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MY ZOO - Afternoon Line Dancers enjoyed bagged lunches and an excursion through Joan Haught's Zoo.

There was an Easter egg hunt, discussion on Florida History 100 years ago and they still had energy to fit in some line dancing on Joan's carport. A fun afternoon!

Interested in joining a line dancing group? Sign up on

the bulletin board or call

Diane Williams at 912-660-0423



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# JOURNEY OF DREAMS

By Bob Matlock



Following a four-year enlistment in the USAF, in Ground Communications, Bob Small worked for the Federal Government as a Cryptographic Specialist for 35 years. During that time, he and his wife Margo decided that boating

would alleviate the pressures and stress of that very, sensitive job. They discovered that the cost of a boat was not conducive to the size of his paychecks. Their decision was to build their own boat. And they did! After a year of labor, they launched their very own 15-foot run-about ski boat. When the glamour of that boat and the associated water sports dwindled, Bob's interest in boating was redirected to something bigger.

For several years Bob helped a friend build a 46-foot trimaran in his back yard. With that experience in his pocket Bob decided to tackle the same task and build a trimaran in their back yard. Four years later he and Margo christened ("*Small Tri*"), and they launched, their own 30-foot trimaran. For 13 years they sailed that boat around the West Coast of the U.S.



When Bob retired, they bought a 27-foot sailboat on the California coast and trailered it to Ft. Lauderdale, FL. They spent 3 months sailing around the Bahamas. But wait! That experience opened their eyes and nudged them to fulfill their dream of blue water sailing. They returned to Sacramento, CA, sold the boat and house,



kept the car, and headed for the East Coast to find a BIG sailboat. They found their dreamboat in Annapolis, MD, and were soon the proud owners of a 47-foot ketch rigged sailboat with beautiful accommodations and all the necessary bells and whistles. After much planning and preparation, they sold the car and sailed south into the Eastern Caribbean and onto Trinidad, Venezuela, Columbia and into Panama. They transited the Panama Canal and continued their adventure up the west coast to San Francisco and finally to Sacramento which was

their starting point and home for 38 years. For two years they relaxed and sailed in and around the San Francisco Bay area.

The old itch to return to blue water sailing struck again and they decided to return to Florida via the Canal and the Western Caribbean. Pleasurable sailing took them back through the Panama Canal and then north to Guatemala, Belize, Mexico and finally onto Florida. After a moderate R&R at a marina in St. Petersburg, Bob and Margo decided to "swallow the hook" and return to a landlubber lifestyle. They sold the boat and moved to the then new Plantation Oaks. It was 1999 and they had lived for nine years on their beloved sailboat named "*Beyond*". The Smalls claim that the name of the boat is indicative of their nine years of experiences that were beyond anything they could have imagined. It would take a book to describe the cultures visited, people met, ongoing trip planning, boat managing and all the experiences of this adventure. We are thankful for Bob and Margo for sharing this snapshot of their high seas adventures and pleased to have them as our friends and neighbors.



## DIY TIPS FOR MAY

By Carollee Eppinger



Many of us are on a fixed income so we can't actually purchase the high-end items we want for our homes. This is my situation, but it doesn't stop me from adding those custom touches I desire. One thing I have always liked is French Doors.

If you can replace your sliding doors with those it instantly adds class. I wasn't able to do that at the time, but I still wanted the look. Now I was convinced that you could purchase these grids already made to snap



*continued on page 5*

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into your sliding door. Ed, my husband insisted there was no such product. So, after trying to find the grids I admitted he may be right. He and I measured for the small panes just like they are in French doors. Together we used white electrical tape to map out the window minions. Now close up it doesn't fool anyone but to me it is the next best thing to French Doors. You really can't do this without help, and a good eye for measuring for the panes.

The next project was replacing that indoor outdoor horrible carpeting in the lanai. I decided to rip it out and thought of ways to finish the cement floor. For a few hundred dollars I could tile the floor, or I thought I could paint the cement floor. How boring would that be. So, I decided to do a checkerboard pattern for more interest. I looked at quite a few You Tube videos to learn how



to do this. They said to mark off the floor with tape but unless you have smooth concrete this won't produce sharp lines. I used a 12x12 tile and a pencil started in the middle and went to the wall from there. Dividing the room in half helped also. One

error I made was not sealing the work when done so it did not stay looking fresh. I have since redone each square and put 2 coats of sealer on the floor.

