

April 2023



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COMPLIMENTARY NEWSLETTER PROVIDED BY



Meet&Greet D

Coffee at the Oaks is held the second Tuesday of each month at 10 AM in the clubhouse. The "Coffee" is sponsored by the Plantation Oaks Residents Association (PORA) and chaired by Betty Shaver. Free doughnuts and coffee are provided to all residents who wish to attend. A speaker is usually present to educate and inform on topics of interest to our age group. About once a year Betty dedicates one of these coffees to bring new and old residents together for meet & greet. The pictures below are from the February 14, 2023, Meet & Greet Coffee. There was a recordsetting 60+ residents in attendance. The new residents pictured below are Mary Shaw, Elise Berry, Greg Pankau, Marie Herre, Sue Boyer, and Don Kline.

Note: There will not be a "Coffee" in April but will resume in May.









Photographs by Terry Johnson

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MYSTERY OF APRIL FOOLS' DAY

By Betty Vandermyn



April Fools' Day is celebrated every year on April 1 and has been for centuries. The day is all about being neutral and serious about everything and....GOTCHA!! APRIL FOOLS!!! April Fools' Day is truly a day where pranksters release their most creative

side while attempting to hoax, baffle, confuse and befuddle all of us in their path. April Fools' Day traditions include playing hoaxes or practical jokes on others, often yelling "April Fools!" at the end to clue in the subject of the April Fools' Day prank.

There is no clear consensus how April Fools' Day



originated. A popular theory is that while January 1st is when we start the new year, that wasn't the case before 1582. Back then, we used the Julian calendar, which was created by none other than Julius Caesar in 45 BC. On that calendar every new year began on April 1. Then Pope Gregory introduced the Georgian Calendar

in 1582 and changed the date of the new year from April 1 to January 1. When the date of the new year changed it obviously took some time for everyone to catch on to it. Those who were slow to get the news, or failed to recognize that the start of the new year had been changed to January 1, continued to celebrate it during the last week of March through April 1st. They became the butt of jokes and hoaxes and were called "April fools".

Another lesser-known explanation is that our beloved prank day is buried in a 1392 book called the "Canterbury Tales" by Geoffrey Chaucer. One line in the publication simply references "March 32" and the debate was born. This interpretation, dated and without much context, remains a mystery. Some believe it to be a joke while others say it is nothing but a misprint.

Historians have also linked April Fools' Day to festivals such as Hilaria, which was celebrated in ancient Rome at the end of March. It involved people dressing up in disguises and mocking fellow citizens as well as their magistrates.

Another speculation is that April Fools' Day was tied to the vernal equinox, or first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere, where Mother Nature fooled people with changing, unpredictable weather.

Whether we have Gregory the 8th, Geoffrey Chaucer, the Hilaria festival or the vernal equinox to thank for April Fools' Day, it has existed for centuries and will

continue to thrive while causing a flurry of creativity and excitement in the first few weeks of spring.

Wishing everyone a fun, prank filled April Fools' Day!



HIDDEN CONNECTIONS

By Jeanie Scionti



I once read that connecting is the energy that exists between people when they feel seen, heard, and valued. I have experienced such a connection on a few occasions.

In late April of 1965, my boyfriend bought us tickets to the New York World's Fair.

The exposition held over 140

pavilions, representing 80 nations. It covered over 646 acres. I think we had covered 50 acres and we were now waiting in a long line to get into the Kodak Pavilion.

As we were idling, Joe, (the boyfriend) said to me, "Look who is standing at the head of the line." I looked past him and several others to see the famous actor Henry Fonda with his son Peter, who was holding hands with a lovely young woman.

I said, "I guess they get first choice at seating." Joe replied, "We are going to sit right next to them."

Before I could respond, the doors opened and Joe - grabbing my hand - pushed us ahead of everyone so that we were actually following this trio of actors to some upper bench seating. We ended up sitting right next to them.

I was next to Peter Fonda (whom I knew nothing about as the movie "Easy Rider" was still in the future). His wife, Susan Brewer, sat on the opposite side of him and

Mr. Fonda was at the end. The show began and we were all watching when Henry Fonda angrily reached over to his son and poked him in the arm admonishing him about something. Peter



grunted and then turned to me with a smile and rolled his eyes in exasperation as if to say, "My Dad can be a real pain." I looked at him and simply smiled back. I remember nothing of the show, only that Peter Fonda and I made a 'silent connection.'

