretty good hypothesis considering that April is the time when animals and plants resume their activities after a winter's nap (at least in the northern hemisphere). They just blossom out! Interesting that there is no record of who first coined the name or when it appeared in the Roman calendars. Some theologians believe April was named after the Greek goddess of love – Aphrodite's. That's my favorite... Anyway, April's bucket is full of lots of important dates and events such as: Palm Sunday, Passover; Good Friday, Easter, Earth Day, Orthodox Easter, Ramadan, Light it Up Blue for Autism, Arbor Day, Tax Day, and of course April Fool's Day – that's the day Mark Twain declared 'this is the day upon which we are reminded of what we are for the other 364'. Just remember none of us are fools for moving to Plantation Oaks. We have one new couple to welcome this month. Be kind to each other. I will be back in about a month.

I will be posting
telepathically today.
So if you think of
something funny,
that was me.



Welcome!

We are glad you are here!

NEW NEIGHBORS



Addotta, Joe & Ellen Streblow

17 Julip Lane

From Palm Coast Area.

LITTLE MORE ABOUT CANADA

By Anne & Keith Mowling



If you are considering visiting Canada there are several itineraries we recommend. These attractions include a cruise of the St. Lawrence River leaving from the Northeast USA with stops in Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and with stops in Quebec City and Montreal. Niagara Falls is also a must and only a short trip from Buffalo, New York. Another popular trip is called The Great Canadian which is a train that travels west from Toronto through the Rocky Mountains to Vancouver with many stops including Jasper National Park, Banff, Alberta and Lake Louise. Itineraries are from 5-15 days. Sports: Basketball was invented by a Canadian named James Naismith in 1891. He took the idea of using peach baskets to Springfield College, in Springfield, Mass to encourage his college students to stay active in the winter months indoors. At this time Canada has one NBA team the Toronto Raptors founded in 1995 which boasts of the NBA Championship in 2019. Baseball: Canada's only team is the Toronto Blue Jays founded in 1977 playing in the American League East. It became World Series Champions in 1992 and 1993. Hockey: there are 7 NHL teams Vancouver, Calgary, Edmonton, Winnipeg, Toronto, Ottawa and Montreal. It would take the next full page to list the number of Stanley Cup Championships

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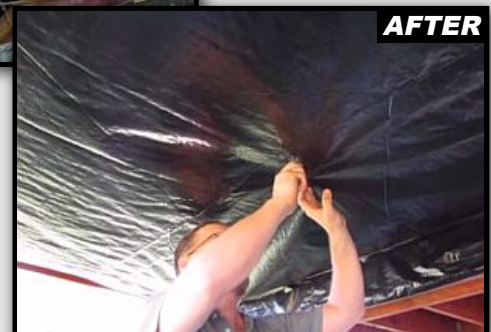
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these teams have won. Soccer: Canada has 3 teams, Vancouver, Toronto, and Montreal who play in the North American Soccer league which is gaining interest at a very fast pace. Football: The Canadian Football League (CFL) has 9 teams from Vancouver to Montreal but do not play against the NFL teams. As exemplified from the above we are a sports orientated country, active in both summer and winter sports encouraging participation at a young age as well as in a lot of age levels well into our senior years. (I played hockey from age 5 until I was 75). A few of the more famous Canadians, Actors, Musicians, Scientists and Athletes: Alex Trebeck, Terry Fox, Ryan Reynolds, Phil Hartman, Ryan Gosling, Seth Rogan, Jim Carrey, Dr. Frederick Banting, Mike Myers, Wm Shatner, Leslie Neilson, Keanu Reeves, John Candy, Lorne Green, Howie Mandel, Eugene Levy, Celine Dion, Bryan Adams, Neil Young, Avril Lavine, Justin Bieber, Michael Buble, Shania Twain, Gordon Lightfoot, Anne Murray, Leonard Cohen, Oscar Peterson, David Foster, Guy Lombardo, The Weekend, Paul Anka. Many Hockey Stars including Gordie Howe, Sidney Crosby, Wayne Gretzky, Mario Lamieux. Bobbie Orr, and the current

star and Captain of the Tampa Bay Lightning, Steve Stamkos, who grew up in the town we lived in and whose father I played hockey with for several years. We pride ourselves of having a low crime rate with a very strong gun control policy, a friendly welcoming atmosphere as exemplified by the town of Gander, Newfoundland welcoming over 7000 passengers from 38 planes that were diverted when the 911 attack took place in New York City. Today, 21 years later, many return to Gander yearly to thank and celebrate the 9000 residents who provided shelter and food for 5 days until they were able to return to their United States destinations. As Canadians we invite you all to include a trip north when planning your travel. You will enjoy!!

