

AROUND THE PARK SNIPPETS

November 10, 2009

Naples Gardens Activities Web-page
www.10368.com/KK2000.htm

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Warm Florida greetings to all returning "Snowbirds" and new, first time at Naples Gardens, guests. Our 2009 – 2010 season began November 1st with a number of folks already in the park.

It was decided at the Monday Morning meeting to start up Bingo this Tuesday 11/10 after the Pot Luck Dinner. This was not on the newly released November Calendar. Bingo is open to all and is a \$1.00 per card. All of the money collected for the cards is returned to the individual game winners.

The following other special activities have been scheduled for the next two weeks.

Nov 11 - Veterans Day Veterans Recognition 8:00 AM in the Rec Hall. All Veterans and family members of Veterans are invited to attend. Coffee and light refreshments will be served.

Nov 13 - Pool Side Get Together 4:00 PM at the pool. Bring Hors Devours to share. Bring your own beverage (adult beverages permitted) and bring your own chairs to enhance your personal comfort.

Nov 16 Burger Nite 5:00 PM in the Rec Hall.

Nov 19 Craft and Garage Sale 8:00 AM doors open at 7:00 AM for set-up.

Nov 20 Pete and Howie Show 7:00 PM in the Rec Hall. Pete returns to Naples Gardens with highly acclaimed musical and ventriloquist show.

I had an opportunity to exchange emails with Betty (Dale) Weddle (Site 443) who told me that Dale is not doing well. Betty spends everyday with Dale who needs assistance to eat. Betty said, she may be able to come down sometime this winter and if not this winter, maybe next winter. Continue to keep both Dale and Betty in your thoughts and prayers as they struggle through this difficult stage in their lives.

Jeanette (Tony) Bucci (Site 435) reports that Tony is doing very well, and are expected sometime around Wednesday.

Jack (Mary) Essling (Site 222) reports, "I am doing great and anticipate having treatments done in Naples starting mid Jan. Fatigue and aching muscles are my daily issues however, we

are continuing a rather normal life. Sr. fitness classes three times a week and numerous walks. Grand-kids keeping us active and very busy. We just got back from spending time at State Park finishing with a pint of German Marzean. Thanks to everyone for their prayers, cards and emails and I extend an invitation to each and everyone to send me their favorite jokes/cartoons. Doctor recommends laughing each and every day. God Bless."

Jack's email address is jaeirish@hotmail.com

I spoke with Jan Mascaliati (Site 210) last week who informed me that her sister, Nancy Mistrater (Site 210), is very ill and will not be here this season. She (Jan) also said that she and Karl (Tai Chi) Bateman are still together and may visit the park, but uncertain as to their length of stay.

Dot (Jim) Greenwood (Site 519) has nearly recovered from her recent surgery and is still on kidney home dialysis 6 days a week. She is a little short on stamina but otherwise in good spirits.

Ann (Tony) Gambardella (Site 101) is out and about and is still plagued with pesky blood clots which returned a few months after her major surgery in San Diego. Tony is her caregiver and is doing a great job.

I recently spoke with our Activities Director, Alice Puetz (pronounced "Pitts") (Site 455) who joined our staff last week. I was amazed how well she has adjusted to her new environment in such a short time. For those of you not at our first park meeting, Alice briefed us on her background and experience - a synopsis of which is shown below.

She was born and Raised in Tonica, Illinois, lived in Panama City, Florida for 18 years, has four children and soon to be a Grandma for the tenth time. Alice has always worked in the service and hospitality industry and has a degree in Culinary Management. She has worked in restaurants since she was 14 years old and had her own catering business. She joins us from Crystal Lake RV Resort in Lodi WI where she managed a Bar, Restaurant and Store. Some of her hobbies are swimming, baking, drinking coffee with her friends, volunteering for triathlons and working with children with special needs. My favorite is bragging about my kids and grandchildren!! Alice can be reached in the activities area or in the office, or at 608-434-5579 her cell number, or you can email her at alleysangels@yahoo.com

We began our 50-50 weekly raffle this week. We took in \$22, \$11 of which went to this week's winner, Dale Guiekma (Site 509). The balance, which was voted by the meeting attendees, went to the donation box in the office for a young boy who is waiting for a heart transplant. The boy is friends with the Lawrence family in the park.

