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*Spring Forward*  
DAYLIGHT SAVING TIME

March 9, 2025

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**Robert (Tank) Burbridge**

**Quilt of Valor Recipient, January 14, 2025**

*Thank you for your service, sacrifice and Valor—article on Page 3  
See more Inside.*

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## QUILTS OF VALOR

By Kevin Gallagher



From their website, QOVF.ORG, “The Quilts of Valor®



Foundation began in 2003 with a dream, literally a dream. Founder Catherine Roberts’ son, Nat, was deployed in Iraq. According to Catherine: The dream was as vivid as real life. ‘I saw a young man sitting on the side of his bed in the middle of the night, hunched over. The permeating feeling was one of utter despair. I could see his war demons clustered around, dragging him down into an emotional gutter. Then, as if viewing a movie, I saw him in the next scene wrapped in a quilt. His whole demeanor changed from one of despair to one of hope and well-being. The quilt had made this dramatic change.’ The message of my dream was: Quilts = Healing.” She created the QOV Foundation “to cover Service Members and Veterans touched by war with comforting and healing Quilts of Valor.” Catherine said, “Today’s military is composed of volunteers and has always been about having their buddy’s back. From those “in the rear with the gear,” to the front-line service member, being touched by war can take many forms. Anyone who has taken the Oath of Enlistment has accepted the burden and risk and may be touched by war in ways that are not totally apparent. Whether in times of war or peace, we cannot know what they experienced and how it affected them. The point is not to discriminate, but to honor. I believe it is not our job to judge whether someone deserves a QOV, but rather do they need one.”

In January of 2025, a member of our community, Robert “Tank” Burbridge, was awarded one of these precious Quilts of Valor®. Tank, an Army infantry veteran, served during the Viet Nam war. He was only 18 years old in January 1967 when he left his family farm in Ohio and just a few months later he was standing in a rice paddy in the midst of war. He was part of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division that was led into a Viet Cong ambush. Sixty-four American soldiers were killed and seventy-five wounded (including Tank) out of the two hundred U.S. soldiers who participated in the assault. This event was chronicled in David Maraniss’ non-fiction book, *They Marched into Sunlight: War and Peace, Vietnam and America, October 1967* (2004).



Today we officially welcome Tank home and thank him for his service to our country!

## RUB-A-DUB-DUB

By Joe Cortese



Well, I hope this article finds you healthy, wealthy, and wise, which has not been the case with Glenda or me. For the sake of simplicity, I’m only gonna address the issue of “healthy” because wealthy and wise are subjects of great debate. Shortly before Christmas I came down with a sinus infection, the doctors best guess and supposedly “not contagious.” A week later Glenda came down with something similar. Both of us suffered for weeks and I’m not sure Glenda is over it yet. Since Christmas and all through January I cannot recall a period of time when I have known of more people sick with viruses and infections, not even at the height of the pandemic. What’s going on?

I guess it was knowing about all this sickness that got me thinking about my father, but not because he was sickly. Growing up my father seemed impervious to illnesses and even though everybody else in the family got the usual colds and such, my father never did. It wasn’t until years later that I finally got a glimpse of why.

One day, years ago, when my father and I were painting a house, I noticed that he would periodically come down off his ladder and wash his hands. I asked him why he did this, since they were only gonna get dirty again, and he confessed that he had a lifelong neurotic compulsion to “wash his hands.” It seemed so strange how I had watched him do this for years (regularly) and yet never really noticed it but even then the sickness-thing didn’t occur to me.

It was during the COVID pandemic and constantly hearing that “washing your hands was one of the top ways to fight the spread of germs” where it finally got through my thick Italian skull. My father obviously never passed that “wash your hands” gene on to me and like the average guy cleanliness was never too high on my list but, in hindsight, it’s now obvious. My father’s good health was because he washed his hands and his neurosis became a blessing. A little rub-a-dub-dub and you won’t get sick as often, which of course means more time for fishing. So nowadays I’m washing my hands more than ever and I never worry about forgetting, I’m married.



## LOTS OF FACTS AND USELESS DATA

Submitted by Anne Mowling



No word in the English language rhymes with month, orange, silver, or purple.

"Dreamt" is the only English word that ends in the letters "mt".