BEAUTY TIPS

By Terry Johnson

No need to splurge on pricey products to reveal radiant skin. Instead, combine 1 tsp. of cinnamon, 1Tbs. of brown sugar and 1Tbs. of olive oil in a small jar. Apply a thin layer of the mixture to your face. Let sit for 10 minutes, then rinse off with warm water. The cinnamon increases circulation for a healthy glow; the sugar exfoliates, and oil moisturizes.

EASTER FACTS

Submitted by Dana Matlock



1. Easter is the celebration of the resurrection of Jesus Christ in the Christian religion.
2. Eggs have been seen as an ancient symbol of fertility, while springtime is considered to bring new life and rebirth.
3. Americans spend \$1.9 billion on Easter candy. That's the second biggest candy holiday after Halloween.
4. 70% of Easter candy purchased is chocolate.
5. 76% of Americans think the ears of a chocolate bunny should be the first to be eaten.
6. Egg dyes were once made of natural items such as onion peels, tree bark, flower petals, and juices.
7. There's much debate about the practice of dyeing chicks. Many hatcheries no longer participate, but others say that it isn't dangerous to the chick's health because the dye only lasts until the chicks shed their fluff and grow their feathers.
8. The first story of a rabbit (later named the "Easter Bunny") hiding eggs in a garden was published in 1680.
9. Easter takes place on a Sunday, after the 40-day period called Lent. Lent is referred to as a time of fasting, but participants focus more on giving up one significant indulgence.
10. "The White House Easter Egg Roll" event has been celebrated by the President of the United States and their families since 1878.

PORA

By Tom Bailey, President



After taking some time off from the board, it's good again to be back on and to be part of a great team. We have had an interesting first quarter in 2022.

We have a new Board: Tom Bailey, Betty Vandermyn, Muriel Fallon, Janice Randolph, Ray Neeb, and Gary Watkins. Most of us have worked together before, so that makes it easier. We also have a number of volunteers who are working to support the activities for the community.

Our Social Committee, along with many other residents, has brought fun back to the community with: Monthly coffees, Lunches, Breakfasts, Dinners, Dancing, Bingo,

Billiards, Cards, Horseshoes, Pickleball, Tennis, Swimming and finally, our Hot Tub is back working again (thanks to Ed Zoller).

We also have been served by a host of "Block Captains" who deliver the POP each month as well as voting information each year and organizing parties on their block, thanks to Donna Copeland.

The POP has been keeping us with updates as well as personal stories of individuals in the community. Thanks to Betty Vandermyn and Dana Matlock and a host of contributors. Although this is not a PORA committee we have agreed to support and back them as needed.

Great job to all who have been part of these organizations that bring these activities to us.

We have managed to get a new radio system for the pool as well as the ballroom. Thanks to George Shaver for his many years of work on our audio/visual system to keep us going. Our new guy managing this is Jim Nichols.

We have new lightweight tables for the Ballroom.

A new refrigerator.

Murex has stepped forward to help put a lot of things back in order as well as purchasing new equipment for our use.

The bulletin boards have been cleaned up thanks to Jo Ann Bailey.

We held an "All Residents Town Hall Meeting" on February 20, 2022. During which we recorded about 40 different areas that the residents wanted us to investigate. I will send out updates on e-mail to keep everyone informed.

We have committees formed to:

1. Review the new development/s on Old King's Road.
2. Develop a photo directory.
3. Establish a list of shut-ins who may need assistance.

If you have not joined PORA (Plantation Oaks Resident Association), please consider it. If you have been to any event here at Plantation Oaks, it probably was organized by PORA. PORA works with the owners/managers to resolve issues and discuss improvements in the community; Sponsors Monthly coffees, breakfasts, lunches; Plan dances; Purchase equipment for residents to use. The list goes on.

