

RIVER RAMBLINGS

Hidden Acres Estates

Volume 2, Issue 2

February 2015

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Ramblings from our Editor

Wow, we are starting our fourth issue and the reception has been great. What started out as fun between the three of us has developed into an enjoyable task, plus a great friendship amongst us three. Thank you.

Well, the election is behind us and we had a good turnout for the Annual Meeting, results are listed in the following story. Thanks to all who ran and to those who worked what was a smooth election.

The three of us have been going around the neighborhood asking how couples met for this, our Valentine's Issue. The responses are in this issue, sorry if you didn't get asked, there is always next

year. Our reporter had such a great time talking with Ted and Edie, and with their 65th anniversary coming up, we decided to have a feature on them.

Lots of stuff to do in the Park, so check the Clubhouse and Porch articles. Come join us, we always have a great time.

We have also added a feature we'll include when possible, publishing a photo taken somewhere in the Park for you to figure out where it is. The answer will be in the following issue. Have fun.

Rambling on ...



Where in the Park is this?

Answer in next issue

We are sad to announce the passing of Dave Chapman, lot 82.

John Emory Maine, founder of Hidden Acres, has also recently passed.

Our condolences to their family and friends.

Election and Voting Results

Saturday, January 17th was the Annual Shareholder's Meeting. An information letter has also been sent to Shareholders.

Out of 163 eligible votes, 97 ballots were received. In order to pass a new by-law or change, 51% of the eligible votes must approve; for this voting period, that means a total of 83 votes.

By-Law Article II, section 2.02—Yes: 81, No: 16—Did not pass

By-Law Article II, section 2.04—Yes: 78, No: 18—Did not pass

Budget A (\$10 increase): 79
Budget B (\$12 increase): 16

The increase in budget begins in January; monthly maintenance is now \$120.00 per lot.

Four open seats for Directors:

Jim Rowland: 82
Brenda Warren: 78
Rip Ballard: 77
Ed Kindell: 50
Charlie Cox: 42

After the meeting, the new Board elected its new officers. Your 2015 Board of Directors:

Brenda Warren, President
Rip Ballard, Vice President
Steve Cline, Secretary
Ed Kindell, Treasurer
Greg Blankinship, Director
Richard Gerhart, Director
Jim Rowland, Director

Clubhouse News

Visit the Clubhouse for fun and socializing with your neighbors:

Mondays at 10am: Sewing club

Tuesdays at 9:30am: Bible Study

Potluck is Tuesday the 10th at 5pm

Fridays at 7pm: Bingo

There is also Rummikub, 1-4pm, on Tues, Thurs, and Sat. And Wed evenings at 7 is Canasta or Hand & Foot.



Suanne and John's love story began when a mutual friend set them up by inviting them to her home for a BBQ. John asked Suanne to go canoeing and a picnic lunch that next Saturday. She happened to have another date that same day with a boy she also admired at the BBQ and thought she could juggle to make both dates. However, the afternoon turned into the evening hours and Suanne never made it to the other date. John and Suanne were inseparable from then on and three short months later they were saying, "I do." That was 34 years, 5 kids, and 8 grandkids ago. Life is still an adventure!

Carl and Marlys first met in 1988 at the Downtown Bar in Homestead, FL. Marlys' girlfriend owned the bar and a friend of Carl's was the cook; they both decided that Carl and Marlys should meet. Their first date was going to the Sacred Heart Fair in Nov 1988. They purchased a house in 1990 and everyone asked when they were going to get married, to which Carl replied, "sometime in 1991." On Oct 19, 1991 Carl and Marlys wed and the napkins and matches had engraved on them "sometime in 1991."

Porch News

In January, Sammi cooked up a tasty Prime Rib and Vegetable soup. It was served along with grilled cheese for a great meal. Watch for the flyer for February's Soup & Sandwich, Feb 27th at 5:00pm.

The dinner and dance was a great success and a lot of fun (see article below). Due to circumstances, the Valentine's Dinner and Dance has been cancelled.

Had a good turnout on a cold morning for breakfast at the Porch. Patty, Sammi, Bev, and Jim put out a good, hearty breakfast.

The Porch will also have hors d'oeuvres Friday at 6:00pm, the 6th and 20th. Come on by, they will be playing cards after or head over for Bingo.