*(Are you doubting this?)*

Our eyes are always the same size from birth, but our nose and ears never stop growing.

The sentence: "The quick brown fox jumps over the lazy dog" uses every letter of the alphabet.

*(You know you're going to try this out for accuracy, right?)*

The words 'racecar,' 'kayak' and 'level' are the same whether they are read left to right or right to left (palindromes).

*(Yep, I knew you were going to "do" this one.)*

There are only four words in the English language which end in "dous": tremendous, horrendous, stupendous, and hazardous.

*(You're not doubting this, are you?)*

There are two words in the English language that have all five vowels in order: "abstemious" and "facetious."

*(Yes, admit it, you are going to say, "a, e, i, o, u!")*

A cat has 32 muscles in each ear.



A "jiffy" is an actual unit of time for 1/100th of a second.

A shark is the only fish that can blink with both eyes.

A snail can sleep for three years.

*(I know some people that could do this too!)*

Almonds are a member of the peach family.



An ostrich's eye is bigger than its brain.

*(I know some people like that also!)*

Babies are born without kneecaps. They don't appear until the child reaches 2 to 6 years of age.

In the last 4,000 years, no new animals have been domesticated.

Peanuts are one of the ingredients of dynamite!

Rubber bands last longer when refrigerated.

The cruise liner, QE2 moved only 49 feet for each gallon of diesel fuel burned.

*(Now it's a floating luxury hotel in Dubai!)*

The microwave was invented after a researcher walked by a radar tube and a chocolate bar melted in his pocket.

*(Good thing he did that.)*

The winter of 1932 was so cold that Niagara Falls froze completely solid.

There are more chickens than people in the world.

Women blink nearly twice as much as men.

**Bonus!! All the ants across the globe weigh more than ALL the Elephants!!**

*Now you know (a little) more than you did before!!*



By Rich Bencal



Welcome back to POP trivia. Our day light is getting longer, and temperatures are warming up nicely. Once again, I have thoroughly researched ten questions for this month's Trivia. Some you might remember while others had been

forgotten until now. Good luck. The answers will appear on another page of the POP.

### QUESTIONS:

1. Who wrote the hit song "Palisades Park"?
2. From what TV show is this person better known?
3. In the song "The Day the Music Died" to whom is Don MacLean referring?
4. How many houses does the average person look at before buying?
5. Who played the lead in the TV series Zorro?
6. It is said a cat has how many lives?
7. What sport has games called Duck Pin, Candlepin and Ten Pin?
8. How fast does a normal rain drop fall?
9. In what city were the TV shows Banachek and Cheers located?
10. At the end of every show what did the Lone Ranger leave behind?

### March 19 - Let's Laugh Day

**"By the time you are 80 years old you have learned everything. You only have to remember it!"** *George Burns*



### Why do seniors always smile?

*Because they cannot hear a word you are saying!*

**At this point in life, "getting lucky" means remembering why I walked into the room!**

**"I don't feel old. I don't feel anything until noon. Then it is time for my nap."** *Bob Hope*



## THE OLD COOT CHEERS THE CHANGE

By Merlin Lessler,



Submitted By Dan  
Behanick



It's been 20+ years in the coming, but knobs, sliders, switches, and other physical controls are making a comeback in automobile design. If you're less than

30 years old, you'll wonder what I'm talking about. Let me explain. You could control most functions behind the wheel, blindfolded. Want more heat? Reach over to the slider switch and move it to the right. Need the fan to blow harder? Turn the knob next to the slider switch. You didn't have to see it. You could feel it. No touch screen to distract you from keeping your eyes on the road.



Those screens cause more accidents than cell phones. That's my take anyhow. It's the same thing with household appliances. Printed circuit boards and touch screens dominate the landscape. I can't even change the clock on our Samsung range without downloading an App and connecting to the brain (artificial intelligence) inside the unit. I won't get into our washing machine. Another nightmare that decides I can't change water temperature in a preset mode. I'm too stupid to be allowed that freedom. A/I has pushed my wants aside. Get in a strange car? Good luck finding out how to control things. Every smart screen is different and uses symbols that are old coot, un-friendly. I can't even get



it right on an elevator when I try to press the "shut the door" button. Car manuals are more frequently needed but they are online. I guess you can read it while

driving. Not any more dangerous than reaching over and drilling down through a menu on a touch screen. A screen that is getting bigger and bigger and probably will eventually replace the windshield entirely, pushing us further into a virtual world.