We look forward to a great year, with your help. If you are new here, I hope you are catching the volunteer fever that many at Plantation Oaks have. Without these volunteers we cannot function at the level at which we are accustomed to.

FUNNIES FROM YOUR EDITORS

What's a horse's favorite car? A Mustang.

Why should you stand in a corner if you're cold?

They're usually 90 degrees.

Nurse, how is that little girl doing who swallowed ten quarters last night? "No change yet."

Why shouldn't you iron a four-leaf clover? You shouldn't press your luck.

What kind of a dog does Dracula have?

A blood hound.

To whom do fish go to borrow money?

A loan shark.

What did the hungry Dalmatian say when he had a meal? That hit the spots.



SAVE THE DATE!



"Cinco de Mayo"

Come and Have fun
Sat. May 7th 6:00 - 9:00pm.
Club House

- Mexican Regional Fashion Show
- Mexican Hat Decoration Contest
- Dance with D'J Debbie and Tony
- And more to enjoy!

An appetizer will be served

Bring Your Own Drinks

\$10.00 ticket sales on **APRIL**

Mon. 18th 12:00-1:00

Wed 20th 10:00-11:00

Thur 21st 6:00-7:00

Plantation Oaks Residents Association
more info: Irma Reed 352-216-6294



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GET TO KNOW ME

By Gary Watkins



Do you want to get to know a little about the newest P.O.R.A. board member? Then just keep reading. I was appointed by the P.O.R.A. Board of Directors at the quarterly meeting on March 6. This happened after I for some reason sent a letter volunteering to fill an open spot on the board if the board thought I was worthy of it. The key word in the last sentence is “volunteering.” You ask why I did that. Well, it goes back to me falling and hitting my head. No, it is just that if we do not have volunteers to “step up” then what kind of community would we have?

My wife, Patti and I are from New York. We built a house in Palm Cost and moved down in 2005. I am a retired police officer (proud of it by the way) and presently security manager at a large factory in Holly Hill. Before retiring from New York, I was also elected to the village board of the village that we lived in and served two terms. As you can see, I have been dealing with people most of my life. Patti and I moved into Plantation Oaks in December of 2014 and a few of you know Molly our dog (who runs our life).

This will be my third stint on the board, shortly after I moved here, I served on the board but had to cut my time short due to my son Stephen becoming ill and becoming a paraplegic. When things got back to some degree of a normal life I ran again for the board and spent two years on the board as secretary. I am also on the cook team for the last five years - this with no knowledge of cooking. But I do what I am told, jack of all things in the kitchen. That is only at the clubhouse as my wife would tell you surly not at home in our kitchen. I am sure more of my fellow residents know my wife Patti more than they know me. Patti is continually active with the social side and events of the community, as I call her the social butterfly.

I believe and urge that all residents in the community should join P.O.R.A., as it is said, “strength in numbers.” The small P.O.R.A. fee makes you a part of the strength needed for our association. Also, residents should join F.M.O. (Florida Manufacture Home Organization) as they are our only representation at state level. You may be thinking, why go on the board again, did you not have enough? I joined the board once again to be a part of the team that works on keeping this community great. Well,

I hope that you know a little more about me, there is a lot more which I cannot tell you. I am looking forward to seeing you at the next board meeting.

BECAUSE WE CARE

By Irma Reed



A couple of years ago, PORA ran an anti-speed campaign for the residents that included: Street signs, an orientation lecture, playful messages, parade and fun activities to help and improve safe driving in the community. An awareness campaign that conveyed facts about the dangers and consequences of speeding to change common habits about driving. We had a good time and it helped! Do you remember the messages?



Brake before the bend, not in it. Stay in control and give time to react. Be aware that there are walking residents and unexpected hazards, such as blind bends, golf-carts, bicycles, or vehicles coming out of garages or carports.

When to stop driving. You decide when to stop as long as you don't have any medical conditions that affect your driving. Find out how changes to your health can affect your driving and how to give up your license, if needed.