In 1991, Carl Chase placed a personal ad in the Penny Saver. Donna read it and called the paper to respond leaving her name, number, and age. Carl received many responses but he only called Donna. For their first date, they met at a restaurant for dinner. In 1992 Carl asked Donna's grandmother for her hand and they married Jan 1, 1993 which was also Carl's parents' 55th anniversary. Donna's grandmother asked Carl to shave his beard for the wedding—which he didn't do!

Luau at the Porch

Patty, Sammi, and Beverly outdid themselves again in decorating the Porch for the Luau. After the meeting, they went to work decorating and pre-



paring the food for the evening. Martie, Maryann, Ali, and Jim helped in the kitchen. Pork tenderloin, rice casserole, and salad followed by cake was on the menu and there were a lot of compliments and great comments on the food.

After everyone was fed and the dance floor opened, Homer spent

the evening entertaining us. As always, Homer was amazing and perfect to dance to. He is definitely a Park favorite and he'll be back in March so keep your calendars open!

The 50/50 raffle went to Pam who was also celebrating her birthday eve! John Meyer won the booby prize and Suanne promised to display the cute little pigs in their home.

Doug Ray met Sharon in his workplace. However, Sharon was engaged to another at the time. Regardless, they went on their first date to the drive-in to see a movie—Doug fell asleep. Five months later, in 1960, they were Mr. and Mrs. Ray. (The first night of their honeymoon, Doug smashed his thumb in the car door outside the motel—not good timing?)

Jane's father sold her to Steve Cline for 50 cents (Steve claims it was 25 cents). They were going together and stopped at her parent's house. Her father asked if she was doing Steve's laundry, she said of course not. He turned to Steve and said, give me 50 cents for her and she's all yours and will have to do your laundry.

In Dec 2001, MaryLou was visiting friends here at HAE when she met Tony. On their first date, Tony asked her to the New Year's Eve party. They had dinner at the old porch and the dance was at the clubhouse. They danced to karaoke and drank Floyd's homemade wine. Six months later, they were married in NY by the mayor of Schenectady. John Godfrey and Jack Pierce flew up and attended the wedding dressed in overalls, wide crazy ties, and white goulashes. The Cooks have John and Jack's photo in their wedding album.

A Look Back, Valentine's Special with the Dolans

In 1948, Ted Dolan attended his church in Glen Falls, NY. Edie was the secretary of the church. The Pastor, Edie, and others developed a Young Adult Fellowship Group. Ted and Edie met at this group and their love for each other was created.

In January 1950, Ted proposed and on March 4, 1950 they married. Next month they will celebrate 65 years of their devotion and marriage to each other. They have two sons and one daughter, ten grandchildren, and one great-grandchild.

After their two sons grew up

and moved on in the mid 1970s, Ted and Edie decided to become foster parents through their church and welfare program. They opened their home up to boys and girls ranging in age from 15 to 18 and at any given time had 3-6 foster children living with them. All the children called Ted and Edie "Mom and Dad", all of them went to college, and all of them graduated.

When asking Edie, "I can't imagine cooking for all of them," Edie responded, "I didn't—I taught them all how to cook." Ted remembers getting them ready for school

and said, "when the school bus came along, it was something!"

Several years later, and not too long ago, the Dolans had a knock at their door in NY at 8pm. They couldn't imagine who would be visiting them so late in the evening. Upon opening the door, one of their foster children named Ron was there. After Ron hugged them both, he said, "I just wanted you to know I made out well in my life thanks to you, Mom and Dad." Several of the children still keep in touch with them today. It is difficult to think what would have happened to these

welfare children had it not been for the guidance, support, and love of Edie and Ted.

Ted has been an Assistant Scout Master for the past 20 years; he originally joined the Boy Scouts in 1939. He was the High Adventure Scout Master involving hiking and camping for days at a time in the mountains, canoeing, and compass orientations for the troops. He worked for the telephone company for over 42 years and they bought in HAE in 1992. If more people were as loving and caring as Ted and Edie, the world may be a better place.

Rio Bravo!

151 N 36th St, Okeechobee
863-467-6655

I must admit that this is one of my favorite restaurants in Okeechobee. Authentic Mexican food, great prices and service. It's a place in a strip mall on 441N across from Cemetery Rd north of the high school, near the Moose Lodge. It's a little hard to see if you're not looking for it.

I always get the chili relleno,

our other intrepid reporters got the carne asada and a chicken burrito. Not a complaint from anyone. The Rio Bravo dessert plate was a great ending to the meal. The music was great, too.

They serve beer and wine and have 99 cent beer and wine margaritas on Mon and Wed all day, BOGO free drinks on Thurs, Fri, and Sat 6:00pm until close. They are closed on Tues.