In another incident, my family and I were standing on the sidelines of the NYC Thanksgiving Day Parade when Rosemary Clooney and Tony Bennett, sitting in a horse-drawn carriage, stopped right in front of us. A



spectator standing to the right of me began to harass Ms. Clooney. He commented that she was a 'has been' in a mink coat.

Ms. Clooney looked at him and said smiling, "And I'm still around reaping all the benefits!" She then

looked at me and winked.

Why am I relating these encounters to you? After these, and some other incidents, I've come to realize that no matter what path in life we have chosen, whether famous or not, we are all connected to each other in so many ways.

When there is a smile, and one makes eye contact with another, there is a connection of understanding one to the other without even knowing the individual personally. For me, that is nice to see.

3 CHEERS FOR POSTWOMAN BRENDA

By Dana Matlock



Brenda has served as the postwoman for Plantation Oaks for many years. She is always friendly, helpful and has a beautiful smile for everyone. The other day, as we stopped to collect our mail, we happen to catch Brenda changing out all of the key labels for the package boxes. Since the USPS

has no budget to purchase new and better key tags, Brenda took it upon herself to purchase and replace them throughout Plantation Oaks - just to



make our mail boxes look a little nicer. And, they are aluminum so they will not rust. When you see Brenda, please take a moment to say "Thank You!"



Brenda also asked me to mention that she is the "Mail Lady" not the "Trash Lady". Frequently she finds balled-up flyers and other miscellaneous stuff left in the mail

boxes for her to get rid of. She really needs this practice to stop. She doesn't have the time, and is not equipped, to handle all that garbage. Please, let's all take those flyers home and recyle them - giving our dedicated postwoman the respect she deserves.

APRIL SHOWERS

By Joanne Kegel



They say that "April Showers bring May flowers". I'm not so sure that is true in Florida. April is beautiful here and we're really into spring. Garden centers were bustling with

people long before April, getting plants for the garden, already in bloom.

We really don't get much rain in April. It all comes in the summer "rainy season" as we call it – all summer into fall! Heavy thunderstorms, lots of lightning and deluges of rain like I never seen before - monsoon-like. But it lasts only an hour or two, tearing through like a freight train. Then the sun comes out, along with the heat and humidity, and we go about our summer routines. It usually doesn't ruin a whole day.

I love early spring here. Trees are budding in January. The most chance of frost has passed by February. I always put my hummingbird feeder out too late (when they've come and gone up north). This year I put it out in February. We'll see what happens.

March is warm with some cool north winds. It seems that I always get sand blasted when sitting at the beach in March. Days are getting longer. Daylight savings time is here. By April and May the snowbirds make their trek to the north and the community seems deserted. Less crowds at the pool and less activities at the clubhouse. It's ok. It's very quiet, but we miss all the new friends that we have met when they go away and look forward to their returning in the fall.

The upper northeast doesn't see summer until June and most years, they don't have a spring at all. It stays cool in April and May. As I write this, they are still getting blizzards. April showers are cold rains that last for days with grey skies. Summer is too short there. I'm grateful

for the long spring, hot summers and warm falls, and flowers that bloom for nine months. April is the best! When life gives you a rainy day, don't forget to play in the puddles!



HOW TO FIX NAIL POLISH SMUDGES! Beauty Tips by Terry Johnson

Fill the dent with top coat, then apply a coat of the nail color on top. The duo covers the smudge!!







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PLANNED VACANCY LIST FOR SNOWBIRDS – TIP OF THE MONTH

By Anne and Keith Mowling



Hello fellow snowbirds, cruisers, and others who plan to spend periods of time away from their homes in Plantation Oaks. It is important for us to have a very detailed list of shutdown projects to protect our home in Florida when we are away.