All is not lost. Some auto manufacturers have figured out that touch screens aren't cutting edge anymore. Tesla and VW are leading the pack and starting to add knobs and switches for commonly used functions. They had to hire designers that didn't grow up playing video

games and using touch screens. They hired some old coots to guide them to a new/old future. A safer one! Comments? [mlessler7@gmail.com](mailto:mlessler7@gmail.com)

## KARAOKE & DANCE PARTY

By Dana Matlock

January 18. Although everyone knows that I don't have the best singing voice, we decided to attend the Karaoke party anyway. I'm so glad we did—it turned out to be a fantastic night filled with laughter and joy! A heartfelt thank you to Christine Locastro for organizing this wonderful event and bringing Karaoke to Plantation Oaks. We can't wait for the next one!



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**SCAM ALERT**

**Romance Scams**

www.fbi.gov/how-we-can-help-you/scams-and-safety/common-scams-and-crimes

Romance scams occur when a criminal adopts a fake online identity to gain a victim's affection and trust. The scammer then uses the illusion of a romantic or close relationship to manipulate and/or steal from the victim.


The scammer's intention is to establish a relationship as quickly as possible, endear himself to the victim, and gain trust. Scammers may propose marriage and make plans to meet in person, but that will never happen. Eventually, they will ask for money.

If someone you meet online needs your bank account information to deposit money, they are most likely using your account to carry out other theft and fraud schemes.

**Tips for Avoiding Romance Scams:**

- **Be careful what you post** and make public online. Scammers can use details shared on social media and dating sites to better understand and target you.
- **Research the person's photo and profile** using online searches to see if the **image, name, or details have been used elsewhere.**
- Go slowly and ask lots of questions.
- Beware if the individual **seems too perfect** or quickly asks you to leave a dating service or social media site to communicate directly.
- Beware if the individual attempts to isolate you from friends and family or requests inappropriate photos or financial information that could later be used to extort you.
- Beware if the individual **promises to meet in person** but then **always comes up with an excuse why he or she can't.** If you haven't met the person after a few months, for whatever reason, you have good reason to be suspicious.
- **Never send money to anyone you have only communicated with online or by phone.**

**Report Imposter Scams Online to the Federal Trade Commission**




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Tiffany Luby .....	\$10	Rick's Appliances
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Drawing Date - 2/10/2025



## FEDERATION OF MANUFACTURED HOME OWNERS (FMO)

*By James Pursley, Plantation Oaks FMO Rep*



Greetings, Neighbors! I hope everyone is doing well! There's been a lot going on lately, and I find myself with a few more aches and pains. How about that "cold snap we had"? For anyone from north of Jacksonville, it probably felt like a spring day! It seems that the

longer I live here, the more I notice the colder weather. For those of you from New York or nearby areas, North Georgia might feel like Miami in comparison!

When I lived in the mountains of North Georgia, we experienced some pretty cold winters, complete with ice and snow. It was always a big deal. Schools would have built-in snow days, small businesses would close, and cars would often get stranded. If a business closed, you could call the local radio station to announce it. I remember a friend of mine who owned a small printing company. He called to say he was closed for the day, and as a result, he ended up getting more business than ever before—people had never heard of him until it snowed!

Speaking of cold, I didn't mind it much until it became really frigid. Back then, I wore shorts almost all year long. I recall an incident when I was supposed to meet a client to pick up some plans. My client was running late, so I went to the Post Office to wait. For those who have lived in a small town, you know that a trip to the Post Office is like a family reunion. When my assistant was asked by the client how he would know me, she thought for a moment and said, "He'll be the only person there wearing shorts." Interestingly, she hadn't seen me that day, but I did show up in my shorts, standing out in the cold!

One thing that never closes is the Federation of Manufactured Homeowners (FMO). The FMO is an organization that advocates for homeowners like us, whose homes are placed on leased land. They negotiate on our behalf regarding any legitimate issues that may arise. The FMO plays a crucial role in monitoring actions and legislation submitted by park owners, ensuring they remain fair and transparent.