This is not to say all my projects are great, they please me though and were relatively inexpensive. Just try to think outside the box and dare to try new ways of using your space and decorating your home. Can your Lanai be your extra den, craft room or sewing room? If you never use your dining space what could be a better use for that space? Hope you enjoy your home and this wonderful community we are all part of. If you need help or an extra hand, call me: Carollee 386-872-2692



## PAWS & CLAWS TAILS FROM A KENNEL

By Muriel Fallon



When we moved to Vermont in the late 60's a friend gifted us with an AKC registered Siberian Husky (Manna). Little did we think that within two years one puppy would lead to a full-blown kennel. Our lives became consumed by training classes,

breeding, whelping and showing our dogs, with dog sledding thrown in during the winter months.

At one small show in New Hampshire my daughter, Jackie, was showing a puppy in the "Puppy Class". When the judge bent down to check his form, the puppy jumped up and licked her face. Yikes, not a good thing to do. "Kola" did win the Puppy Class. After judging all of the classes, the judge came back and whispered into Jackie's ear. We thought it would be "don't bring that puppy back until he's fully trained". Instead, she said "your puppy is Number One"!

We lived on 18 acres in a small Vermont town. A shaded area provided a great place to build 8 runs for our dogs and occasional boarders. When the police department heard about the "runs", they approached us about becoming the "town pound". It was a very small police department and had to take the dog(s) to a veterinarian's office 25 miles away. You can guess where this is leading!!

One Sunday afternoon the police brought a hound-looking dog to our kennel. Since it had a Connecticut license, the police called and left a message for the owner. It was a beautiful Bluetick Hound. A couple of hours later the owner called for directions and would drive back the next morning. He had been hunting in the Green Mountain National Forest when they were separated. He was taking off work to come back – that was some special dog.

I never knew Beagles could climb fences until a sweet well-fed Beagle actually climbed out of the kennel. She stayed near the other dogs, so back in the kennel it went. When I was getting ready to leave for work, I saw her down in the field. I got out of the car, opened the back door and started calling "here baby, come baby". Up

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**The Plantation Oaks office is not involved with this newsletter so please do not contact them.**

**Questions?**

**Check with the Editors listed on the cover page.**

# AMERICAN GOULASH

By Betty Vandermyn

Original author: Melanie Dueck

This is an easy old-fashioned comforting meal that is perfect for our chilly Florida months and even for potluck. Everything cooks in the same pot including the pasta. Delicious!!

## Ingredients

- \*2 pounds of ground beef, ground turkey or ground sausage, or any combo
- \*1 large onion diced
- \*4 cloves of garlic minced
- \*3 cups of water
- \*1 tablespoon of beef base or bouillon
- \*2 15-ounce cans tomato sauce
- \*2 15-ounce cans diced tomatoes
- \*3 bay leaves
- \*3 tablespoons of soy sauce
- \*1 tablespoon seasoned salt
- \*2 tablespoons Italian Seasoning
- \*2 teaspoons of paprika
- \*1/2 teaspoon of black pepper
- \*2 cups of macaroni noodles uncooked
- \*1 cup of cheddar cheese shredded
- \*fresh Italian parsley chopped



[This Photo](#) by Unknown

## Instructions

1. Brown ground meat of your choice in a large stockpot. Remove from pan and drain. Leave about ½ tablespoons grease in the pan. Add the diced onion and cook for about 5 minutes heat until tender. Add the garlic and cook another minute.
2. Return cooked meat to the pot along with the water, beef base, cans of tomatoes and sauce, soy sauce, bay leaves, seasoned salt, Italian seasoning, paprika, and black pepper. Stir together and bring to a boil, reduce to low, and simmer 20 minutes.
3. Stir in the noodles, cover, and simmer 15-20 minutes or until al dente. Stir occasionally to prevent noodles from sticking to the bottom.
4. Just before serving, stir in the cheese. Serve garnished with fresh parsley.



the field she ran and jumped into the car. That actually worked a few times with other dogs. Special thanks to those who train their dogs to go for rides with them. Since the owners were local, I drove “Baby” to town and met them there.

We lived near three ski areas in southern Vermont and again, on a Sunday afternoon I got a call from the police department. A local “ski bum” (someone who works to ski) was injured in a skiing accident and was going to the hospital. The police were told that a dog was in his apartment and needed to be boarded for at least a week. So, that’s how I ended up with a Great Dane whose head reached my shoulder! Since it was winter, and “Saluki’s” coat wasn’t suitable for the weather. She stayed in the house with me. A few days later a friend stopped by to drop something off and “Saluki” came with me to the door. You can imagine his surprise -- he thought I had brought one of our horses into the house!! Every dog was special and had a tale (tail) to tell.