- 1. Arrange for a Resident Absentee Form to be completed and left in the Community Office. You must also arrange to have a friend or neighbor be given a key and your contact details in your absence.
- 2. If your absence is in the summer, leave your air conditioner set at 80° (and if you have a humidistat set it at 30° or 35°) when you are gone.
- 3. If you have hurricane shutters, arrange for a friend or neighbor to close them if a storm warning is issued and re-opened after the storm warning.
- 4. Turn off your hot water tank by a switch in your panel breaker box.
- 5. Unplug all unused appliances i.e., microwave, coffee maker etc.
- 6. Empty your refrigerator and freezer. Adjust the temperature setting in your refrigerator to an economical setting. Empty the ice cube trays and turn off icemaker. Then place an open box of baking soda in the refrigerator and freezer.
- 7. Turn off the main water supply valve which is in either your garage or storage shed.
- 8. Secure and lock all windows and exterior doors. Close all drapes and blinds.
- 9. Pour a cup of bleach into each toilet tank as well as some in the toilet bowls. Then cover both the tank and bowl tightly with plastic wrap under the seat to prevent evaporation and sewer fumes.
- 10. Insure all your monthly fees for lot rent, FPL, Volusia Water and Sewer, and Spectrum are paid on time each month either by monthly cheques or direct debit from your bank account.
- 11. Make arrangements to have all your exterior flower beds and bushes maintained while you are away weeded and edged. Make arrangements through the community office or by an outside service contractor. If the latter is chosen, ensure you notify the office on your absentee form so that they will be allowed to enter through the security gate to complete the work.

12. Make sure you have made arrangements either with the office or a friend or neighbor to arrange for any repairs that may need to be done to your home in case of any storm damage that may occur.

TRAVEL SAFELY, OUR FRIENDS, AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO SEEING YOU IN THE FALL!!

BREVILOQUENT FACETIOUSNESS

By John Mercurio



- 1. The biggest joke on mankind is that computers have begun asking humans to prove they aren't a robot.
- 2. When a kid says, "Daddy, I want mommy," that's the kid version of,

"I'd like to speak to your supervisor."

- 3. Just once I want a username and password prompt to say, "CLOSE ENOUGH".
- 4. If I am ever on life support, unplug me and plug me back in and see if that works.
- 5. Do you ever wake up in the morning and look in the mirror and think... "That can't be accurate?!"
- 6. Last night the internet stopped working so I spent a few hours with my family. They seem like good people.
- 7. If Adam and Eve were Cajuns they would have eaten the snake instead of the apple and saved us all a lot of trouble.
- 8. We celebrated last night with a couple of adult beverages... Metamucil and Ensure.
- 9. You know you are getting old when "friends with benefits" means having someone who can drive at night.
- 10. Weight loss goal: To be able to clip my toenails and breathe at the same time.
- 11. After watching how some people wear their masks, I understand why contraception fails.
- 12. Some of my friends exercise every day. Meanwhile I am watching a show I don't like because the remote fell on the floor.
- 13. For those of you that don't want Alexa listening in on your conversation they are making a male version. It doesn't listen to anything.
- 14. I just got a present labeled, "From Mom and Dad," and you know darn well Dad has no idea what's inside.
- 15. Now that I have lived through a plague, I totally understand why Italian renaissance paintings are full of fat people lying on couches.
- 16. Now that we have everyone washing their hands correctly... next week... Turn Signals!

"HERE COMES PETER COTTONTAIL... Hippity hoppin', Easter's on its way"

By Carol Cerney



The Easter bunny bringing baskets overflowing with candy and gifts. The crazy-fun Easter egg hunts, the new Easter finery (including white gloves & Easter bonnets for us girls/moms), the big family gatherings where we stuffed

ourselves with ham and all the yummy side-dishes – what wonderful memories and traditions to reflect on as we approach Easter this year.

For us – as for many of you – we're in a new chapter of our lives with grown children/grandchildren and most of our family far away. We're so thankful that we've discovered "family" here in Florida to begin new traditions.

We're also thankful that, for those of us who are Christians, Easter is more than a day to remember; it's a day to celebrate our belief that anything is possible with God. Easter represents Jesus Christ's victory over death. His resurrection is proof He is the Son of God, and it is the reason we can find hope for today and look forward to an eternity with Him.

We won't be having our monthly Christian Fellowship in April because it is Easter Sunday. However, during this season, we encourage you to share the joy of Easter with others. Attend a local church and celebrate the resurrection of Jesus. Reflect on the sacrifice He made on the cross for you. Once we see Jesus for who He is — the Son of God who died for our sin and rose from the grave — our lives are transformed. Let's be people whose words and actions demonstrate our belief that Jesus is alive.