Better under 18 mph. Driving too close to the car in front, disregarding the Stop Sign, or driving above the speed limit is bad driving.

The speed limit is a limit, not a target. In some healthy conditions, raining weather or after social events, even driving at the speed limit could be too fast. Medicines, alcohol, cell phones are factors of High Risk



Kill your speed or live with it. If you hurt yourself or a resident while speeding, consequences, could destroy you or another resident's life.

C O M M U N I T Y



FEDERATION OF MANUFACTURED HOMEOWNERS (FMO)

By James Pursley, Plantation Oaks FMO Rep



Hello everyone, you know who I am. So right to the good stuff. This month is about Caregivers, unless you have been one you just don't know the responsibility that person has. You have heard so much about them, especially for the last 2 years. My first experience

was a number of years back when my stepfather developed cancer, he lived in Atlanta, and I lived in the North Georgia Mountains. My mother had passed away several years before this, so my stepfather lived alone. I have 3 grown children, in this case grown is a stretch. Anyway, one Saturday all 3 children and myself went with my stepfather to look at nursing homes, after going to 3 nursing homes he decided to stay at home. We could not leave him alone. The kids and I came up with an idea of each of us taking a week every month and staying with him. By the way, my stepfather's name is William. After I went back home to the mountains it hit me, I had just made a deal to watch William with my kids, what had I done? Well going through the next year, it worked out better than I thought, it had a few bumps, but you have to consider whom I was working with, not the patient. If you catch my drift, all in all it was ok.

Next experience for my sideline as a caregiver started a little over 2 weeks ago when my lovely wife Carol had a complete "reverse shoulder replacement." It is a fairly new procedure. When you have this procedure, you are very limited in movement of your arm during the healing process. Of course it was her right arm and she is right handed. I promised her before her surgery that I would be her caregiver. I know from the years of being married that if you promise your spouse something by golly you had better be good for your word. At the time of this writing, it has been 17 days now since surgery. On a scale of 1 to 10, 10 being the best. After the first week I asked her to rate my caregiver performance, she gave me an 8, I'll gladly take it. So, the second week I thought I would take a chance and see what the numbers were, well low and behold I got a 9. I think the secret of these high numbers is I ask her right after she takes her pain medicine, don't wait until the effect wears off. So, I have enhanced my home making skills. If you know Carol she has a thing for clean floors, we have the white tile, need I say anymore.

I just wanted to say that I'm not a professional caregiver by any means, but I have enjoyed doing my part in both of my situations. For me it has given me a feeling inside that is hard to describe. It's a feeling of accomplishment, satisfaction on my part, helping, and responsibility. I know that a lot of you have and are taking care of a loved one. You know that feeling. Be proud of yourself. To the professional caregivers, an occupation that is beyond words, we cannot do without you, put yourself in high esteem.

Another caregiver in a way is the FMO, Federation Of Manufactured Home Owners. For \$25.00 a year, yep you are reading this right, and even better you can get it at the low price of \$65.00 for 3 years. You can go to their website fmo.org to join, you can use your credit card there or call or text me your friendly park representative. James Pursley 386-986-9632. email jpinvest129@gmail.com. You are the FMO, that protects us homeowners that own homes sitting on leased land. But wait, they offer so much more. So, please go to their website, fmo.org and check it out for yourself. Also, you can purchase Elite Cross Country Premium Roadside Service for just \$35.00 per year - they are the best. Please be safe and take care, until next time, I'm off to clean some floors.



DRIVING TIP OF THE MONTH

From the National Institute on Aging

Submitted by John Mercurio

Dementia and Driving

In the very early stages of Alzheimer's disease or other types of dementia, some people are able to keep driving. But, as memory and decision-making skills get worse, they need to stop.

People with dementia often do not know they are having driving problems. Family and friends need to monitor the person's driving ability and take action as soon as they observe a potential problem, such as forgetting how to find familiar places like the grocery store or even their home. Work with the doctor to let the person know it's no longer safe to keep driving.

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

JoAnn Bailey-Social co-chair



The Social Committee is continuing to work on ideas for events for the residents of Plantation Oaks. We are so excited that we are finally getting back together. There have been great turn outs for all our functions.

