

The POP

April 2021

Plantation Oaks Press



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THE ART OF LIFE

By Joe Cortese



I have recently begun helping two of my neighbors learn the art of stained glass. There are many occupational hazards in stained glass art so in the first lesson I always ask a student “are you scared of getting cut, burned or having rough hands”, if so, this may not be your cup of tea. When sculpting glass, you must

cut and grind glass (and it often cuts back) and work with hot metal (ouch) but then again isn't there inherent risk in just about everything. It occurred to me that art imitates life or life imitates art because the lessons are the same. **Lesson 1. “No risk No reward”.**

So, accepting the risk we move to the beginning, it's a very good place to start. You start with a plan of what you want to make. You can draw, purchase or download a detailed, scaled pattern of the finished piece. If you don't have a plan you won't have a good outcome! I often color the pattern to see if it flows but what I'm really looking for is, can I make the breaks. Every type of glass has different breaking characteristics and there are certain things (rules) that must be followed, or you will not succeed. The same is true of life. **Lesson 2. “Make a plan, follow the rules to achieve a harmonious outcome”.**

Having a plan in hand we now proceed to make the glass fit the pattern. The most common method requires cutting glass with a hand glass cutter but that is a misnomer, let me explain. A glass cutting tool does not cut glass, it fractures the glass and then you break it. Sometimes the glass breaks on the fracture line and sometimes not. **Lesson 3. “Be careful when making a fracture because with glass (or life) most things cannot be unbroken”.**

We now come to my least favorite lesson in stained glass work, patience. This is a commodity that I was not abundantly blessed with, but I have learned through trial and mostly error that “you cannot rush”. Step by step you make a pattern, break and grind the glass, join the



pieces together with lead or foil and then pray that it all fits close enough to solder. Stained glass work is an arduous process and like the Aesop fable, “The Tortoise and the Hare”, the tortoise always wins, and the hare usually ends up in urgent care. **Lesson 4. “Patience is a virtue”.**

And so, we come to the last and most important lesson which I learned from Sir Isaac Newton, the consideration of gravity. Glass is heavy, lead and solder are soft, a sure recipe for disaster. A stained-glass piece of any size must have a structured system of support engineered into the work. It can be accomplished by framing, hidden wires in the solder joints, metal strips or any combination. Fail to do this in the beginning and age and gravity will tear your work apart. Stained glass art is complex but nothing when compared to a life lived as a work of art. **Lesson 5. In the beginning build structure and support into all of your works and they will fight the ravages of age and gravity.**

EASTER FUN FACTS

Submitted by Betty Vandermyn



What is Easter Sunday? Easter is the most important holiday on the Christian calendar and has been regularly observed from the earliest days of the church. Easter Sunday celebrates Christ's resurrection from the dead following crucifixion. It marks the end of Holy Week, the

end of Lent, and the last day of the Holy Triduum (Holy Thursday, Good Friday, and Easter Sunday) as well as the beginning of the Easter season of the liturgical year. Christ's resurrection represents the triumph of good over evil, sin, death, and the physical body.

When is Easter Sunday? Easter is a “movable feast” and is always on a Sunday between March 22nd - April 25th. Easter typically falls on the first Sunday after the first full moon on or after the spring equinox. For simplicity, the equinox is considered to be March 21st, a fixed day set by the church. However, in astronomy, it is not always that day because ancient calculations made in AD 325 did not take into account certain lunar motions. It may differ from the actual full moon date by a day or so.

What folklore is associated with Easter? Eggs

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traditionally forbidden during Lent symbolize new life. However irrespective of denomination, there are many Easter time roots that can be traced to non-Christian or non-religious celebrations. Examples include Easter Eggs, and related games such as egg decorating, egg-rolling and Easter egg hunts. It is believed that eggs represented fertility and birth in certain pagan traditions that pre-date Christianity. Egg decorating may have begun as part of the Easter celebration in a nod to the religious significance of Easter i.e., Christ's resurrection or rebirth. Many people, mostly children, participate in Easter "egg hunts" and the traditional Easter "egg roll" which has been celebrated at the White House since 1878. President Rutherford B. Hayes created the annual White House "egg-roll" which is still held today.

Who is the Easter Bunny? The exact origins of the Easter Bunny tradition are unknown although some historians believe it arrived in America with German immigrants in the 1700's. The Easter Bunny recalls the hare, the Egyptian symbol of fertility. Rabbits are known as enthusiastic procreators so the arrival of baby bunnies in springtime meadows became associated with birth and renewal. According to European folklore, a rabbit was said to leave a basket filled with colored eggs for children and when settlers immigrated to America, they brought the story with them. Today those baskets are not only filled with colored eggs but also chocolate eggs, chocolate bunnies, Peeps, and of course jellybeans. William Schrafft invented the jellybean back in the 1800's with the original goal to send them overseas to soldiers. He probably had no idea that they would one day become synonymous with "Easter Candy."



And what is the official flower of Easter? Well, that would be the white lily as they represent grace and purity. In fact, they are commonly known as the Easter Lily.



HE SAID WHAT?