Please plan on joining us next month for the Plantation Oaks Christian Fellowship – Sunday May 14 at 4:00 – 5:30 in the Clubhouse. We are a non-denominational group where everyone is welcome to learn and grow in their faith of Jesus Christ. Love & Blessings, Carol Cerney

The three hardest things to say are:

1. I was wrong

2. I need help

3. Worcestershire

Sauce

OVERCOMING ADVERSITY

By Bob Matlock



Our Friend Tim. Our family had just moved from Raleigh, N.C. to Poughkeepsie, NY. There was about an acre of lawn that needed moving around our new house, but my hand mower was on the fritz. Someone at work talked about a man who lived

not far from us who serviced and repaired small engines. One weekend, I went to the man's house but there was no answer when I knocked on the door. There was a large three-bay garage near the house, so I walked out and yelled hello through the partially opened walk-in door. A man's voice greeted me with a, "come in, come in". I introduced myself and explained that my lawn mower needed repairs. It was very dark in the garage, but I could make out the presence of vehicles in two of the bays and a very large work bench across one end. It was loaded with what looked to me like parts from a mechanic's nightmare. The man extended a hand and introduced himself as Tim. We exchanged pleasantries. It was immediately apparent to me that Tim had a sight issue as he felt his way around and he never made eye contact with me but sort of looked in my direction with his head tilted up. He asked if I had brought the mower, which I retrieved from my truck and set it on the bench. As Tim ran his hands over the entire machine, he amazed me by telling me the exact make and model of it. He explained what he would do to get it running and gave me his cost to do the repairs. After I agreed, Tim invited me to stay for coffee. He led me to his house, which was about 150 feet away, without a cane. As we chatted over coffee, I learned that he had been born a premature baby, weighing only 2.5 pounds and blind. I also learned, both that day and in subsequent visits that: his parents made him go to public school; he took mechanical classes; parents bought him the property so he would have a place to work; he had a job working at the large Texaco Research Center in Fishkill, NY where he reassembled auto/truck engines that scientists had torn down after running tests using Texaco lubricants. Tim also began spending time with my family. He liked to grocery shop with our teenage daughters and rather enjoyed playing softball with our family (you'll want to ask me about that!) One of his biggest lifetime thrills was driving my truck! Yes, blind from birth. WOW! I did draw the line and said no when he wanted to drive my motorcycle. ©

THOUGHT YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW

By Anna Conte



Most of our homes are twenty years old. The hardwired smoke alarms have a lifespan of approximately ten years. Even though they're connected to an electrical circuit, they're old and need to be replaced. There also should be multiple alarms in your home, not just

one. It's recommended that each living area and bedroom have an alarm mounted above the door. You may be eligible for a discount from your insurance carrier for having multiple alarms and also two small fire extinguishers.

Another reminder is to check all under sink water shut off valves and hoses since these may be the original fixtures and may be corroded from age. I had a leak that I didn't know about and the damage it caused was very costly. Shut off the main water supply when you go on vacation. Several homes had water issues while the owners were absent, and their water hose broke. Remember to turn off the washing machine valve if it isn't controlled by the main valve.

Hope I enlightened you about hidden problems. Take care, your neighbor, Anna Conte



By Rich Bencal



In February, the monthly coffee organized by Betty Shaver, was a meet and greet for both new and longtime residents. It was a wonderful time and got me thinking - how about a trivia column on Plantation Oaks? So, I spent some time around the

community and came up with 10 questions to challenge you once again. As always, the answers will appear on another page in the POP. Good luck!!

OUESTIONS:

- 1. Who was the first President of PORA?
- 2. How many chairs are in front of the clubhouse?
- 3. What is the capacity of the clubhouse?
- 4. What is the cost of dues for PORA?
- 5. How many house lots in Plantation Oaks?
- 6. For whom is the clubhouse kitchen named after?

- 7. How many names are on the Plantation Oaks/Flagler Charter membership plaque in the clubhouse?
- 8. Plantation Oaks in divided into how many zones with block captains?
- 9. What day and time is Bingo at the clubhouse?
- 10. What days are the following picked up? Trash, Recycling and Yard waste?