With a legislative counsel and an attorney on hand, the FMO offers invaluable support. Membership is a bargain at just \$30 per year or \$75 for three years. To get started, simply visit [fmo.org](http://fmo.org) to sign up and pay with a credit card. Alternatively, you can call 727-530-7539 for assistance with your membership. You really can't go wrong! Stay safe and take care, everyone!

## CROWS ARE CURIOUS CREATURES!

*By Kevin Gallagher*



Crows are among the most intelligent birds and can solve complex problems. They use tools, recognize human faces, and even hold grudges! They are highly social and live in family groups. They often cooperate to find food and protect each other.

Crows have a complex system of vocalizations and can mimic sound, including human speech! They use different calls for warning, attracting mates, and coordinating with each other. They engage in play, such as sliding down snowy roofs (not here in Flagler Beach!) or playing with objects like sticks and stones.

Crows are omnivores, meaning they will eat almost anything, including insects, produce, snakes, worms, eggs, and nesting birds. They eat a lot; one family of crows can eat up to 40,000 caterpillars, worms, and other insects in one nesting season.

Crows have excellent memory. They remember places where they found food treats and nesting materials, including our white plastic garbage bags that we put out for trash pick-up! White bags are thinner, provide a better contrast with the contents inside, and can be torn open more easily, making it easier for them to get at something interesting for them to investigate!

I can verify that this is true by my own observations while doing my walks in the morning in our own park. Crows definitely go for the white bags, strewn garbage and trash all over the street, but they leave the black bags alone.

If you want to prevent your trash from being all strewn all over the street in front of your house, use thicker black garbage bags (tied tightly) or, better yet, use trash containers secured with tight lids or bungee cords.



## BEAUTY TIPS

*By Terry Johnson*



### Smudge-proof lipstick

The must-know trick to gorgeous lip color that stays for hours: run an ice cube over your lips right after applying your favorite shade. The ice will help set the color and prevent it from feathering, bleeding, or melting, even on the steamiest of days. The result? Beautiful lips that are sure to impress all day long.

## A GRAIN OF SALT

By Jeanie Scionti



I recently made an eye-opening discovery about salt that I want to share. It's not just about how salt impacts our blood pressure—something we all recognize. This is about the hidden additives! With the FDA finally banning "red dye #3" from grocery shelves, I felt compelled to inform everyone about what's lurking in some salt products. A few years back, I decided to limit our salt intake. Instead of purchasing Morton Salt—which has been a trusted brand since 1848—I switched to Morton Fine Sea Salt. To my surprise, I learned that both types contain an additive called "yellow prussiate of soda." My initial thought was, "This must be a chemical additive!" I would never have guessed that. Typically, I don't scrutinize ingredient labels for condiments.

After researching potassium ferrocyanide, commonly known as yellow prussiate of soda (YPS), I found some interesting insights. Is yellow prussiate of soda (YPS) harmful? YPS is a widely used food additive that has generated considerable debate. It serves primarily as an anti-caking agent in table salt to prevent clumping. Additionally, it appears in various food items, including some canned vegetables, dried fruits, and processed meats, to help maintain quality and prevent moisture absorption."

Surprisingly, it is also used as an anti-caking agent in the de-icer rock salt applied to our streets and sidewalks.

Here's a noteworthy point: YPS is a synthetic compound created through a reaction between sodium cyanide and iron compounds." Yes, you read that right—cyanide.

So, does YPS contain cyanide? During its synthesis, any potential traces of cyanide are eliminated, resulting in a safe product. Moreover, the levels of YPS present in food products are too low to pose any risk of cyanide poisoning." That's reassuring!

One article I read concluded with this advice: Individuals with specific health conditions, such as kidney disease or unique dietary needs, should consult their healthcare providers to determine if consuming foods containing YPS is appropriate.

Salt is vital for our health, which raises an important question: should I be consuming salt? The real question should be, what type of salt should I be using?



Many articles I reviewed suggest that salts containing YPS are generally regarded as safe. While that may be the case, I would prefer to see a label that lists only one ingredient: salt!

Now that you know this, you can either take my words with "a grain of salt," or you can make it a habit to check ingredient labels the next time you're at the grocery store. I certainly plan to invest more time in reading labels rather than simply grabbing items off the shelf.