By Carol Pursley



I remember the first time I heard "that word". It's a word I never thought about or expected to hear it said about me! When I heard it for the first time in reference about me, it left me speechless! I lost my breath. I sat there stunned! I sat there on the end of a medical table looking at this

young, handsome, dark hair doctor, thinking, 'Someday you will hear "that word" too!' I knew he didn't know how "that word" affected me. He had no idea how he had just affected my life. The doctor who was treating my broken wrist had just spoken reality in my life.

I had just recently had a fun trip with a bunch of ladies in south Florida. We were having a fabulous time when I stumbled on an uneven sidewalk and fell flat on my face. I ended up with lots of bruises and a broken wrist. Having a cast was no fun and very annoying but I enjoyed the colored cast. Hot pink was my favorite. After weeks of this annoying hot pink cast, I was getting very sick of it. As I sat on the edge of the medical table, I was hoping to hear that I didn't have to wear the cast anymore. But it wasn't good news. I would have to have the cast for a few more weeks. I was shocked. My grandson had broken his arm and it healed so fast. When I told the doctor this, he said "that word"! It was the first time anyone had referenced "that word" about me. I was in my early sixties and feeling pretty good. I had survived a serious illness, just started a new relationship with my now husband, James, and was really happy and feeling young! And in one minute all it took was, "that word". I was facing reality. I wasn't young. I was old. I was over the hill. I was aged. I was mature. I was a senior. I was ancient. I was an old-timer. I was declining. I was no spring chicken. I was losing my venerability. I was vulnerable. I was on my last

leg. And there are a few more antonyms for "that word." As the doctor explained to me, "When you are "ELDERLY". ELDERLY!!!! Nobody had ever called me ELDERLY. When I heard the word "ELDERLY"

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I was shocked. I never saw myself elderly. I didn't feel elderly. But he's the doctor and I realized he was right. I was elderly. It was hard to accept. I didn't feel elderly. It took me quite a while to accept it. My idea of being elderly was all the old people I see eating at early bird specials, shopping at stores on senior discount days. Sharing pictures of their grandchildren. Things like that. And then I realized I went to early bird specials and I was a grandmother. And there were other things I noticed that old people do that I was doing too. So, it was official. I was elderly. And then I realized, elderly wasn't so bad. It was a new chapter in my life. Well, its eight years later and I have accepted that I'm in the category of elderly by the world's standard! But I don't feel elderly, well maybe I do physically. Well, no maybes about it, I do feel elderly physically. But mentally, I definitely do not feel elderly. And that is the good part of me being elderly! My mind still thinks I'm a young woman! So that's good! Or is it? I clean the whole house, (maybe just a room or two) dust, scrub, vacuum and the next day I can't move. My mind said, "I can do it" and my body said, "you shouldn't have done that." I go to a dance and dance the night away (maybe a few dances) and the next morning I can't get out of bed! I go shopping all day (maybe just Publix) and the next day I can't walk. So, for me the reality of elderly is now real and defined. But I will go on thinking I'm still young right along with all my other friends who think they are young too!

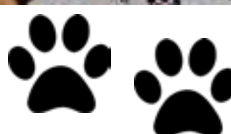
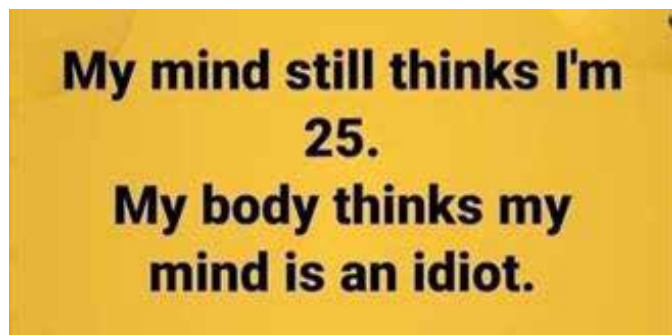


PAWS & CLAWS

By Donna Copeland

Dear Dad and Mom,

Well, you are home from your vacation and if you're reading this letter from us, hope you had a great time. We sure did—NOT... We missed you bunches. And these people you left to watch us, well they came here a lot and let us out a lot but they made us walk and walk and walk and walk... We have walked on so many streets we thought we were lost and would never get home. One time it even got dark while we were walking. SCARY.... We did get to go on some cool golf cart rides too. They were fun. We tried going to their house, but Christy started howling like a wolf, so we left in case she tried to eat us! Then Rosie came to play but we told her very loudly to go home. Back to that real cool walking stuff. I was able to search for lots of those lizards - there are so many in everyone's yard. Squirrels everywhere too. A couple of them came right up to the porch, but the people chased them away! (Spoil sports). I fixed the lady one day she came in and I was hiding and when I didn't come out she was scared that I was dead. HAHHAHA!!! I was hiding in the pillows. She never saw me. She told me I was like ET. Who's that? One night Cutie came and stayed overnight with us and that was fun. We ate all the treats we could find. Hope you have more hidden somewhere. We really missed you, but it wasn't that bad. We sure are glad you are back. Love and kisses, Bentley and Lulu



JUST FOR FUN

In a Veterinarian's waiting room:
"Be back in 5 minutes. Sit! Stay!"