## THE CHAIR

By Carol Pursley



The Chair Those of us old enough to live in Plantation Oaks probably have items that are very special to us. I know I do! I can tell you who gave it to me, who owned it and why I can’t give it up. For me it’s a chair. The chair is a comfy recliner. It was my dad’s chair. It’s a treasure! It has

resided in five homes. It has traveled across the United States twice and now resides here at Plantation Oaks.

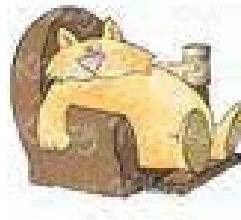
Sadly, the day came I needed to do an estate sale of my dad’s home. I watched people pick up things as if they were at a thrift store. Like it was a piece of junk. Didn’t they know the most wonderful man I knew and loved owned that? My heart was aching! I now realize I have done the same thing. How many times I didn’t realize it was somebody’s treasure. A nice lady bought the chair and was coming the next day with a truck to pick it up. I marked it sold. It would be gone soon! I will never see that chair again.

When I wasn’t traveling, I would go every Sunday night to visit my dad. I would stay for a couple of hours and we would talk and have a bowl of Publix frozen yogurt. He loved Publix frozen yogurt! He sat in his comfy recliner looking so content. He was such a happy, positive man

and always made me laugh. I loved him so much. I can still see him sitting in that recliner.

Now back to the estate sale. As I was ready to go home, I took one last look at the living room. There was the chair. I realized I just couldn’t give it up. I could see my dad sitting in it. I cried and cried and decided I couldn’t sell it and I hoped the lady would understand. The next day when she came to pick it up, as I cried and told her it was my dad’s and I decided to keep it she was so kind and said she understood.

It is now twenty-three years later, and that chair now sits in our office. I can still see him sitting in it! My cats love sitting in it too! Its adorable to see a white fluffy or black cat fast asleep on it. I know my dad is in heaven smiling down at those adorable cats all comfy in his chair!



There are some things that give us much joy even if it gave us sorrow. But God comforts us and lets us treasure those wonderful memories. Even though I’m classified “Elderly” I will have more memories because each day we are blessed with life we create more precious memories!

I hope each and every one of us can see the blessings in our memories, search for the happiness and focus on the joy they can bring us!

### TENNIS ANYONE?

Drop-in Tennis on Thursdays starting April 8, 2021 from 6 PM to Sunset.

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Questions?

Walter Mason at 404-290—0771  
or Tom Greene at 386-517-6725.



# MAY IS MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

By Dana Matlock



*I received a note from a dear friend, and it touched me and enlightened me so much I asked permission to share some of it with you. Our hope is that if you are going through this it may help you to know that you are not alone.*

“My thought is that people with the problem, and even their caregiver(s),

hide mental problems to protect their loved ones even from their closest family/friends until the problem becomes too obvious to hide. The people with mental health problems when they have a moment of clarity, are embarrassed. My wife always felt that people treated her differently like her thoughts/opinions had no value.

I learned the hiding/embarrassment firsthand with my buddy. She very much depended on me to support her. I did, of course, even using the cards that you printed without her knowledge or breaking into a discussion when I realized she was stuck, or the topic had gone off the rails. (The card read “My wife has Alzheimer’s disease. She might say or do things that are unexpected. Thank you for your understanding.”) I tried to distract her each time that I felt the need to distribute the cards. It took me a while to understand how I got away with it without her knowledge and finally realized that it was because she trusted me and because her attention was less focused from day to day. I still needed to be careful so as not to embarrass her.

On a very personal note, now Florida State government is discussing opening LTC and mental health facilities (our most vulnerable citizens) with the virus still not under control by evidence of the daily posted numbers and schools opening and closing a few days later for two weeks. I'd love to be able to give my wife hugs and maybe a kiss but feel very ambivalent at this time. We've been most fortunate that her facility has provided excellent care for her and helped me with my struggle. “

## ENCOURAGING SOMEONE WITH DEMENTIA TO COMMUNICATE

Information from Alzheimer’s Society

Try to start conversations especially if you notice that they're starting fewer conversations themselves. It can

help to:

- speak clearly and slowly, using short sentences
- make eye contact with the person when they're talking or asking questions
- give them time to respond, because they may feel pressured if you try to speed up their answers
- encourage them to join in conversations with others, where possible
- let them speak for themselves during discussions about their welfare or health issues
- try not to patronize them, or ridicule what they say
- acknowledge what they have said, even if they do not answer your question, or what they say seems out of context – show that you've heard them and encourage them to say more about their answer
- give them simple choices – avoid creating complicated choices or options for them
- use other ways to communicate – such as rephrasing questions because they cannot answer in the way they used to

The Alzheimer’s Society has lots of information that can help, including details on the progression of dementia and communicating.