Morton Salt contains yellow prussiate of soda (YPS), a water-soluble anti-caking agent. On the other hand, Morton Natural Sea Salt consists solely of sea salt, with no additives. This salt is harvested from Utah's Great Salt Lake, where the sun and wind naturally evaporate the water.



### TRIVIA ANSWERS

1. Chuck Barris
2. The Gong Show
3. Buddy Holly
4. 8
5. Guy Williams
6. 9
7. Bowling
8. 7 miles per hour
9. Boston, MA
10. A silver bullet

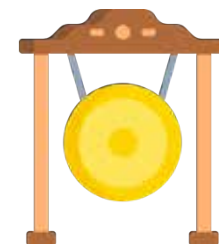


Image from Flaticon



John Clabaugh and Frank Amatura  
*Plantation Oaks Cooks*



## LITTLE BREECHES

A Poem by John Hay

Submitted by Carollee Eppinger



I don't go much on religion,  
I ain't never had no show;  
But I've got a middlin' tight grip, sir,  
On a handful o' things I know  
I don't pan out on the prophets  
And free-will and that sort of thing,

But I believe in God and the angels,  
Ever since one night last spring

I come into town with some turnips,  
And my little Gabe came along,--  
No four-year-old in the county  
Could beat him for pretty and strong--  
Pert and chipper and sassy,  
Always ready to swear and fight,--  
And I'd larnt him to chaw terbacker  
Jest to keep his teeth milk-white.

The snow come down like a blanket  
As I passed by Taggart's store;  
I went in for a jug of molasses  
And left the team at the door.  
They scared at something that started,--  
I heard one little squall,  
And hell-to-split over the prairie  
Went team, Little Breeches, and all

Hell-to-split over the prairie!  
I was almost froze with skeer;  
But we roused up some torches,  
And searched for him far and near.  
At last we struck hosses and wagon,  
Snowed under a soft white mound,  
Upsot, dead beat,--but of little Gabe  
No hide nor hair was found.

And here all hope soured on me  
Of my fellow critters aid:--  
I jest flopped down on my marrow bones,  
Crotch-deep in the snow and prayed.  
By this, the torches was played out,  
And me and Isrul Parr  
Went off for some wood to the Sheepfold  
That he said was somewhere thar.

We found it at last, and a little shed  
Where they shut up the lambs at night.  
We looked in and seen them huddled thar,  
So warm and sleepy and white;  
And thar sot Little Breeches and chirped,  
As Peart as ever you see,



"I want a chaw of terbacker,  
And that's what's the matter of me."

How did he git thar? Angels.  
He could have never walked in that storm:  
They jest scooped down and toted him  
To whar it was safe and warm.  
And I think that saving a little child,  
And foting him to his own,  
Is a derved sight better business  
Than loafing around the The Throne.

## Lovin' February Dinner/Dance FUN!



## ST. PATRICKS DAY LAUGHS!

By Chef Kevin Gallagher MS, CEC



1. What do you call a bulletproof Irishman?  
Rick-O-Shea...



2. Why can you never borrow money from a Leprechaun?  
Because they're always a little short...

3. Why did the Leprechaun go out to his back garden?  
So he could relax on his Paddy-O...

4. What would you call a big Irish spider?  
Paddy-Long-Legs...

5. What type of music do Leprechauns dance to?  
Sham-Rock-And-Roll...

6. What type of magic spells do leprechauns cast?  
Lucky Charms...

7. What do you call a leprechaun who's worried about the planet? A Wee-Cycler...

8. Who catches bad Lepre-Cons?  
Under-Clover Cops...

9. What kind of bow is a Leprechaun unable to tie?  
A Rain-Bow...

10. What's Irish and sits outside all day and night?  
Patty O'Furniture...

11. Paddy went to see his doc. "Look, Paddy, I've some bad news and some terrible news for you." "My God! What's the bad news?!", asked Paddy. "Well," replied the doctor, "You only have 3 days to live". "You're joking," says Paddy. "How can the news get any worse?" "Well," says the doctor, "I've been trying to get hold of you for the past 2 days!"

Now that I have you in a good mood, it's time for you to make these amazing Irish cookie bars! Vanilla and coffee flavored blondies topped with toasted almonds and a whiskey flavored glaze. Incredibly unique, extraordinarily rich in flavor! **Use Irish whiskey to keep it authentic!** (Adapted from a recipe in Martha Stewart Magazine, March 2012.)