Saturday, February 12 was the Valentine Dinner/Dance. A meal of Chicken Parmesan was provided by our cooks and an amazing chocolate cake was served for dessert. Decorations added to the fun with heart shaped napkins and roses for all the ladies. After the meal we danced the night away to the music of Carl Monte.

Sun., February 13 was Super Bowl. Thank you, Kim Clabaugh, for organizing an outstanding super bowl party for our community. Food, fun, games and tv's broadcasting the game could not have been any better. Everyone had a great time.

Sunday, February 27 was the Ice Cream Social. There was an unbelievable turn out. Over 110 residents came to enjoy free ice cream and root beer floats. This event is provided by PORA and Murex.

April Events:

- Sun., April 3 – The 7th Annual Chili Cookoff. Sign up on the sheet in the hallway to bring chili
- Mon., April 4 – Social Committee Meeting at 1:00. Everyone welcome
- Sat., April 16 – Easter Golf Cart Parade
- Sun., April 24 – Palm Coast Community Band – 4:30
- Sun., April 24 – Ice Cream Social at 6:00
- Sat., April 30 – Community Connect Dance 7:00-9:00 free to everyone.

Check out the Social Events Board in the clubhouse for details on events and menus for breakfasts and lunches.

TRIVIA ANSWERS (from page 2)

1. May 27, 1937
2. El Rancho Vegas with 63 rooms
3. June 22, 1944 by President Franklin Delano Roosevelt
4. July 1, 1966
5. July 8, 1889
6. Revere Beach in Massachusetts, July 12, 1896
7. Ralph Kramden
8. Jackie Gleason
9. TWA, July 19, 1961
10. Roy Clark and Buck Owens



PLANTATION OAKS COOKS

Effective Feb 1, 2022

Every first Saturday of the month, Breakfast will be served between 8:30 & 9:30 AM. Cost \$7.00

Every third Wednesday of the month, Lunch will be served between 12:30 & 1:30 PM. Cost \$8:00

April 2 Breakfast

Orange Juice
Fruit
Waffles or
Scrambled Eggs
Sausages
Grits
Toast
Coffee

May 7 Breakfast

Orange Juice
Cheese Omelet or
Scrambled Eggs
Waffles
Bacon
Grits
Toast
Fruit
Coffee

April 20 Lunch

Barbecue Chicken
Roll
Mac & Cheese
Cole Slaw
Iced Tea

May 18 Lunch

Grilled Cheese
(Bacon &/or tomato)
French Fries
Iced Tea

A sign-up sheet, with a menu, for these meals will be posted in the clubhouse ten days before each scheduled meal.

TENNIS CO-ED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT



Saturday, April 30, 2022, 9 AM
(Rain Date Saturday, May 7)

Plantation Oaks Tennis Courts

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Sign-up Sheet on the bulletin board in the clubhouse.

Outside Guests may begin signing up April 9.

APRIL IS NATIONAL SOFT PRETZEL MONTH!

by Chef Kevin Gallagher, MS, CEC



The early pretzels were the “soft” variety. It is widely believed they were invented by Italian Christian monks around the year 610 A.D. The monks shaped strips of baked dough to resemble arms crossing the chest as in prayer, then gave them as treats to

children to reward them for learning their prayers. These treats were called “pretiola,” or “little rewards.”

The term “Tying the Knot” comes from 16th century Alsace where the pretzel was a part of the wedding ceremony. The bride and groom would wish upon and break a pretzel like a wishbone, then eat it to signify their oneness.

Hard pretzels are a modern invention. In Lititz, Pennsylvania in the year 1861, Julius Sturgis is credited for having created the first commercial pretzel bakery. His factory was the first to develop hard pretzels. The salty snacks would last longer in an airtight setting, allowing them to be sold in stores further away from the bakery and stored on shelves for much longer. This allowed their popularity to quickly grow, making the hard pretzel one of the better selling snacks in the United States. About 80% of the nation’s hard pretzel production is in Pennsylvania (my favorite is from Unique Snacks (est. 1921)... they are called “Splits”. They are now available at Publix and Perrines). Annually, more than \$550 million worth of pretzels are sold in the United States.