Dave and Joan Elder met on a blind date in 1959 and were married right out of high school in 1960. They will be married 55 happy years in June. They have 5 children and 14 grandchildren.

Honey Roasted Chocolate Peanuts

1 24oz bar almond bark
(Plymouth Pantry Brand at Wal-Mart)

16oz Honey Roasted Peanuts

Melt almond bark according to package directions. Stir in peanuts. Drop by rounded tablespoon onto wax paper. Allow to set up. Keeps at room temp in container or plastic bag.

Fishing Report and Tournament Planning

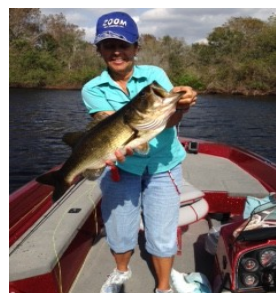
We are happy to write that the fish are biting! Rip reports that he has caught several bass. Dee and Joyce concur, as this picture is worth 1,000 words with Joyce's 5lb, 10oz bass caught on a fly rod. That must have been a fun time catchin'. Lance, ZZ, Brenda, and Jerry have found a secret fishing hole and they have caught bunches of catfish

using worms. Let us know if you have any fishing news!

Rip is inviting everyone to an organizational meeting on Saturday, February 7th, 7pm at the Clubhouse. Come by and help put together a great HAE Fishing Tournament!

Nice catch, Joyce!

Joyce and Charlie Cox met on the golf course.



We would like to welcome our newest Shareholders to the Park:

Ronnie and Nora Case have purchased lot 165.

Wayne and Shirley Hall have purchased lot 91.

We think they will be a great addition to the Park

Volunteer Spotlight

The appreciated volunteer of this month is Jim Rowland and he, among others, spends much of his time helping to improve our Park. As a previous newsletter reported, he helped with installing our HAE sign at the entrance. He also built a rain deflector roof on it. Jim helped to install the drain field for the Water Plant and trimmed all shrubs behind the Plant in preparation for installation of the back flow pipes. He worked hard on the porch renovations, screened the old office, and has replaced the cylinder seals for our tractor twice. There

have been several other issues with the tractor and so far, Jim has been able to repair them. The Park has only had to pay for parts to repair, thus Jim has saved us a lot of money due to his knowledge and hard work. Thank you, Jim, for all that you do for our community!

If anyone wishes to nominate someone for their efforts in helping improve our Park, please let your Newsletter Staff know.

Merle was at a company baseball game and saw this "vision" sitting there watching. He went to talk to her but she wouldn't talk to him. He finally got Jane's uncle to introduce them. They'll be celebrating 65 years in September.

Kay and Lee Badertscher met in their freshman year when a new high school was opened, combining their communities in Ohio. They were high school sweethearts and married after graduating.

In 1959, Judy O'Quinn lived in Hollywood, FL. Her best friend's sister arranged a blind date with a boy who was visiting from KY. His name was Rip Ballard. They went to the movies and then went to Royal Castle afterwards for burgers. From that night on, Judy knew she met the man for her and that she would marry him. Rip stayed in Hollywood and never returned to KY. Six months later, they married when Judy graduated from high school. This love story was 55 1/2 years ago—it's now 5 children, and 4 grandchildren later!

Barbara and John Godfrey met in 1961. Barbara's family had just moved to Toronto, her dad was in the military. It just so happened they lived across the hall from John's sister and John lived down the street. Barb and her sister would walk by John's house every day on their way to school. His nickname for Barbara was Chubby Ann as she weighed a mere 80 pounds, but most of that weight was the crinolines she wore under her skirt. They married in 1964 in Ontario and their relationship lasted 48 years. She lost John to cancer in 2009 but his memory lives on forever.

One evening in Miami, 1991, Sammi Cox was at the Swing Dance club with her girlfriend. Lance was there with his friend who was also in the Swing Dance Club. Sammi saw Lance and asked him to dance. He declined because he didn't know how to swing dance. Lance inquired about Sammi to his friend and later he asked her to slow dance. They dated for 6 months and then Lance moved in with her. They finally married in 2004, mainly due to the fact that Sammi's granddaughter, Tayla, told her, "marry Papa because it is the right thing to do!"