### Chewy Irish Coffee Blondies

Servings: 24 squares

#### For the Blondies:

- 2 cups all-purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking powder
- ¼ teaspoon baking soda
- 2 sticks unsalted butter, plus more for pan
- 2 cups light brown sugar, packed
- 3 tablespoons freshly ground coffee (coffee grounds)
- 1 teaspoon salt
- 2 large eggs
- 1½ teaspoons pure vanilla extract
- ¾ cup sliced almonds, skin on



#### For the Glaze:

- 1 tablespoon melted butter
- 2 tablespoons Irish whiskey
- ¾ cup confectioner's sugar

#### Instructions

1. Preheat oven to 350F. Butter a 9 x 13-inch baking pan, and line with parchment hanging over the edge for easy removal.
2. In a medium bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, and baking soda (set aside). Melt the 2 sticks of butter and pour into a separate mixing bowl. Add brown sugar, ground coffee, and 1 teaspoon salt. Stir to combine. Stir in eggs and vanilla extract. Add flour mixture and stir until just combined.
3. Pour batter into pan, and sprinkle top with almonds. Bake 27-30 minutes, (shorter baking times result in a chewier blondie). Cool completely before adding glaze.
4. Whisk together 1 tablespoon of melted butter and the Irish whiskey. Gradually whisk in confectioner's sugar until the glaze is thick but pourable (you may not need all the sugar). Using a teaspoon, drizzle glaze over blondies in a rough crosshatch pattern. Let glaze dry for 1 hour.
5. Remove blondies from pan using the parchment and place on cutting board, Cut blondies into 2-inch squares. Enjoy!



### Reviving Crystallized Honey

Ever go to your pantry to find your bear-shaped bottle contains a solid mass of crystallized honey? Don't throw it away! Honey never goes bad, but it does crystallize in humid conditions.

To bring honey back to a luscious, drizzly state:

1. Place the container in a bowl of hot water until the honey is smooth and runny (5 to 10 minutes).
2. Alternatively, remove the lid and microwave the jar in 30-second intervals, checking after each.
3. To prevent crystals from forming again: Store the honey in a cool, dry place (not the refrigerator) and avoid introducing moisture. That is, ***no double-dipping once your spoon hits the tea!***







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## MARCH BIRTHDAYS

- |                          |                     |
|--------------------------|---------------------|
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| 3 Judy Kelley            | 21 Eleanor Lannin   |
| 3 Janet Grazioso         | 22 Marlene Anderson |
| 4 Karen Matthias         | 24 Leslie Harvie    |
| 6 Joe Bowe               | 25 James Pursley    |
| 7 Buford Bentley         | 26 Ken Avery        |
| 10 Stephanie Frazier     | 26 Carol Mason      |
| 10 JoAnn Larkin          | 26 John Mercurio    |
| 11 Peg Mercurio          | 26 Joe Granieri     |
| 13 Charles Krug          | 26 Mary Wells       |
| 14 Chris Amodio          | 26 David Wile       |
| 14 John Pires            | 28 Rita Lenz        |
| 14 Patty Przybysz        | 28 Andrew Rinaldi   |
| 16 Ruth Greenlaw         | 29 Pat Beattie      |
| 17 Jac Groppruoso        |                     |
| 18 Nick Burnett          |                     |
| 18 Stacey Sullivan-Testa |                     |

*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](mailto:dbmatlock@live.com) or [kjgallagher13@gmail.com](mailto:kjgallagher13@gmail.com).*



## MARCH ANNIVERSARIES

- 1 Mark & Terry Fazzio
- 1 Donald & Patti Deater
- 14 David & Sharon Nestor
- 15 Jerry & Susan Sangster
- 17 Bill & Phyllis Holdsworth
- 20 Mike & Shirley DiGeorgio
- 23 Stephanie Frazier & John Taylor
- 23 Mike & Doris Ledrich
- 26 Mike & Maddy Kahn
- 27 Willis & Florence Card
- 27 Thomas & Cara Kavan



## SOCIAL COMMITTEE NEWS

*By Terry Johnson & Cyndi Easter*



Terry and Cyndi held the first meeting at 6:30 PM to accommodate working residents in our community. We were a little disappointed that only one new person attended. We may try the evening meeting one more time

and will keep you posted. Our regular meeting time will resume on March 3, at 1:30 PM. Hope to see you there!!!