On a Fence:
"Salesmen welcome!
Dog food is expensive!"

On a Septic Tank Truck:
Yesterday's Meals on Wheels

On a Plumber's truck:
"We repair what your husband fixed."

On another Plumber's truck:
"Don't sleep with a drip. Call your plumber."

At a Towing company:
"We don't charge an arm and a leg. We want tows."

On an Electrician's truck:
"Let us remove your shorts."

And don't forget the sign at a
CHICAGO RADIATOR SHOP:
"Best place in town to take a leak."

in getting an appointment.

This was not the case early last month when so many of us were trying desperately to get an appointment for our COVID-19 vaccine. There were many, many early mornings of trying to log on to the Publix or the Flagler County Health Department sites to get an appointment only to find out a few minutes after their site opened all slots were filled or the phone lines that were constantly busy or went unanswered. We signed up through the state site for any county close by and we followed every lead, such as the Flagler Pharmacy, CVS, Winn-Dixie and others that may be getting vaccines. With all these efforts, few were successful and many of us were frustrated and discouraged. And then our "Covid Angel" flew in and said, "I think I have figured this out and I have been able to get appointments for others so let me do this for you." This Angel was willing to get up at 5:30 AM to be waiting on the Publix website as soon as it opened to help others. She was successful in getting appointments for me, my husband, my friends and others that needed her. My Angel is Betty Vandermyn. Betty recruited two other volunteers, Mary Ann Rabuazzo and Malcolm Fraser who gladly gave their early mornings and expertise to help others. This trio of Angels managed to get vaccine appointments in Flagler, Volusia and St. John's Counties for many of our forever grateful and relieved residents. THANK YOU, Betty, MaryAnn and Malcom, for stepping in to help us when we needed you the most!

HEROES - OUR VACCINE ANGELS

by Dana Matlock



April brings greater promise of the availability of Covid-19 vaccine shots for those who wish to get them. If you don't mind traveling to St. Augustine, I suggest you call 904-295-3711 where a real live person will answer the phone. If it is busy, hang up and call back. They are available 7 days a week, 8AM to

5PM and will assist you in scheduling your appointment – no pushing buttons forever just to get the opportunity to leave a message. If you wish to stay in Flagler County, call 866-201-1541(automated number) or go online to myvaccine.fl.gov and follow prompts. Whichever way you decide to go, I am confident you will be successful



Thank You!

SOCIAL COMMITTEE

By Terry Johnson, Social Committee Chairperson



The social committee had a quiet month of February. We managed to have a Mardi Gras celebration despite the cold weather. There was a golf cart parade with New Orleans music sponsored by Tom Bailey and decorated cookies for our treat. We all dressed for the occasion and had a fun time. In March we visited the Jacksonville Zoo and a good time had by all.

St. John's river boat tour is April 9th. The cost is \$20 per person which needs to be paid upon reservation + \$2.60 tax to be paid at the site. There are only 2 times available for that day either 10am or 1pm. I have the boat reserved for Plantation Oaks on that day. They limit to 10 people per time slot so make those reservations ASAP by calling 800-248-2474.

We will have an Easter golf cart parade on April 3rd meeting at the clubhouse at 4pm. So, decorate your golf cart/bike and gals put on your Easter bonnets.

Trip to Washington Oaks Gardens State Park scheduled for May 6th more info to follow keep checking your email and clubhouse bulletin board.

Next meeting April 5th 1pm at the clubhouse. New members always welcomed.

TIPS FOR INTERIOR DESIGN IN YOUR HOME

By Carollee Eppinger



We ALL like our homes to look their best without spending a lot of \$\$\$\$ to get the look. Here are a few easy tips to achieve this. My experience comes from my past business; Royal Treatment by Carollee, where I specialized in window treatments and other custom products, such as custom decorative pillows, chair upholstery, cushions etc. My daughter is an interior designer in Philadelphia, so some of my customers were also hers. I trained in the fabrication of window treatments in New York and took design classes at Temple University.

Paint, this is always a hard decision but don't be afraid of it. Grey in all sorts of shades is very popular and it has taken the place of beige. Please don't use beige! If you are scared of real color, consider one wall that really pops.

Mine is a dark blue which shows off my three village pictures. A great way to make your decisions is to pick an area rug, art, pillows or other colorful pieces, perhaps upholstery, and make this your palette. Remember you can always repaint if it turns out you hate it. If you are working with your whole house, because you just moved in, use the palette you are working from, and emphasize a different part of the same colors in other rooms. This can be accomplished with accessories, painting and soft fabrics, like throws, pillows or curtains. The effect of a whole house coordination is making the home cohesive, and it may feel larger and more effective in design.

Window treatments are my next tips. You can make windows look taller or wider by installing the curtain rods above or beyond the window. The effect is the ceiling looks higher or your window looks wider. If you are using drapery, that you want to open and close, consider increasing the fullness with extra panels. When draperies are fabricated, I multiply the width of the window times two and a half for fullness. This gives a custom look to your drapery. Another tip, if you are using valances for a few windows you can give them the look of fabric shades by adding ribbon or fabric ties with buttons or bows that pick up your color scheme.