HOW I MET MY HUSBAND

By Vickie Baker



In the Spring of 1968, love was in the air. I was 14; he was 16. My friend, Pam, wanted to meet a guy named Rick Baker. whom She thought he was cute. He was! I had seen him in the hallways of Talawanda High School. When he would pass by me his eyes would shift sideways and he always

seemed to stand a little taller with broader shoulders. He never looked directly at me, but I certainly did look his way. One night, after a basketball game, I was determined to introduce-Pam to her cute guy - who was in the parking lot. We walked outside where he was and began talking. As we all walked back to the building, Rick put his arm around me! It wasn't supposed to happen that way. Pam left me standing there with Rick's arm around me. She never spoke to me again. Later, Rick explained to me that that same evening he

had let his girlfriend know he wanted to break up with her. After that, SHE didn't like me either. I lost a couple girlfriends but gained a great boyfriend - who later, in 1972 became my husband. And as you might have guessed, it's been marital bliss ever since. He always refers to me as his "first wife".



This confuses some people. However, as you get to know him more, you will understand.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS

- Michael Smith 1. 2 Joe Cortese
- 4 Lynn Ceman
- 4 **David Easter** 5 Nina Raneri
- 6 **Sharon Mayes**
- Ed Reese 6
- 6 Gerri Remondi
- 7 Marilyn Wanatt 9 Patty Watkins
- 10 Debra Clack
- Millie Plishka 10
- 13 Sue Dymnioski
- 14 Ann Meek
- 14 Carol Marchetti
- 14 Susan Hawksby
- 14 **David Hinton**
- Norma Watson 14
- 15 Phyllis Cox
- Edna Welch 17
- 18 Mike Ledrich
- Hugh Logan

- 21 Sue Proper
- 22 Rebecca McDonald
- 22 Terry Johnson
- 23 Nancy Nichols
- 24 Glenda Cortese
- 25 Irma Reed-Castellanos
- 25 Kathy Gallagher
- Kevin Gallagher 25
- 25 Keith Mowling
- 25 Judy Ward
- 25 Paula Watson
- 26 **Butch Laforge**
- Phyllis Yarina 26
- 28 Russell Patnaude
- Mike Amodio 28
- 29 Rosemary Carrigan-Merry
- 29 Olaf Hausenchild
- 30 Carol Abel
- 31 Barry Levan



APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

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

We try hard to get it right. However, if we have missed your birthday or anniversary, have the dates wrong or name misspelled. please contact dbmatlock@live.com.

CELEBRATING EDI

By Dana Matlock

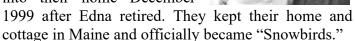


EDNA WELCH WILL CELEBRATE HER 90TH BIRTHDAY ON APRIL 17.

Edna, a Mayflower descendant, was born near Boston, MA during the Great Depression. Her mother died right after giving birth to her. Edna's father could

not care for a child and work to support them, so he took her to his parents in Liverpool, England until he was able to do so. World War II broke out and her father could not retrieve her until after the war. She survived the war, but she almost lost an eye due to shrapnel getting lodged in her forehead during a bombing. Edna was 12 years old before her father could bring her back to the US to live with him and his new family.

In 1999, Edna and her husband, Will, purchased a home on Winthrop Lane in Plantation Oaks. They moved into their home December



I first met Edna in 2002 at a PORA Board meeting, where she was serving as President. She also served as president in 2003 after the new president resigned. At that time, we had monthly PORA meetings so Edna would fly back to Florida (at her own expense) to run the meetings in the summer months. Folks, I call that dedication way beyond expectation! Edna has a long history of volunteer service in and outside our community. She volunteered in the Bunnell school system for over 10 years, reading to and teaching underprivileged pre-kindergarten children. And she was always ready to lend a helping hand to anyone in need. For about 20 years, Edna and Will volunteered at a National Park in the state of Washington during the summer months. They spent only a few weeks in Maine at the beginning and end of the season before returning to Florida. Sadly, Edna lost Will in 2013.



At 90 years young, Edna is still quite active. She lives with her furry friend in her 1999 Winthrop Lane home during the winter and flies back to Maine for the summer. She plays Bridge and Euchre (learning Euchre

at 89) every week, volunteers at her church, and sings in the choir.