The February manatee excursion had to be cancelled - they left the area due to warmer weather. We will need to try again in December.

### **Terry Johnson:**

[avonlady422@comcast.net](mailto:avonlady422@comcast.net), 609-876-0837

### **Cyndi Easter**

[cyn913542gmail.com](mailto:cyn913542gmail.com), 618-558-9976

### **MARCH EVENTS:**

**March 1** - Lumberjack Chili cook-off from 5:30 to 8pm signup sheet to make chili is on the bulletin board at the clubhouse. Hosts are requesting help to set up and clean up contact Rob Bataille 732-614-6784

**March 1** - Monthly Brunch

**March 8** - BootsNBling country night. This is a free event sponsored by Mo and Tom with DJ Jim

**March 14** - St. Patrick's Day Dinner

### **FUTURE EVENTS:**

**April 5** - Monthly Brunch

**April 13** - Elvis Will Be in the House

**April 25** - Monthly Dinner

**April 12** - Tentative schedule for a community yard sale but so far there is no one to manage the advertisement and organize it. Unless someone steps up, we will not be able to move forward. Please contact Terry Johnson 609-876-0837. Note: this is a community event.

**May 17** - Planning a Casino Night

We are looking for feedback on activities for the remainder of the year. Any ideas either contact Terry Johnson 609-876-0837 or Cyndi Easter 618-558-9976 Susan Bataille is looking into day trips that we can plan on taking. She will post any future events.

Ed Kaspshak is willing to teach woman gun safety. The course will be approximately 8 hours. You will need to contact Ed at 631-666-0910 to be interviewed prior to taking the course. He will limit it to 4 ladies per session.



## 2025 PLANTATION OAKS RESIDENT'S ASSOCIATION (PORA)

By Dana Matlock



Let's take this opportunity to extend a warm welcome to our new PORA board members. We are thrilled to introduce these dedicated individuals who have stepped forward to serve our community to ensure our rights as homeowners are protected.

### 1. Gary Watkins – President

Gary has been a resident of our community for over a decade. He brings a wealth of experience to the board having served on village boards prior to moving to Plantation Oaks. And, he has been a previous member of the PORA board serving as a director, President and Secretary. Gary is a retired police officer and most recently worked as a security manager. Gary works for Murex at the welcome gate, but PORA members voted to waive the non-eligibility restriction to allow him to serve.

### 2. Stan Niedzwiecki – Vice President

Stan moved to Plantation Oaks in 2023 and has served as an enthusiastic volunteer in the kitchen with our Cooks' Team. Stan hails from Illinois where he worked for 43 years before retiring as director of plant operations. He also has some real estate background. These experiences make him a great fit for the role of Vice President.

### 3. Phyllis Holdsworth – Secretary

Phyllis was re-elected to serve on PORA board when her first term ended in January 2024. The Board once again elected her to the position of Secretary. She maintains clear communication between the board and homeowners and is the keeper of the association documents. Phyllis has been an active volunteer in many areas – always open to serving where needed with a warm and friendly attitude.

### 4. Tony Faust – Treasurer

Tony is a snowbird from Wisconsin where he retired as a CPA (38 years). He has also served as treasurer for several non-profits. His experience in budgeting and financial planning will be invaluable as he oversees our community's finances. Tony knew there was a need, and he answered the call.

### 5. Rosi Reese – Member-at-Large

This is Rosi's second year of her elected term. She served as President in 2024 but had to step down due to medical reasons. Rosi will continue to serve as a liaison between residents and the board, ensuring that

everyone has a voice in our community's decision-making process.

### 6. John Clabaugh – Member-at-Large

John brings a volunteer spirit to the board having served on the Cook's Team and social committee for several years. He has worked diligently to offer great events at our clubhouse. John also works for Murex at the welcome gate, but PORA members voted to waive the non-eligibility restriction to allow him to serve.

### 7. Sue Kline – Member-at-Large

Sue brings great experience to the board. She served as an administrator in the medical field responsible for marketing to facilities, liaison to facility staff and resident families, insurance verification, claim submission and reconciliation, as well as accounts payable, receivables and payroll. She also served on several board and the PTA.