*From the National Alliance of Mental Illness*



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# 5 REASONS WHY YOU SHOULD LEARN TO QUILT

by Polly Flippo



## Grow Your Creativity

If you want to expand your creativity, making quilts is a great way to do so. I have only been quilting for about six years and I find the entire process from choosing fabric, deciding on a pattern, cutting the fabric, sewing the pieces together and quilting the finished product very relaxing and at the same time innovative.

## Home Decorating

When you learn to quilt, you will be learning skills that will enable you to make many things for your home such as wall hangings, pillow shams, and table runners in addition to quilts. The variety of things you can make for your home are endless and you can personalize each project.

## Make Gifts

Everyone loves to get home made gifts for special occasions like birthdays, weddings, welcoming a new baby in the family, the holidays etc.

## Donate to Charities – Help Others

If you're interested in helping others, donating quilts you have made is a great way to do so. Many organizations are looking for quilts for their clients and residents. You don't need to be an expert at making quilts to donate to a charity or cause. You can start with easy to make quilts of any size, such as crib or lap quilts and work up to full size quilts.

## Start Your Own Quilt Collection

Each quilt from the simplest to most intricate pattern is a work of art and it is fun and fulfilling to grow your own collection.

Quilts look hard to make, but just take it step by step. As you tackle the steps of piecing a quilt top, before you know it, you will master the skills needed to make an entire quilt. You don't have to have sewn before to make quilts. The first step is just learning to sew a straight line. Start with a small size quilt and then as your skill level improves, you can work on bigger size quilts. With a little practice and patience, you'll be able to make any size and any design you want!

There are a variety of resources available if you want to learn to quilt: in person classes at local quilt shops; on-line classes; books and magazines and other quilters, of

which there are several very talented quilters living in Plantation Oaks. POSH (Plantation Oaks Stitchers and Hookers) is a great place to start.

## **JUST FOR FUN**

My goal for 2020 was to lose 20 pounds...only 25 to go.

Ate salad for dinner...mostly croutons and tomatoes...really just one big, round crouton covered with tomato sauce...and cheese. Okay, FINE, it was a pizza...I ate a pizza!

I don't mean to brag, but I finished my 14-days of diet food in 3 hours and 20 minutes.

A recent study has found women who carry a little extra weight live longer than men who mention it.

I may not be that funny, or athletic, or good looking, or smart, or talented...I forgot where I was going with this.

I just did a week's worth of cardio after walking into a spider web.

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# THE OAKS ROCK PAINTERS

By JoAnn Larkin



The rockers received bad news from Murex - we cannot have a rock garden. The reason given was that others will want to do something also. It doesn't seem to matter it could very well be beneficial to the community and can be more than one idea. We will continue leaving painted rocks throughout the community. If you find one, keep or move the rock to another location. Many people do not know that they are to be taken so please spread the word. A large number of rocks were taken over to the Bulow Plantation Ruins State Park and placed throughout the park. Many children had happy faces finding rocks with bunnies and other Easter themes. My daughter-in-law, Kristen, was visiting and after meeting Tina, from our group, and seeing a few of her rocks, she could not get over how we all became so excited just looking at the Bunny rocks. I have to admit we do go a little wacky at times painting and showing our rocks. I told my daughter-in-law this happens all the time. Who could have guessed a painted rock could give such joy. There is a thank you card we received from the rehab center in Bunnell for the painted rocks we sent. A big thanks goes out to Peggy Jordan, one of our rockers, who generously organizes photos and makes copies of colorful pictures of painted rocks giving us new ideas for our rock painting. We also received a large donation of paints and many helpful items for rock painting from Phyllis Pennington and Carol Hanley. Thanks so much. We have plenty of room to welcome anyone who would like to come by on Saturday, 10:00 AM to see what we are all about.



# WANDERING WEDNESDAY!

Nick and Toni Burnett



Last month we finished at Christmas, FL. The next week we had a home improvement project, but we didn't skip the donuts! It was our first trip to Delicias of Portugal Bakery in Palm Coast. If you haven't been there, it is truly worth the trip. So many good choices. It was so good we repeated the visit the next Wednesday before we went to the River to Sea Preserve on A1A. This is a nice place to walk and not real long, until you cross over to the seaside. There we found beautiful beaches with large smooth stones. It was quite different from what we had seen before. This is a beach we hope to come back to in warmer weather. It is intriguing. We stopped at Bing's Landing and watched the boats go in and out as we dined at Captain's BBQ, another of our favorites.