A few shopping tips for art, draperies, and other home décor,

is that these items can often be found at great prices at TJ Max (both stores in Palm Coast and in Ormond at the Tomoka Town Center), and at Bealls Outlet and Home Goods. There are many online companies such as Wayfair, Amazon, Etsy and Overstock. I bought a great set of floral valances and panels from Wayfair and then added red banding to the sides and top of the panels and to the hem on the valances. I have a matching summer area rug that can be used to change my whole living room with the summer season.

Next month, I will talk about how to make faux French doors for your sliding glass door and a cement checkerboard for your lanai floor. Any questions call me at 386-872-2692.

WELCOME NEW RESIDENTS

By Bob Matlock



The Resident Sales Teams did an outstanding job recently with 9 closings, plus one rental that includes 16 new residents! The biggest challenge for the Welcome Committee is getting an appointment with those new folks because, if they aren't on the road, or at their previous home moving out, they are here moving in and have paint, flooring, remodeling contractors in the bathroom or kitchen and the last person they want to see is me with my camera expecting them to look pretty for their picture that will appear (in this POP) and will be their introduction to their new friends and neighbors. Are you kidding me? (So unfortunately, we could not get pictures of all.) Please join me in extending a hearty welcome to all!!



Akins, Russell & Kathleen, 15 Julip Ln
From Lumberton, N.J., with dog Liani.



Avery, Ken & Shirley, 131 Habersham Dr
Moving here from Flagler Beach.
From the Syracuse, N.Y. area.

Berry, Rob & Kelly, 15 Morington Ln
From Harrisburg, PA



Cerney, Benny & Carol, 32 Ashbury Ln
Moving from Albert Lee, MN with their Springer Spaniel puppy, Daisy May



Duncan, Mike & Martha, 23 Beaumont Ln
From Palm Coast, Tennessee - John Deere



Focht, Jack & Ella, 8 Winthrop Ln
From Hamilton, N.J., with dog Millie
Welcome back to Plantation Oaks.



Clerico, Susan,
27 Beaumont Ln
From Bordentown, N.J. with dog
Aug. Coast Guard, Ice Breakers,
South Pole



Gosson, Louis
6 Chatsworth Ln
From Palm Coast. Welcome Back
to Plantation Oaks



Lassiter, Sally,
134 Habersham Dr
From Pompano Beach, FL. Has
daughter in Flagler Beach.



Mather, Nancy,
38 Ashbury Ln
From Port Orange. Nurse Practitioner
at Halifax, has 2 dogs: Rocket Man
& Roseanne



Mary Wells & Leslie Wells (Daughter)
16 Morington Ln
From Daytona Beach with puppy Abby

WANT TO GET AWAY

by Tom Bailey



Nestled along the St. Johns river about 40 miles away from Plantation Oaks and about a 50-minute drive on state road 100, is a charming small town of Palatka. You don't need to use the interstate to get there, just go north to 100 and stay on it until you reach Palatka. Pay attention going through Bunnell. You will need to make two right turns and take the overpass to stay on 100, just follow the signs and you will have no trouble. You will pass through several farming communities and merge right with U.S. Hwy 17 at San Mateo, then north to Palatka.

San Mateo is a small unincorporated community that is more of a pass-through community, but there are a few places to stop off for some local honey, as you will find in many small towns in Florida. Note that in buying honey there is a difference in color – light to dark. This has nothing to do with quality. The lighter honey is generally sweeter while the darker honey has more of a distinct taste. Temperature control; seasonal changes (wet or dry seasons); type of flower; and minerals present add to the color variance. Try the different types, my favorite is Tupelo.

Onward we go to Palatka, just a few miles away now. You will pass two really good restaurants: Corky Belle's at Gator Landing and Musselwhite's Seafood Grill.

Corky Belle's is on the St. Johns river. You can sit inside for air-conditioned dining or outside on the deck overlooking the river. This is one of my favorite places to eat. Good food; good service; excellent view but it gets a little crowded on weekends.

Musselwhite's is not on the river but makes up for it with a great menu; very friendly service; great food and decent prices. Check both of these places out online before going. You will then cross over the St. Johns river on the Memorial Bridge which connects East Palatka to West Palatka, where the downtown section is. The population of Palatka is about 10,500 and approximately 72,000 in the general area.

On the West side as soon as you cross the bridge, and back to the south a short distance is Ravine Gardens State Park. Full of Azaleas this time of year, this park is indeed a



hidden treasure. Rustic with a form of primitive beauty that can be appreciated by those who enjoy a small adventure. There is some walking, but you don't need to go very far to find a quiet place that may bring back memories of places you have been to in days gone by. Take a moment to reflect on the simple things like the bloom of a flower that burst forth at it's time to both serve the plant's purpose for reproduction as well as bringing the beauty of God's creation into our lives. You will walk down paths worn by the visitors who are careful to not stray into the delicate panorama that allows us to become a part of this masterpiece of nature.

No doubt you will find other areas close by like Rodman Campground; Crystal Cove; as well as within the city: Angels Diner; Historic buildings; and the numerous wall murals throughout the city. In fact, you just might a couple of days to take it all in. Have fun.