L to R: Sue Kline, Tony Faust, Phyllis Holdsworth, Gary Watkins, Rosi Reese, John Clabaugh, Stan Niedzwiecki

As our new board members embark on this journey, they may need a little time to settle into their roles and become familiar with the governing documents and laws. This is a fantastic opportunity for you to introduce yourself, share your thoughts about the community and offer help where you can. The success of our community relies heavily on resident participation. Get involved, attend board meetings; volunteer for community events and share your ideas. Together, we can continue to make our community a welcoming, safe, and enjoyable place to live.

Our heartfelt thanks and gratitude to the outgoing board members for their hard work and dedication. We appreciate your service and leadership!



## 2025 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**President – Gary Watkins**

386-693-4664 – [gwatty62@cfl.rr.com](mailto:gwatty62@cfl.rr.com)

**Vice President – Stanley Niedzwieki, Jr.**

386-569-1068 – [nedz1@cfl.rr.com](mailto:nedz1@cfl.rr.com)

**Secretary – Phyllis Holdsworth**

862-266-1397 – [phyllisholdsworth@gmail.com](mailto:phyllisholdsworth@gmail.com)

**Treasurer – Tony Faust**

920-979-2528 – [agfaust91@gmail.com](mailto:agfaust91@gmail.com)

**Director – Rose Reese**

386-693-4043 – [ccwrose@gmail.com](mailto:ccwrose@gmail.com)

**Director – John Clabaugh**

570-772-2499 – [jclabaugh7@yahoo.com](mailto:jclabaugh7@yahoo.com)

**Director – Sue Kline**

717-418-3713 – [prdgranma@comcasr.net](mailto:prdgranma@comcasr.net)

**PORA website: [ourpora.org](http://ourpora.org)**

Quarterly meetings held the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of the month at 7 PM in the clubhouse:

March 02, June 01, September 07, December 07

## CHRISTIAN FELLOWSHIP AT PLANTATION OAKS



We invite you to join us March 9 for the Plantation Oaks Christian Fellowship at the Clubhouse 4:00 - 5:30. We'll be focusing our Bible reading and discussion on the **Fruit of the Spirit "Peace"** as described in Galatians 5:22-23. As always, we'll have music, Biblical teaching, discussion, and of course fellowship with our neighbors & friends.

**The Plantation Oaks Christian Fellowship is a non-denominational group and everyone is welcome. Contact: Carol Cerney 507-213-0121**



MARCH 20 FIRST DAY OF SPRING



**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](mailto: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](http://www.FlaglerEmergency.com). Register for special needs evacuation assistance on this site or call 386-313-4200.

## THE PLANTATION OAKS PRESS (POP)

The POP was started by, and continues to be produced by, a group of Plantation Oaks residents. Community Media prints and ships the completed newsletters to us. PORA supports our efforts by purchasing the door hanging bags for ease in delivery. We publish monthly and our wonderful Block Captains deliver to your door before the beginning of each applicable month.

Editors, Dana Matlock and Kevin Gallagher, reserves the right to edit submitted material for proper grammar, punctuation, content, and length. To submit an article for consideration, email it to [dbmatlock@live.com](mailto:dbmatlock@live.com) and . Or you can drop off a written copy to 4 Tobias Lane or call me at 386-439-3443 and I will pick it up. Include your name and contact number. All efforts are made to ensure accuracy of information contained but cannot be guaranteed. If you notice inaccuracies or omissions, please notify the editors.

To view or print our current or previous *POP* newsletters, go to the PORA website: [ourpora.org](http://ourpora.org). Click on: Contacts/Links/*The POP*. If you are unable to reach this site, you can also access the publications on [www.4communitymedia.com](http://www.4communitymedia.com); click on the *Newsletters* tab on the right hand side of the page and scroll through the list until you find Plantation Oaks – Flagler Beach, FL. Click on it and then you will have access to all of our newsletters published.

**Don't forget to support our advertisers if you can.**

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We hope you find this newsletter informative and engaging. As always, we welcome your feedback and suggestions for future topics. Thank you for being an integral part of our community!

## PLANTATION OAKS

**Federation of Manufactured Homeowners  
(FMO) Representatives**



James Pursley - 386-986-9632

Dana Matlock - 386-439-3443



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