January 2021, we started at Anastasia State Park near St. Augustine. We had heard so much about this place and it didn't disappoint. Huge sand dunes between the parking and the beach limit the access, but it is still a pretty easy walk. We left the beach side and crossed over into the park where we found Ancient Dunes Trail. This walk was one we really enjoyed, and we even found a little painted "love" rock that made us wonder if we had just missed Tina Jeffe or the other rock warriors from PO.

Did I mention that Swillerbees Donuts was on the way? YUM! And we ate at the Golden Lion on the way home. The next week we started at Swillerbees and traveled with our dog, Finn, to the beaches and parks along A1A. We started at Varn Park, next to Jungle Hut (an equestrian beach), then to Old Salt Park, and Bay Drive Park. These all stretch together and each is lovely in its own right. It made us realize how different each beach along



the coast can be.

The next week we had a commitment in St. Augustine. We didn't let that stop us from returning to Portugal for our pastry treats! We had lunch at Columbia and toured the area with friends before returning.

Another home project day followed, so a quick run to Swillerbees to soothe our frustrations from no traveling. The following week was complicated with routine medical visits but didn't prevent another trip to Swillerbees. Do you see a pattern? So many good-looking treats we had to pace ourselves.

The next week was a real Wandering Wednesday! We traveled to Greenville, GA. just outside of Atlanta, where we traded horse trailers. We picked up Cinnabons on the way and discovered Buc-ee's too on our way up, lunch and then dinner there on the return. We were hooked!

We hope you are enjoying our trips and we have encouraged you to try an adventure and certainly some DONUTS.



**Dawkins Jeff & Laura**, 28 Tobias  
From Orange City, FL. with dog ,Hey.



**Etherington, Lisa**, 43 Winthrop  
Banker from Hidden Lakes. Most recently lived with Mother, Joy Paine in Plantation Oaks



**Frazier, Stephany & John Taylor**,  
7 Winthrop - From Pleasant Valley, NY.



**Holdsworth, Bill & Phyllis**, 20 Ashbury  
From Sparta, NJ. Both enjoy Golf



**Schafer, James & Rose**, 24 Winthrop  
From Jim Thorpe, PA. Pool players



**Vivlamore, John & Kathryn**, 72 Claremount  
From Dunnellon, FL. With their dog, Dolly. Has Son in Palm Coast



Here it is time to count noses again and share who our new friends and neighbors are. I had to pull a couple of pics off the display board at the Post Office. Actually, not one of these new residents is wanted by the US government but they are all wanted, like all of us are, by the Residents Association to step up and join one or more of the committees or activity opportunities here in the hood. It's fun, challenging and offers you a chance to put your old skills to work or learn new ones while you meet and make new friends.



**Behanick, Dan & Judy**, 31 Winthrop  
Moved from Binghamton, NY. They are thrilled to be part of our community.

## MAY BIRTHDAYS:

2-May Rita Mollica  
3-May Joann Cline  
4-May Rita VanPelt  
4-May Tom Lee  
5-May Susan Clerico  
6-May Marlene Gilman  
7-May Nicolas Andreacchio  
7-May Stephen Seltzer  
7-May Fred Way Lainhart  
8-May Stanley Masscotte  
8-May Diane Pires  
9-May Tina Jeffe  
9-May Ray Neeb  
14-May Mary Francis  
15-May Janis Bresland  
16-May Tom Kavan  
18-May Pam Connolly  
19-May Bob Avery  
19-May Renae See  
19-May Barbara Jacobs  
20-May Barbara Ceresa  
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23-May Lori Parker  
24-May Carole Bertotti  
24-May Carol Green  
25-May Katherine Bennett  
26-May Toni Burnett  
27-May Lynn Lauterbach  
28-May Bob Luz  
28 May Susan McLane- Maxwell  
29-May Glenn Woodall  
29 May Jean Newell  
30 May Janet Epperson  
31-May Gail Nelson



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## YES, WE HAVE NO TOMATOES

*By Joe Cortese*



I enjoy reading the “POP” and one of my favorite columns is Garden Club Dirt. I like reading about gardening because although I’m reasonably skilled in some areas, growing things does not make the list. I tried for twenty years to grow tomatoes and failed. I tried mulching, per-fertilized soil, heritage tomatoes, hi-bred tomatoes, upside down planting, in ground, in pots, and even bought plants with green tomatoes already on them but I have yet to eat a single tomato that I have grown. If I had been a farmer, I would have been two or three steps below Oliver Wendell Douglas on Green Acres. Judy (Garden Club Dirt, author) told us that March’s “favorite plant” was the Crown of Thorns which is a plant that I am familiar with. At our house in Miami, we had two large cement pots on the front porch in which I tried (and failed) to grow anything for years until I discovered the Crown of Thorns. I had had lunch on

Miami Beach one day and when leaving the restaurant/bar noticed a cement pot with a pretty, red flowered, thorny plant. What really caught my eye was the trash, cigarette butts, gum and left-over drink containers that had been dumped into that pot and yet the plant was thriving. I knew immediately that it was the perfect plant for me.