Happy Birthday to Edna, who is forever young! NOTE: More articles on Edna coming in May & June.

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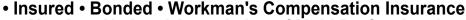


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FEDERATION OF MANUFACTURED HOME OWNERS (FMO)

By James Pursley, Plantation Oaks FMO Rep



Well, hello everyone. Last month we got through Bike Week. There were some nice bikes here for the many events that our surrounding towns put on. I heard on the local news that they were expecting over a half a million people! That's a lot of bikes and

people.

As a young guy, I came down here for Bike Week. My family had a small motel in Ormond on the beach. We did not live down here but had family friends run it for us. This enabled me to come down and enjoy all the festivities. At one point I bought a motorcycle. I thought it was great and I felt like I was Charles Bronson. Anyway, I was getting it all shiny and ready to make the trip from Atlanta to Daytona. Just one thing, it broke down several days before my trip was to begin. I brought it to a mechanic, who was highly recommended. He looked at it, did a few things, and asked how much I would take for it for parts. So, I loaded it back up and carried it to another bike mechanic. He basically said the same thing - but in a language that I understood better (there was a lot of swearing). He became the proud owner of a bucket of parts. Not to be deterred, my buddies and I loaded up my 1966 Pontiac and we came to Bike Week. That was my only experience with bikes.

I have always been into boats. I had a boat before I had a car, but they never had a Boat Week. My fellow boaters and I made our own Boat Week. Of course, there is The Boat Show but that was for the nice, new shiny boats - not the kind I had. But we did have fun! Carol and I were watching a program that we truly enjoy. It's called "Million Dollar Listings".-They were previewing a home in Las Vegas that had an elevator that would bring your car from the garage to your bedroom. I told Carol that was nothing! When I was growing up, we had a guy in our neighborhood that sometimes did not make the curve. His car was found in the kitchen one time, in the living room another, and once in the bathroom. Yes, there was alcohol involved. The one thing you can always find in one place is the FMO, Federation of Manufactured Homeowners. Take my word, we really need the FMO. We get all kinds of representation in Tallahassee and right here at home. It's the best \$25.00 you will spend. Yes, you heard me right - \$25.00 for 1 year (or \$65.00 for 3 years). They represent homeowners that have homes on leased land.

To get all of this, call or text me, James Pursley, your Park Representative, or go to <u>fmo.org</u>. You can use your credit card. I could go on and on about everything they do. They really are the best and we certainly need them. I'm going for now. Until next time, James

FMO MEMBERSHIP DUES INCREASE

For the first time in over ten years, FMO dues will increase. Effective August 14, 2023, the annual membership dues will increase from \$25 to \$30 and the three-year membership dues will increase from \$65 to \$75. If you are withing 60-days of your renewal period, you may renew at the current rate. However, if your membership is not up for renewal until mid-October, you will need to renew at the new rate. You will receive an invoice with the revised amount as you get closer to your renewal date.



Thank you for your continued support, Dana Matlock, FMO Park Rep

CO-ED DOUBLES TOURNAMENT

Saturday, April 15, 2023, 9-11 AM (Rain Date Sunday, April 16)

Plantation Oaks Tennis Courts

Sign-up Sheet is now posted on the bulletin board in the clubhouse

Outside Guests may begin signing up Wednesday, April 5
?? Tom Greene 386-517-6725

FIRST PLANTATION OAKS TENNIS TOURNAMENT – APRIL 2001

The first Plantation Oaks Tennis Tournament winners were:

- Men's Doubles & Mixed Doubles John Bases
- Women's Singles, Women's Doubles, and Mixed Doubles - Ann Snyder (Meek)
- Women's Doubles Pat Smith
- Men's Doubles **Don Hamel**
- Men's Singles **Bob Ricker**



MAKING FRESH YEAST ROLLS IS FUN

By Chef Kevin Gallagher, MS, CEC



I really love making fresh bread and rolls, especially those made with yeast. Yeast is alive and it is fun to see how it transforms simple ingredients into something beautiful and delicious.