A CHILD'S VIEW OF RETIREMENT

Submitted by Phyllis Cox



After a Christmas break, a teacher asked her young pupils how they spent their holidays. One small boy wrote the following:

We always used to spend Christmas with Grandpa and Grandma. They used to live here in a big brick home,

but Grandpa got retarded and they moved to Florida. Now they live in a place with a lot of retarded. They live in little tin boxes. They ride on three-wheeled tricycles and they all wear name tags because they don't know who they are.

They go to a big building called a "wrecked" hall; but if it was wrecked, they got it fixed cause it's all right now. They play games and do exercises there but they don't do them very good.

There is a swimming pool there. They go into it and just stand there with their hats on. I guess they don't know how to swim.

As you go into their park, there is a doll house with a little man sitting in it. He watches all day so they can't get out without him seeing them. When they can sneak out, they go to the beach and pick up shells that they think are dollars.

My Grandma used to bake cookies and stuff, but I guess she forgot how. Nobody cooks; they just eat, but they eat the same thing every night, "early birds."

Some of the people are so retarded that they don't know how to cook at all. So, my Grandma and Grandpa bring food into the wrecked hall and they call it "potluck."

My Grandma says my Grandpa worked all his life and earned his retardment. I wish they would move back up here, but I guess the little man in the doll house won't let them out.



DOG PARK

By Muriel Fallon



Do we have a Dog Park?

In January 2017 over 85 residents signed a petition requesting the owners of Plantation Oaks to build a Dog Park. After some research on-line, I did a site visit to the Dog Park in Palm Coast, off Florida Park Drive in Holland Park to see what was involved. Their Park was really lovely, and even had a lake so the dogs could "dog-paddle" around it. The Park certainly serves the needs for the size of their community.

Our Park is much smaller and can be accessed by using a narrow path on the west side of the tennis courts. It then opens up to a small road that meanders north to the Park. It was built following guidelines recommended by the American Kennel Club (AKC). The Park is in a shady area with separate "playgrounds" designated for large and small separately. The double-gated entry is designed to prevent dogs from inadvertently getting loose. There are benches both inside and outside the play



area. The Small Dog Park and Large Dog Park are indicated by colorful signs along with the Dog Park rules. Dog owners must be responsible for their dogs and their behavior. Owners must also clean up after their dogs. The last time I looked there were dispensers but no plastic bags for your use. So, please bring your own. Now as our weather is getting nicer, take your dog for a walk down the path and check it out.

Yes, we do have a Dog Park.



CERT REPORT

By George Byrne



Hello Plantation Oaks,
Good news we had our first meeting in almost one year. On February 19th seven of us met at the clubhouse. Our last meeting was on March 13th, 2020. We discussed Old and New business,

conducted a radio check, discussed what's happening in the county and planned our next meeting. Now that we can get back together your CERT will resume monthly limited meetings on the third Fridays of the month. All are usually welcome, but, because of Covid, space is limited, so only members for now.

More good news! Our after-disaster services were not needed this past year. That means that our supplies do not need to be replaced. Your CERT remains ready to serve the community. However, we have lost some members this past year, so I encourage residents to consider joining our CERT team, especially those new to Plantation Oaks. I have included training information that can, for the most part, be done from home.

Also attached is information on advance training being offered by the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). Some training sessions are offered to CERT members only, but, many are available to anyone interested. Contact the EOC for details.

Those of you interested in joining our team please feel free to contact me for details. I am excited about the upcoming training and look forward to a great 2021 serving our residents. This is your CERT and your help is needed to keep it going. As always; stay safe,
George Byrne, Team Leader

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Disaster Volunteer Training Series – Additional Trainings - Subject to Change!

- Disaster Medical Hands On Workshop – March 18, 2021
- Active Assailant – April 15, 2021
- Shelter Training – May 20, 2021
- Hurricane Preparedness – June 17, 2021
- Call Center – July 15, 2021
- Radio Communications during Emergencies – August 19, 2021
- Disaster Psychological First Aid – September 16, 2021



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FEDERATION OF MANUFACTURED HOMEOWNERS

By James Pursley, Plantation Oaks FMO Rep

As Spring is in the air, something hit me. How fortunate we are here in Plantation Oaks to have all the wonderful volunteers we have. I can't even start to name everyone by name, (I am bad at names) that do so much here. I just got to thinking about what different things we have going on here from the POP, thanking the P.O.P. staff giving our neighborhood a great newsletter. Then we have all the different functions, when we can have them at the Clubhouse. We have a great HOA Board, library, water aerobics, golf cart parades, and different card games, garden club, the kitchen staff volunteers, (they are the best cooks around). I know I've missed other events (hey, I'm old, let's say mature, sounds better). We all miss the many different events we had before the virus, but we all need to stay safe and not push it, but hopefully in the near future we can start to have all the fun things we had before.



CERT Training Information

CERT ADVANCED TRAINING

The CERT Advanced Training will be held on Saturday, April 10, 2021. Register to attend at: <https://www.needsconnector.com/CERTAdvancedTraining>

This is an advanced training for CERT members who have completed the CERT Basic Training in the past and want to practice their skills. Details on location and plans for the day will be provided following registration. You will be able to practice Search & Rescue, Fire Suppression, Medical, Leadership and other vital CERT skills during the exercise. There will also be a workshop on Radio Communications in conjunction with the training.