The next day I went to a nursery and purchased two Crown of Thorns and to really increase the odds had one of my nephews plant them for me. For more that fifteen years I have never fertilized, watered or changed the soil in those pots, and I am proud to say that those plants, in those pots, now reside in front of our Plantation Oaks house where I routinely ignore them. The Crown of Thorns plant is so well named because like the Savior's love they are indestructible.

In closing I have to report that I have had more luck gardening here at the Oaks than anyplace else I have ever lived. I now have a small herb garden with some basil, parsley, oregano, mint, sweet/hot peppers, rosemary and a few ornamentals but I'm not gonna push my luck, "NO TOMATOES"!!



## FEDERATION OF MANUFACTURED HOMEOWNERS (FMO)

*By James Pursley, Plantation Oaks FMO Rep*



"There's gold in them thar hills." Well in Florida we don't exactly have hills, maybe the ant hill I saw on the way to Publix the other day. Manufactured home communities around Volusia County have been selling for prices that would make you would think old

**J.R. Ewing** himself struck oil on some of the park's land. What I'm talking about is some major corporations have been buying some of the existing parks for astronomical prices. Who knows why? I'm not talking about a Bogo on coffee at Publix, I'm talking about hundreds of millions of dollars. I'm talking about more than **J.R. Ewing** spent on bourbon on Dallas. If you have not noticed by now, I was a big "**Dallas**" fan. Most of us retirees are on a fixed income. I have seen this thing about minimum wage going to \$15.00 per hour. The thing I must have missed is how much is Social Security going up. At our age we remember when we

first started working, I made \$1.00 an hour cleaning new houses, and saving for Friday night to go to Shoney's. Enough reminiscing, we have bigger fish to fry. The way I see it is we have two options, try to get a loan from **J. R's** kids, or join FMO, (Federation of Manufactured Homeowners of Florida). Joining the FMO would be a lot easier and cheaper. FMO just cost \$25.00 per year or \$65.00 for 3 years. For the FMO membership you get a lobbyist in Tallahassee to keep up with any and all legislation that pertains to Manufactured Homes. That's just a start. You get so much more, FMO has been in existence since 1962 protecting the rights of Manufactured Homeowners. Needless to say, this is a "No Brainer" for what you get for the price. As we go into these times of the "Big Boys" and I'm not talking about a Shoney's hamburger. (If you notice there's a theme we have going here, you guessed it, high life of my past, Shoney's and Dallas). With these corporations buying these parks, more than ever we need FMO. You are the FMO, if we don't have memberships, we don't have an FMO, and I don't think anyone of us want to take on these companies. Easy to join:

- (1) Email me, James Pursley, Plantation Oaks FMO Rep at [cbinvest@yahoo.com](mailto:cbinvest@yahoo.com) ; or text or call 386-986-9632.
- (2) Go online to [fmo.org](http://fmo.org). In the lower left-hand corner, under the blue bar (Member Area Login), click on "Not a member yet? Click here to join. Easy enough and you can use a credit card also.

Another benefit FMO membership offers, for \$35.00 per year you can obtain the Elite Cross-Country Premium Roadside Service. I personally have it. I shopped around, and it is cheaper than AAA and you get more benefits. I have used it and it was a very professional service. I highly recommend it.

In closing, we all want to protect the investment we made into our homes and have the lifestyle that we have with all the amenities these parks offer. Maybe we chose this way of living because of the price which includes all the amenities. FMO membership helps protect our investment. Take care and please be safe, until next time.



# GARDEN CLUB DIRT

By Judy Kelly



Your Garden Club has a big new plan for the community! A Garden of the Month distinction! Our first recipient is located at One Bidmont! The garden is mature and has a calming effect. It can be enjoyed all seasons as it has a variety of plant choices. Here are just a few: red fountain grass, snow on the mountain, azaleas, croton, aloe, and a very unusual Bismarck Palm. The change of texture and color is simply “eye candy” to a fellow gardener. Most of us know the area as “down back.”. Take time to go look and see what can be done with a very awkward space. Soon we will be getting into hot weather and hopefully we will be able to enjoy our gardening efforts so far. The geraniums by the front gate are putting on a real show. Soon the crape Myrtle trees will make a show of their own with several color choices and growing habits. If you know of a garden you would like to nominate for a monthly award, we would appreciate a heads up. Please join in the club meetings the last Saturday of the month, 10:00 AM to 12:00 o'clock at the clubhouse.