Here are my 5 top reasons why you should give baking homemade bread a shot:

- 1. It's easy! If you own a Kitchen Aide mixer, then you can easily make fresh bread or rolls. If you can't make it all in one day, then make the dough, proof until almost doubled, then cover and refrigerate. The next day, take dough from refrigerator and bring to room temp for about 1-2 hours... then proceed with the recipe.
- 2. It's inexpensive. To make the following recipe, it costs less than \$1.50, especially if you grow your own herbs!
- 3. It smells so good! Baking homemade bread truly makes your house smell amazing—which in turn will make your mood skyrocket, right? There is something magical about the smell of fresh-baked bread that makes the world seem right. Can you really be mad at your significant other while that smell is wafting?
- 4. Homemade bread has no additives or preservatives. Homemade bread does go bad quicker, but it's a bit more natural without all of those funky preservatives. Since we eat our homemade bread and rolls pretty quickly in my house, it doesn't stay around long enough to get moldy. Besides, if you make too many rolls, they freeze easily!
- 5. It's just plain fun! Baking homemade bread and rolls really gets your creative juices flowing. It's fun to knead it, shape it and garnish it. And it's even more fun to take the pan out of the oven and say, "I made that."

Most simple breads are made from only 4 ingredients: flour, water, yeast, and salt. Soft dinner rolls are made from an enriched yeast dough which means the dough contains fat, eggs, and sugar making the dough soft and tender.

The following recipe comes from the enriched bread category. They can be made the day they will be served or can be prepped the day ahead and baked the next day. Either way, the rolls turn out soft, tender, and slightly sweet.

Let me know how yours turn out! Feel free to call me if you have any questions, I am in the resident directory!

Tender Potato Herb Rolls

Yield: 1 dozen rolls

Ingredients:

2 ³/₄ to 3 cups bread flour

3 tablespoons potato flour

1 package instant yeast (or rapid rise)

1 cup warm (155 degrees) water

1 large egg, beaten

3 tablespoons dry milk powder

2 tablespoon granulated sugar

½ teaspoon salt

2 tablespoons olive oil

2 tablespoons fresh parsley, chopped fine

1 teaspoon fresh tarragon, chopped fine

1 teaspoon fresh rosemary, chopped fine

½ teaspoon fresh ground black pepper

Egg wash, as needed (1 egg beaten with 1 tablespoon cold water)

1 yellow onion, cut into half then sliced cut 1/8 inch thick, for each roll (use leftover onion for other recipes) Kosher salt, to top each roll

Instructions:

- 1. Preheat oven to 375 degrees.
- 2. Place the flour, yeast, water, egg, milk powder, sugar, salt and oil in bowl of mixer fitted with dough hook. Mix on low speed to combine. Knead on medium speed until dough is smooth and elastic, about 7-9 minutes. Mix in herbs and black pepper until evenly distributed.
- 3. Cover and proof dough until doubled in size, about 1 hour.
- 4. Punch down dough and divide into 12 portions, about 2-ounce per roll. Round dough portions and place on paper-lined sheet pans. Cover lightly with plastic wrap.
- 5. Proof rolls until increased in size by 70-80%.
- 6. Brush the proofed rolls carefully with egg wash and place a slice of onion on top of each roll. Sprinkle the top of the yeast rolls with Kosher salt.
- 7. Bake at 375 degrees for approximately 16 minutes or until golden brown.



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SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

Special thanks to Paula Davies for taking over the social committee last year. I'm sure you'd agree that she did a phenomenal job with events for the committee. We will miss her energy and leadership.

We are happy to announce that Patty Watkins and John Clabaugh have agreed to cochair the social committee





UPCOMING EVENTS:

(Check out the calendar of events on ourpora.org for more details and activities).

April 1– Talent Show

April 1 – Monthly Breakfast

April 15 – Western Dance Party 6:00 – 9:00pm

Ticket Sales Will Be Held on April 3, 5, & 6

Tickets Are \$14.00

Contacts: Terry Johnson & Patty Watkins

April 21 – Monthly Dinner (3rd Friday)

April 29 - Yard Sale – sign-up sheet at the clubhouse.

We also have:

Water Aerobics: Monday, Wednesday & Friday,

10 AM

Line Dancing: Wednesdays Beginners 1:00 PM Advance 1:30 PM

Bingo: Wednesday 5:45 PM - 9:00 PM

Shuffleboard: Thursday 9:30 am

Horseshoes: Friday 4 PM

Yoga: Tuesdays, 1:00 PM, \$10.00

Bereavement Committee – although there hasn't been any request in quite a while, we just wanted to remind everyone that we still have the Bereavement Committee. Please call Betty Shaver for more information if you or someone you know has a need of this service.