Please bring your CERT gear with you and keep your safety in mind by wearing a mask as well as appropriate clothing and shoes.



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WANDERING WENDESAYS

By Nick and Toni Burnett

Another thing we are very fortunate to have, that the virus did not take away, is the FMO. The Federation of Manufactured Homeowners of Florida. The sad part is that if we don't support our FMO it can be taken away from us. The FMO helps protect us from "The Deep Pockets", of the park owners. The FMO is an organization in the state of Florida that monitors and advocates for the rights and interests of manufactured homeowners living on leased land. We would not have all these activities and committees and have a community that is fun and stable to live in and also protects our investment that we have put into our homes, if it wasn't for the help of the FMO. If there was no FMO to protect Florida Statue, Chapter 723. (To get your copy of FS 723 go to Google and type in "FS 723". If you do not have computer access just give me a call and I will make sure you receive a copy. Without FMO, Residents could fall under FS 83, The Landlord and Tenant Act.

- 1) There would be no support for HOAs
 - 2) There would be no power to negotiate with park owners
 - 3) You could be evicted with a 7-day notice
 - 4) Rents could go up with a 30-day notice every 60 days.
- This is just a part of what the FMO does and can do for us homeowners.

To join contact me at cbinvest@yahoo.com or call or text 386-986-9632 - James Pursley or go to FMO online 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. You can use a credit card. Dues are \$25.00 for 1 year or \$65.00 for 3 years. Also, with the membership you can obtain the Elite Cross Country Premium Roadside Service for \$35.00 per year. I personally subscribe, have used its services and I am very satisfied, your usage does not go against your auto insurance policy. Next month I will share with you a personal story about my satisfied experience with the Cross-Country Roadside Service. Everyone please be safe, join FMO, or renew your current membership. If I can assist you in the process of *The FMO Experience*, please feel free to contact me. Until next time.



Florida has so many things to see and do! When we moved to Plantation Oaks 5 years ago, we thought we'd get out and see the sights, but we just never seemed to find/make the time. This year we decided we had to have a plan.

The plan was to make Wednesday our travel day, Wandering Wednesday. We could have a destination, or we could just roam, just get out and see the area. The first trip was to see the city of Gainesville. We started on the trek through Palatka and midway we found a terrible hankering for a donut. This began our favorite part of the journey and each week we seek the best donuts in the area!

We found Gainesville so interesting. We saw the historic district, the campus, and a city park, then after lunch at "Angel's Diner" in Palatka (FL's oldest diner) we visited Shell Bluff and Faver-Dikes parks in Flagler



County. Shell Bluff is a small, quiet park with a nice boat launch and Faver-Dikes is so nearby we think it is a well-kept secret.

The next week we traveled to Jacksonville to meet Toni's high school friends for lunch. We mainly learned about Fleming Island and the beautiful homes and area there. We ate at Avondale in a quaint sidewalk café and the food was delicious.

The next week was complicated with other commitments, but we didn't let that stop us. When we got free, we made a short trip to Washington Oaks where we hiked and toured the formal gardens. We even saw dolphins playing in the Matanzas River. A beautiful day in a really beautiful park. This is an easy "Must See" place if you ask us. Donuts from Publix.

Veteran's Day fell on a Wednesday when Toni's relatives were in town. After donuts and the crossword puzzle, we showed them around Princess Place and the beach areas. We had lunch at The Golden Lion with all the other vets. We managed a second trip that week when we went to Apopka Nature Preserve with my cousins. Another "Must See" trip. So many Florida birds and reptiles as

well as native plants, and it's FREE! We slipped in a trip to Disney World with friends that covered a Wednesday and Thursday, so we skipped donuts that day! We were impressed how well they enforced social distancing and mask wearing.



The next 2 weeks we grabbed donuts, but we had home projects that interrupted our travels.

We traveled next to Tomoka State Park, which is close and has such interesting ruins. If you're interested in local history this is the spot for you. The week before Christmas we trekked off to, of course,

Christmas, Florida. A small jewel, where the historic fort was closed due to COVID, but we still found the old home sites there quite educational and well worth the trip. Dunkin Donuts today. Do you have suggestions for our next adventure?



DEPRESSION GLASS

By Doreen Armstrong



Depression era glassware is a very important part of the history of the Depression era. The Great Depression started with the stock market crash of 1929 and ran through the 1940s near the end of WW2. "Depression glass got its name because it was the glass that was made during that time period." They were machine-made glassware that was distributed free, or at low cost in the USA and Canada. The colors were yellow, amber, blue, green, or pink. They used colored glass because it was much cheaper than clear alternative glass. With 100 different patterns recorded for depression glass, most don't have any markings. If you think you have some or are planning to invest in rare items, I recommend the "Collectors

Encyclopedia of Depression Glass" by Gene & Cathy Florence or Kovels for patterns and pricing. With so many colors and patterns I would say pick one or two colors and patterns. Then set out to find your treasures in antique stores or flea markets. Even online searching and researching through Ebay or Etsy is a great way to find them. But I'm kind of old-fashioned, I still like to hold it in my hands to examine it. Some of the more popular patterns are Cameo, Mayfair, American Sweetheart, Princess and Royal Lace. As always, I would say, pick a color and do some research, look for damage or flaws, and buy what you like. Flaws are to be expected, bubbles, straw marks, molding flaws, inclusion, color discrepancies. Also check for "clouded" glass also known as "sick" glass, that can't be restored. To distinguish depression glass from reproduction pieces, look for small bubbles in the glassware, or lines on the base of each piece. The thinner the better and the more pieces are thicker with raised seams.