# THERE ARE ONLY NINE

Submitted by John Mercurio



This is a quiz for people who know everything! I found out in a hurry that I didn't. These are not trick questions. They are straight questions with straight answers...

1. Name the one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends.
2. What famous North American landmark is constantly moving backward.
3. Of all vegetables, only two can live to produce on their own for several or more growing seasons. All other vegetables must be replanted every year. What are the only two perennial vegetables?
4. What fruit has its seeds on the outside?
5. In many liquor stores, you can buy pear brandy, with a real pear inside the bottle. The pear is whole and ripe, and the bottle is genuine; it hasn't been cut in any way. How did the pear get inside the bottle?

6. Only three words in standard English begin with the letters 'dw' and they are all common words. Name two of them.
7. There are 14 punctuation marks in English grammar. Can you name at least half of them?
8. Name the only vegetable or fruit that is never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form except fresh.
9. Name 6 or more things that you can wear on your feet beginning with the letter 'S.'

Answers on Page 18

## Beauty Tips

By Terry Johnson



The red nail polish you were wearing was gorgeous, but when you remove it to try a new color, you find that your nails are left with a yellow tint. What can help: squirt non-gel toothpaste onto a nailbrush and scrub nails. The paste's detergent will nix the discoloration as you scrub away.



Whose business is it, if I choose to read, or play on the computer until 4 AM or sleep until noon? I will dance with myself to those wonderful tunes of the 50, 60 & 70's, and if I, at the same time, wish to weep over a lost love, I will.

# SOCIAL COMMITTEE

By Terry Johnson,  
Social Committee Chairperson



We managed to have an Easter golf cart parade even though the weather kept most people away, but I want to thank those who did participate.

The St. John's River Boat Tour on April 9 was a huge success with both trips fully booked. The day was perfect and all who went enjoyed the scenery with birds, alligators and manatee. Our Captain was very informative on the history of the river and plant life. We are planning a second trip to be announced so keep a lookout on email and bulletin board.

A second activities day is scheduled on April 27 from 6 to 7:30 PM. Instructors will be on hand for questions and instructions. Bring your own refreshments for this outdoor event.

May 6 we will be heading to the Washington Oaks Gardens State Park for a day of exploring these beautiful gardens. Cost is \$5.00 per car and we will meet at the clubhouse at 9:30 AM to carpool.

May 14 we will be starting our outdoor dance party in the parking lot in front of the clubhouse starting at 6 PM. Bring your own snacks and drink and chair.

May 20th will be a ladies' lunch at Tortugas restaurant at 12 noon. The limit is 20 ladies and a sign-up sheet will be on the bulletin board until the end of April.

We would like to have a Memorial Day cookout on May 31 starting at 4PM till 6 PM but would have to know how many people will attend. The cost is yet to be determined and you must sign up at the clubhouse on the bulletin board. We will need a number in order to purchase the food. Activities will be available to play. Social Committee meets the 1st Monday of each month at 1PM in the clubhouse. We welcomed new members.



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# WHERE THE FLOWERS GROW

by Tom Bailey



I once was in the place,  
Where the flowers grow,  
The Light was there,  
He walked with me,  
The One that all should know.

We walked among His gardens,  
He liked to hear me pray,  
I thought, my God is wonderful,  
So this is where I'll stay.

The peace was overwhelming,  
The air was crisp and clean,  
My thoughts were pure, the sky was clear,  
And no one there was mean.

He gave me all the freedom,  
More than one would ever need,  
With all this love and kindness,  
There's no reason here for greed.

One day I went some distance,  
Away from all this glee,  
I saw some others having fun,  
And they invited me.



It looked to be quite harmless,  
What they were passing 'round,  
I looked but saw, no rules were here,  
And soon they had me bound.

At first it seemed that it was safe,  
It made me feel quite free,  
Then they brought me to a different place,  
Where no one else could see.

What they gave me I don't know,  
My spirit seemed to cry,  
I said "Where are the flowers?"  
But no one heard me sigh.

My God, My God don't come to me,  
Even though I'm in a jam.  
I'm so ashamed and lowly,  
You'd hate me for who I am.

For I've become the sin you say,  
That takes men's souls to death.  
I'll probably not see your face,  
At least, until my death.



I live today and dread the next,  
Thinking, that Me you will surely find.  
Living like the filth I always loathed,  
Leaving the flowers behind.