Around Town

Feb 6-14: [Highlands County Fair](#)

Feb 7-8: [Top of the Lake Art Fest](#) in Okeechobee

Feb 7: [Taste of Okeechobee](#)

Feb 13-14: [Roaring 20s Festival](#) in Sebring

Feb 26-Mar 3: Sebring Raceway's [Spring Vintage Classic](#)

Donna and Billy Pierce grew up in the same neighborhood, ran in the same group. She was one of the youngest, he was one of the oldest and the oldest were always picking on the youngest, dousing them with cow dung among other things. Well, years later, they ran into each other and the rest is history.

Feb 26, 28, Mar 3: [Battle of Okeechobee](#) Reenactment

Superbowl Party!

Sammi put on a great party. Jerry made a trashcan turkey and Greg and Jimmy cooked a couple pork butts. Along with everything else, there was a delicious cake for Sammi's birthday!

Did everyone enjoy the game? It was close! These people enjoyed the game ... the pool Winners:

1st Quarter: Dick G and Carl Justice; 2nd and 3rd Quarter: Sammi and Carol Derr; and final: Greg B and Martie Wiley. Congrats all!

A couple of us heard that Sharon Ray was starting to gather wood for an arc!

Ray Lennon was a sailor at a dance Lorraine was at. She loved sailors and loved dancing. She asked him to dance and he couldn't so he took her out for a drink. The rest is history. They have been married 55 years.

Your HAE Website and Office

Have you visited the HAE website recently? Dennis updates the front page with current flyers and news from the Park.

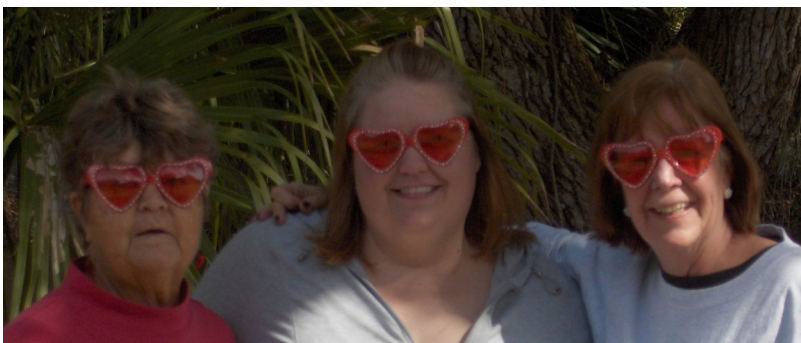
Dennis is constantly updating the sales page. Make sure to let the office know if you want to place your home for sale or if any information changes. If you have friends interested in the Park, send them to our website to check out what's available.

There are also times when people ask the Office for a referral. There is a table by the door in the office where you can find business cards and information. If you have a business or have used a service that you really liked and would refer to others, leave some information, business cards, or brochures in the office. If you have or need a service, chances are, someone else will as well.

Be Aware!

It's been brought to our attention that there are a couple scams going around featuring MicroSoft and the IRS. Remember, neither of these entities will call you. Always be wary of phone calls and e-mails asking for money and / or personal information. Spread the word if you come across any others.

Alan Whatley knew Susan Reel in school since age 14. They each graduated and went on with their separate lives for several years. Both ultimately divorced. Years later, Alan received a UPS package from a driver that he knew who was actually Susan's niece's husband. The driver stated that Susan lived only 2 blocks away, was single, and "to go see her." Alan went up to her door and the rest is history. They dated for 2 years and have now been



Jeanie Cole was dating a police officer, Joe. Joe's very best friend in the world was Sam Scales and they were inseparable. Sam often accompanied Jeanie & Joe to whatever they were doing in the beginning but they began to see less & less of him. Whenever Sam wasn't around, Jeanie constantly asked Joe "where's Sam?" Joe ended up getting a "Dear Joe" letter and Jeanie & Sam started dating afterwards. They married 10 months later and Joe ended up being Sam's Best Man at their wedding 26 years ago.

Happy Valentine's Day from your Ramblers!



Maryann found Peet on the internet. It was love at first sight!

**Roving Reporter,
Peet**

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!

WWW.HAEFL.COM

River Ramblings is a newsletter published by volunteers residing at Hidden Acres Estates in Fort Basinger, Florida. These volunteers are: Maryann Erson, Jeanie Scales, and Alison Smith. The opinions expressed are those of the authors and contributors and not necessarily those of HAE. Contents 2015 by River Ramblings. No portion may be duplicated without express permission of the editorial staff. The funding of this publication is totally by donation and no portion is derived from the general member funds or assessments.

If you would like to share something with your neighbors, feel free. Drop a note or send an e-mail to:

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