Depression glass was mass produced by machine by many manufactures. Hazel Atlas, Hocking Glass Co, Federal Glass Co, Indiana Glass Co, Jeanette Glassware, and so many more. In recent years markets have been flooded with cheap Asian reproductions. If you are willing to pay a premium price for "real" depression glass, please buy through a reputable dealer.

So, with all that said, whether you want to build a depression glass collection pick the color and pattern, do your search, mix and matching can be fun too. A fun fact: most green-colored depression glass pieces have trace amounts of uranium, which makes the glass glow under black lights.

INTERNET TERMINOLOGY

By Jim Nichols



Getting connected to and navigating the internet starts with learning the terminology associated. The following terms and descriptions will give you a start on the basics:

Browser: A program that allows you to access websites. The browser displays the internet for you. Your computer

likely comes with a default internet browser, like Microsoft Edge on a Windows computer, or Safari on a Mac computer. Other popular browsers include Mozilla

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You can type a web address into the browser's address bar, or search using the built-in search bar (often these are combined into one box).

Domain name: How the internet identifies web addresses. Examples of domains include: ourpora.org, google.com, webmd.com. Depending on their category, domains have certain endings like .com, .net, .org, .gov, or .edu.

http: Hyper Text Transfer Protocol, or the set of rules used to allow electronic devices to communicate with each other over the internet. Often, you'll see a prefix on a website, like http:// or https://. This helps your browser find the website; however, you don't have to type in this prefix, your browser will automatically put it in.

https: Hyper Text Transfer Protocol combines http with a security protocol to authenticate browsers and ensure your browser communicates securely with the web server. This is especially important when shopping online or banking online. Be sure to check for that "s" whenever you are on a website that requires personal or financial information.

Hyperlink: Links are what connect pieces of the internet together. A hyperlink can appear in the form of text or an image, and when you click on it, it will take you across the internet to a different page or website.

Search engine: Many browsers come equipped with a search engine, which helps you locate any kind of information you can think of, using keywords. Google, Yahoo and Bing are popular examples of search engines. Simply type your query or what you're looking for in the search bar, and it will find websites related to your search.

Web page: An individual document that you can view over the internet. A web page often includes text, images, and hyperlinks to other pages, videos or sites.

Website: A collection of web pages all under one domain name.

World Wide Web: The World Wide Web describes the network where many webpages live. You may see www. at the beginning of the web address, which lets your browser know the address you're looking for is on the World Wide Web. The web is one massive part of the internet, which includes additional private networks and data that lie outside of the web.

URL: The full, specific address for a web page. It may contain a path, directing you to a specific blog post, page, or file, like this: <http://www.ourpora.org>

Navigating the web

You will navigate or "surf" the web by clicking on one hyperlink after another. You can always navigate backwards using the back button at the top of your browser or type in the same search query again to find a page you visited earlier.

If you want to open multiple URLs at the same time and easily click back and forth between them, you can open several tabs in your browser. Click the plus icon next to your open tab (as seen below) to open a new tab. Many hyperlinks will open in a new tab automatically.

The domain name for the Plantation Oaks Residents Association is ourpora.org and it is hosted on the World Wide Web. To add our community site to your browser's "Favorites" or "Bookmarks" in Google Chrome and Microsoft Edge, you can simply click the star in the address bar.

THE OAKS ROCK PAINTERS

By JoAnn Larkin

The rockers were busy this month painting. We gave Anne Frazier RN, who works at the nursing home in Bunnell, a bag of painted rocks for the residents and staff. Anne reported the staff was excited and after receiving them they plan to place them around the grounds. Great job rockers. Joanne Bailey and I had



rocks posted on Facebook after they were found. One was not found where it was placed, they often are hidden again and can travel quite a distance. It's always a great feeling when your rock is posted. I received a call from



Claudia Zoeller telling me her husband Ed, who I often talk with in the pool, agreed to be my Valentine after receiving a heart rock. I was puzzled and ask her to send a picture of the rock. She did and I told Claudia it wasn't my rock but

ask if she thought Ed would still be my Valentine and she said he would. There are benefits to anonymity. Tina Jeffe is a group member who has become an amazing rock painter. While talking with her husband Jack, at water aerobics, he mentioned how nice it was that

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people were calling Tina to thank her for the rocks that she had left at their home. Using rock painting to uplift others is one of our goals and the perks of smiles and gratitude is not so shabby either. I have also discussed the possibility of having a Kindness Rock Garden somewhere on the grounds with Community Manager Donna, and I have sent her photos of different models of rock gardens. Donna is very open to the idea and is sending the pictures to upper management for consideration. Having a rock garden would give people the opportunity to pick a rock that gives them a lift, give one to a friend who needs cheering and also place a rock to help the garden grow. It can be a place to visit when grand and great grandchildren come. Anyone interested please visit the group. There are many ways to paint rocks. Some of the most inspirational rocks have one word painted on them. We meet at the Clubhouse on Saturdays, at 10 am. Stop by to see what we're all about.