Alice Puetz Activities Director will establish a wish list from which an item will be selected by majority vote at a future Monday meeting. Moneys collected from the raffle will be used to purchase the item selected. For those new to the park, the 50-50 tickets are \$1.00 each or 3 for \$2.00. The tickets are sold at the Hot Dog Lunch, Saturday Breakfast and other park functions. All drawings are conducted after the Monday morning meeting with 50% going to the selected winner and the balance to the selected purchase.

Sarah (Bob) Grosz (Site 113) sends along the following request; "If any of our Naples Gardens folks have items they would like to donate: clothes, small appliances, furniture, picture frames, art work, etc. You can leave these things at my porch #113 and I will deliver them to RENEW Thrift store where I volunteer weekly. The mission of the store is to feed the hungry and last year over 5,000 recipients were helped. There is a food pantry on the premises if you should know of anyone in need. thank you, Sarah"

Collier County Library www.colliergov.net/library The new library on Lely-Cultural Drive is now open and is hosting several very interesting programs. Marge Tunnell has posted a brochure on the bulletin board in the Rec Hall. You can also view the programs on the library web page. To see programs at the local (South Regional) library, go to the web site, select "adult programs" then select the "South Regional" library. Once you have selected the program(s) you wish to participate in, scroll back to the top of the page and select online registration. Scroll down the calendar until you get to the event and click on it. A registration form will appear. You must register separately for each person attending. Of special interest will be the Holiday Musical Performance by Take Four. Several of us have seen this performance in past years and highly recommend it. This web site also lists programs at all Collier County Libraries so I suggest you peruse all of the programs for interesting ones.

Naples Preserve Activity: The Naples Preserve is located at the corner of US Rt 41 and Fleischmann Blvd just south of the Coastland Center Mall. Every Tuesday at 11:00 am they are featuring a marine science presentation by Dr. Gary Pettit. It is a little scientific but a great way to learn about the marine life around our community. These talks are free. Registration is suggested but not mandatory. An excellent lunch is offered after the talk. The Preserve requests a \$3.00 donation for each meal.

On November 20th at 9:00am to noon. The Naples Preserve is hosting a behind the scenes tour of the newly opened Naples Botanical Garden. This tour requires registration. The fee for registration (to meet them at the Botanical Garden) is \$12.00. To make a registration, call the Preserve at 239 213 3020. Be sure to tell them you will provide your own transportation to the Botanical Garden. For further information on either the Library Programs or the Naples Preserve programs, feel free to contact Marge Tunnell, at Site 333.

We are currently having some difficulty with our WiFi and are trying to resolve the issues. Our WiFi system was primarily setup to facilitate email and limited web surfing. Downloading large files, use of various Internet Phone services such as Skype and Magic Jack requires a lot of bandwidth that not only diminishes the connection speed but results in sporadic service. There is a direct (Non-WiFi) Internet connection in the Rec Hall for use for the aforementioned activities.

I maintain a personal website in which resides a section is devoted to Naples Gardens seasonal activities. This section is supported by volunteers solely for the enjoyment of our park residents and friends. It has various links to area attractions as well as a Hurricane Tracking link. The website link is shown at the top left of the newsletter.

We are promoting recycling again this year and ask that all assist us in this regard. We have three small recycle containers that accept co-mingled non-aluminum cans, any type glass, and plastic bottles. It would be helpful if you would step on the large plastic bottles and containers to maximize container capacity. Check the recycle link on the above web-page or the Rec Hall Bulletin Board for additional recycle details.

We do request that if anyone plans to organize a out of the park activity on their own, that you first consult with Alice Puetz, our Activity Director, in order to avoid a conflict with an activity that may already be in the works for our park residents.

We will be taking pictures of our park residents once again this season. The pictures will then be placed on the Wallboard in the Rec Hall. Wallboard pictures are currently on the previously mentioned web-page under the Wallboard link.

Please keep the following people in your thoughts and prayers, as each deal with their individual family loss or medical concerns: Ann (Tony) Gambardella, Olive (Mom) Millspaugh, Dot (Jim) Greenwood, Connie Cook, Dale and Betty Weddle, Jack (Mary) Essling, Tony (Jeanette) Bucci, Nancy Mistrater, and all our troops in Iraq and Afghanistan.

Note: The direct line to the park office is 239.775.0323.