Want to try baking your own homemade soft pretzels? Give my recipe a try!

Soft Pretzels

(Makes 16)

1 1/4 cups warm water, (100-115°F)

1 package active dry yeast

4 cups flour

1/3 cup brown sugar

1/2 teaspoon salt

2 tablespoons baking soda

4 cups boiling water

Coarse Kosher salt or pretzel salt

Instructions

1. In a large mixing bowl with dough hook attachment, combine warm water and yeast. When the yeast dissolves, add half the flour, the salt and brown sugar and mix for 3 minutes. Beat in the remaining flour until dough is no longer sticky and pulls cleanly away from sides of bowl.
2. Transfer dough to greased bowl, cover and let rise until double in size, about 45-60 minutes. Spray cookie sheet with pan spray (DO NOT USE PARCHMENT AS THE PRETZELS WILL STICK!) Set pan aside.
3. Punch down the dough and divide in 16 pieces. Roll each piece of dough into 18-inch-long ropes. On greased cookie sheet, shape each rope into a pretzel shape. Let rise again until almost doubled, about 30+ minutes. Preheat oven to 425 degrees F.
4. Dissolve baking soda in boiling water then set aside to cool until warm. Using a large spoon, gently lower pretzels into water a few at a time for about 1 minute.
5. Return pretzels to the cookie sheet and sprinkle with kosher salt. Bake until browned, about 6-8 minutes. Serve hot with mustard or beer cheese (ask me for the recipe!).
6. Other variations include omitting the salt, dipping the cooked pretzel in melted butter and dusting with one of the following: grated Parmesan cheese, garlic salt, cinnamon and sugar, or Cajun spice. You can also serve them plain to dip in melted Velveeta-type cheese spread mixed with your favorite salsa!



WOMEN’S SELF DEFENSE CLASS.

The Flagler Flagler County Sheriff’s office conducted a free 6-hour Women’s Self-Defense Class in February. Participants received safety information as well as hands-on defense training. Sheriff Staly distributed completion certificates on February 21, the last day of class.



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THE OSTRICH FARM

By Mary Ann Rabuazzo



A few months ago we were on a Caribbean cruise and one of the ports of call was Aruba. Since we'd been there before, Rich, myself and Anne and Mal looked for a different kind of adventure.

We found it! The Ostrich Farm! Whoever would have thought Aruba had ostriches! So, off we went with a tour group to see it.

Although Africa is their native land, ostriches seem to have found a perfect home in Aruba's rugged landscape. Ostriches are the largest living bird in the world. They can grow up to nine feet tall, weigh 140-320 lbs. and live up to 80 years. They are flightless but can see for at least two miles and run 45 MPH. The males (roosters) are of black and white coloring and the females (hens) are brown. They eat vegetation and meat. An ostrich egg is large and white. It can weigh up to three lbs. and it hatches in 42-46 days. The male and female take turns sitting on the eggs until they hatch. Ostriches mature in 3-4 years. A highlight of the tour was being able to feed them. It was quite amusing (and a bit scary) to watch them peck into the bowl of grain held by one person. Two birds, one on either side of the person holding the

bowl, pecked furiously into the bowl. We also learned that ostriches do not bury their heads into the sand but do lie down with their heads against the ground when they feel threatened.

Also at the farm were emus. Emus are the second largest living birds and like their ostrich relatives are flightless. They are endemic to Australia. They can grow up to six feet in height and weigh up to 120 lbs. Emus have good eyesight and sprint up to 31 MPH. They can live up to 30-40 years. Their colorization is shades of brown. They eat plants and insects. Emu eggs are smaller than ostriches and are greenish black. Their eggs incubation period is 56 days, and they mature in 2-3 years.

The farm also had peacocks and smaller birds which were penned away from the ostriches and emus. The Ostrich Farm was started solely for the tourist industry.

The birds are not bred for any other purpose. All were well cared for, had clean habitats and the employees were very knowledgeable. The birds were friendly, photogenic, and loved our attention. They seemed to be thriving well in Aruba. It was a fun tour, great experience and enjoyed by all in our tour group. Please enjoy the photo taken by our own Malcolm Fraser!



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