GARDEN CLUB DIRT

By Judy Kelly



Do you still have pansies that you are keeping dead headed and fed regularly? Good for you! Some of the newer varieties are lots of fun to try. Each year I have a hard time deciding on which ones I like best. Hot weather will stop the performance, but there is always next year. Now is the season to relax

and just enjoy the hard work we have done. Dream about what to try next and catch up on what is happening on YouTube channels that have sparked your interest.

Wait for a cool day to do any chores outdoors. Study gardening books that appeal to your type of "growing". Notice I did not say anything specific. There is a big world out there to explore!

Have you considered growing some native plants? Many are really a joy to take care of. Some of our native plants are even called weeds in other areas. For example – golden rod, Mexican Sunflower, and milkweed. Wandering Jew, ferns and other spreading plants can be used as ground cover, but you need to remember that a lot of these plants are invasive, so you need to be prepared to cut back, pull out or just forget about them. Study up on the varieties that appeal to you and how to take care of them. I believe that we should not make more work than we can handle.

As you wander around the area keep track of what, and how certain plants are very desirable and some not so much. Consider grasses – they come in all sizes – very tall, medium height, small and even tiny. There are many for you to consider whether it be for color, texture, growth habit or even good to eat (lemon grass). The choices are endless. With a little investigation you will find what you want, what you need and where it and you will be happy. The choice is up to you.

To end on a positive note, I tried nasturtium seeds in pots this year with great success. They kind of spill out of the pot with very bright colors. So much fun to watch and they hold up quite well in a vase. Please join us on the last Saturday of the month and tell us about your successes.

BEAUTY TIPS

By Terry Johnson

Easy hack to clean makeup brushes. Squeeze a few drops of liquid dish soap onto a rubber glove, then gently run the brush's wet bristles over the glove's grooves-the friction dislodges the built-up product and bacteria stuck within the bristles. Rinse under warm water until water runs clean.



APRIL BIRTHDAYS:

1-Apr. Michael Smith
 2-Apr Joe Cortese
 2-Apr Gina Stokes
 4-Apr Lynn Cemen
 4-Apr David Easter
 5-Apr Nina Raneri
 6-Apr Sharon Mayes
 6-Apr Ed Reese
 6-Apr Gerri Remondi
 9-Apr Patty Watkins
 10-Apr Debra Clack
 10-Apr Millie Plishka
 13-Apr Marci Adrion
 13-Apr Sue Dymnioski
 14-Apr Ann Meek
 14-Apr Carol Marchetti
 14-Apr Susan Hawksby
 14-Apr David Hinton
 14-Apr Norma Watson
 15-Apr Phyllis Cox
 17-Apr Edna Welch
 18-Apr Michael Ledrich
 20-Apr Hugh Logan
 20-Apr Ruth Scardino
 21-Apr Connie Gray
 21-Apr Sue Proper
 22-Apr Marty Whiting
 22-Apr Teresanne Johnson
 24-Apr Glenda Cortese
 24-Apr Lee Harper
 25-Apr Irma Reed-Castellanos
 25-Apr Kathy Gallagher
 25-Apr Kevin Gallagher
 25-Apr Jake Morton
 25-Apr Keith Mowling
 25-Apr Judy Ward
 26-Apr Butch Laforge
 26-Apr Phyllis Yarina
 28-Apr Russell Patnaude
 28-Apr Don Abel
 28-Apr Mike Amodio
 29-Apr Rosemary Carrigan-Merry
 30-Apr Carol Abel
 30-Apr Pamela Summers

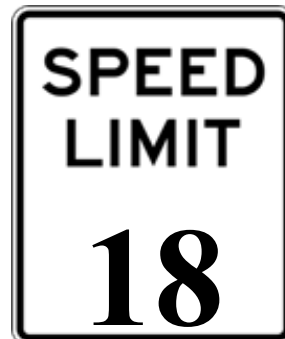


APRIL ANNIVERSARIES

3-Apr Nancy & Steven Cronin
 4-Apr Marty & Ellen Fiasconaro
 4-Apr Tony & Betty Cuccovia
 6-Apr Phillip & Dianne Hageman
 7-Apr Joe & Flora Catalano
 9-Apr Ed and Claudia Zoller
 15-Apr Pete & Lucy Case
 15-Apr Don & Claire Hamel
 18-Apr Ann & Jerry Meek
 20-Apr Chuck & Lynn Allspach
 22-Apr Paul & May Goeller
 23-Apr Ray & Sue Proper
 25-Apr Jake & Marianne Morton
 26-Apr Steve & Betty Vandermyn
 27-Apr John & Peg Mercurio
 27-Apr Joe & Glenda Cortese



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