What was I thinking, I don't know,  
The step was very small,  
I looked away from the garden,  
That's when I started to fall.

My tears were in deep sorrow,  
No one heard my cry of dread.  
A joyless life was soon to end,  
As I lay there in my bed.

There came a stillness to my soul,  
I could not understand.  
My choice had moved me from my Lord,  
But still I felt His hand.

Then they burst into my room,  
His love shining in their eyes.  
He told us to come after you,  
He knows about your lies.

He told us where to find you,  
And said for you to rise,  
Out of the filth and smell of death,  
And look into the skies.

He said He always loved you,  
No matter what you've done.  
You don't need to win the fight for life,  
That's already been won.

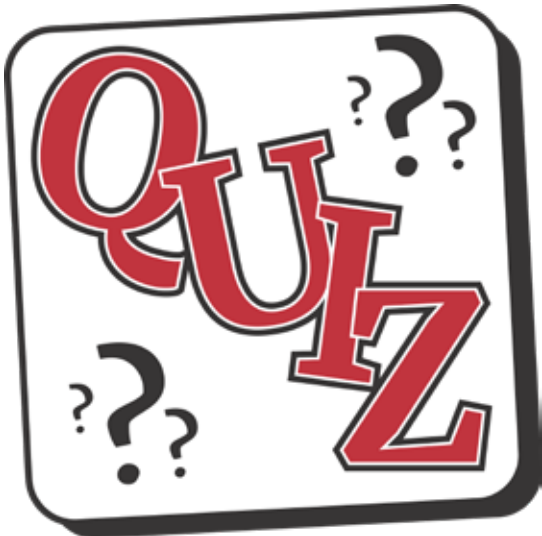
You see we went the same way,  
That you have fallen for.  
Our sins hung like filthy rags,  
But he opened up the door.



So let us leave this retched place,  
He's waiting there you see.  
By the flowers in the garden,  
He keeps for you and me.

# ANSWERS TO QUIZ FROM PAGE 14

1. The one sport in which neither the spectators nor the participants know the score or the leader until the contest ends: Boxing.
2. North American landmark constantly moving backward: Niagara Falls ... The rim is worn down about two and a half feet each year because of the millions of gallons of water that rush over it every minute
3. Only two vegetables that can live to produce on their own for several growing seasons: Asparagus and rhubarb.
4. The fruit with its seeds on the outside: Strawberry.
5. How did the pear get inside the brandy bottle? It grew inside the bottle. The bottles are placed over pear buds when they are small and are wired in place on the tree. The bottle is left in place for the entire growing season. When the pears are ripe, they are snipped off at the stems.
6. Three English words beginning with dw: Dwarf, dwell and dwindle...
7. Fourteen punctuation marks in English grammar: Period, comma, colon, semicolon, dash, hyphen, apostrophe, question mark, exclamation point, quotation mark, brackets, parenthesis, braces, and ellipses.
8. The only vegetable or fruit never sold frozen, canned, processed, cooked, or in any other form but fresh: Lettuce.
9. Six or more things you can wear on your feet beginning with 'S': Shoes, socks, sandals, sneakers, slippers, skis, skates, snowshoes, stockings, stilts



## NILE VIRUS-TYPE C?

Virologists have identified a new Nile Virus-Type C.

It appears to target those who were born before 1950.

There has been no Vaccine developed for this as yet.

The Symptoms are:

1. Causes you to send the same email message twice.
2. Causes you to send a blank message.
3. Causes you to send a message to the wrong person.
4. Causes you to send it back to the person who sent it to you.
5. Causes you to forget to attach the attachment.
6. Causes you to hit SEND before you've finished.
7. Causes you to hit DELETE instead of SEND.
8. Causes you to SEND when you should DELETE.

It is called the C-NILE virus.

And if you can't admit to doing the above, you've obviously caught the mutated strain - the D-NILE virus.

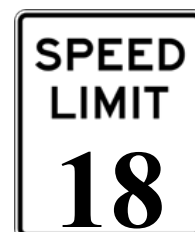
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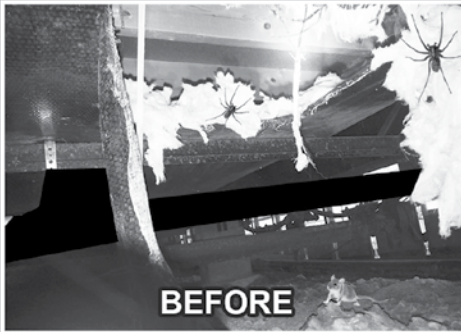


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