May 29, Memorial Day – Pool Party

Contact Person: Christine Davis. More details to follow.

Plantation Oak Christmas House Tour: December 7 & 8 and December 11 & 12 at 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM. Contacts: Pam Wiggin & Terry Johnson

Christmas Tree Trimming Pajama Party - December 16. Coordinators: Betty Vandermyn & Patty Watkins

Last but not least, we'd like to thank all the hardworking volunteers who give us their time so we can all enjoy the many events we are able to hold right here at Plantation Oaks. We certainly couldn't do it without you.

FIRST EASTER EGG HUNT-APRIL 2001



Edna Welch and her daughter-in-law, Trish, planned the Easter Egg Hunt for visitors to Plantation Oaks. Fourteen children attended along with a cheering section of many parents, grandparents, aunts, uncles and just

residents. It was a joy to witness all that wonderful childhood energy. 101 Easter Eggs had been hidden and each contained a prize, plus each participant received a "bunny bag" of candy at the end of the hunt. Shown below on the right is Allison Gilman opening her Easter eggs while her mother, Andrea and grandparents, Marlene & Harry Gilman watch.





APRIL 6 IS SIAMESE CAT DAY

By Jo Kegel



April 6 is National Siamese Cat Day. It's a thing. You can google it. I am a cat person, but I was always leery of Siamese being finicky and unfriendly, always whining. In December we had the pleasure of babysitting two

Siamese brothers while house sitting for a month. They were beautiful, friendly, and very active young cats. Gus took to us right away, but Dex took a few days to



come around and play. Unfortunately, the owner had to give them up when she returned. They were a handful, and two litter boxes were double trouble. I do know that they went to a good home.



My granddaughter also has a young Siamese in Kissimmee. Her name is Venus, and she is so lovey and cuddly. I will babysit anytime for her. So, I've changed my mind on the Siamese breed. Please adopt, don't shop.

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PINK MOON; FULL MOON FOR APRIL



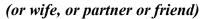
On Wednesday, April 5, you can catch a glimpse of April's full Pink Moon. This full Moon actually reaches peak illumination at 12:37 A.M. (EST) on Thursday, April 6, (which means that it

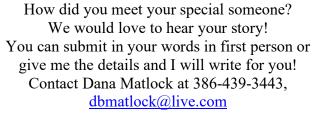
will be at its peak on the night of April 5 in more westerly time zones).

For the best view of this lovely spring moon, how about a trip to our beautiful Flagler Beach to watch as the moon rises just above the horizon? At this point it will appear its biggest and take on a golden hue!

Due to the moon taking around 354 days to complete a full 12 cycles, some years' experience an additional full moon - 2023 is one of those years. Thirteen full moons will grace the skies this year, with the extra sighting scheduled to happen in late August.

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POP ON THE WEB

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Don't forget to support our advertisers if you can. They keep this newsletter coming to you!

2023

Plantation Oaks Residents Association (PORA)

President - Gary Watkins 386-986-6246 - gwatty62@cfl.rr.com

Vice President – Betty Vandermyn 860-461-5392 - elzbthvnd@att.net

Secretary – Phyllis Holdsworth 862-266-1397 – phyllisholdsworth@gmail.com

Treasurer – Janice Randolph 203-521-6288 - janlee9@yahoo.com

Director – Ray Neeb 386-439-3574 - quasarkid20n@bellsouth.net

Director – Leonard Gucciardo 516-729-7930 – mrbreeze05@icloud.com

Director – Maureen O'Hara 386-986-8535 – gizmo.072015@gmail.com

PLANTATION OAKS Federation of Manufactured Homeowners (FMO) Representatives

James Pursley - 386-986-9632 Dana Matlock - 386-439-3443

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- 6. Sal Santonastasio
- 7. 60
- 8. 13
- 9. Bingo is held on Wednesday's. Doors open at 5:30 PM and games start at 6:30 PM
- 10. Trash is picked up on Monday and Thursday with Recycling and Yard waste on Wednesday.













