



Up The Creek



A Publication of Rice Creek Resort
10719 Rice Creek Dr, Riverview, FL 33578

MARCH 2023

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From the Editors

Rice Creek RV Resort Newsletter

Also available in color on-line at www.ontracnewsletters.net

Thank you to all the people who have contributed to this edition, as well as our managers, activities directors, and coordinators.

Please submit your ideas or articles in writing or by email with your name, address, and phone number.

Doug or Robin Vaughan, 11109 Peru Creek Dr.
(813) 503-6255 or (813) 217-1141
douglasmvaughan@gmail.com
or robinavaughan@gmail.com

Manager's corner

Bill & Lois Brimmer

By: Bill Brimmer

Here we are into the middle of February and the spa issues have not been resolved! I am ready to call MacDill AFB to see if they will do a strategic missile strike! Joking aside, we are still searching for answers on how this was constructed under the deck. Stay tuned!

The front wall is being painted in addition to new lights, and the island at the entrance is being reconfigured for better visibility. Our main building is also going to be repainted. A new pump for the lake was ordered and should have been here a few weeks ago! We are also looking to add additional mailboxes to the mail center.

Have a great summer and we will see you in October!

Activities Directors

Prudy and Dave Hodsdon

By: Prudy Hodsdon (603) 312-1461

Another busy month for Rice Creek! Bill D. Williams will be here the 3rd. For \$7 you get 3 hours of great music for listening and dancing.

Spring Fling is the 11th (with rain date the 18th – It wouldn't dare to rain again!). Charlie's Country Soul will perform for a sock hop starting at 7pm. A fun filled day and great music to end! Bobby socks, poodle skirts & rolled up T-shirts with cigarettes are optional but fun!

Omelet breakfast on the 18th will be \$7 and include toast. There will be a sign-up sheet for this in the hall.

Our annual picnic is going to be at Lithia Springs on the 25th. This is a lot closer and a pretty park. Again, there will be a sign-up sheet in the hall.

The card games, quilting, stitching, bowling, movies, pool, horseshoes, shuffleboard and line dancing are all ongoing – check the calendar for times and dates.



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By: Robin Vaughan

I know my memory is not what it used to be. I exercise, drink water, and play games on my phone that are supposed to help. Yet, I make a shopping list and forget to take it with me. Surely, I'll remember the 5 things on it. When I come home, I have 3 of the items and 3 others that weren't on the list. Or, how about going to a restaurant specifically because I have a coupon, take the coupon into the restaurant, then forget to use it when paying the bill. I'm sure it happens to everyone, and honestly, I just roll my eyes at myself. Howev-

er, there are four little words spoken by my spouse that really set me off: "I already told you." My fur stands on end and I'm immediately on the offensive! "You did not!" At least, I don't think he did. Did he tell me? Was I in the middle of doing something and distracted when this allegedly took place? Does he think he told me, and he didn't? I'm sure that must be it – I demand to know where, when and how he told me! Then I ask him, how much water he's had to drink.



BINGO

By: Paul Albert

Every Thursday nickel bingo begins at 6:00 pm. 25 nickels, 5 dimes and 6 quarters is all you need for this entertaining night. If you want, add a dollar for each 'jug' ticket. The 'jug' prize is becoming quite significant!

BULLETIN BOARD

At the back of the hall. Post notes on 3"x5" cards. Write date posted on card. This board will be checked and kept neat. The cards will be removed every two months. For more information see Prudy.

Friday Morning Meeting

Coffee and donuts at 7:45 a.m. Information meeting at 8:30 a.m. This is the place to find out what is happening in the park and any changes to scheduled events. All are encouraged to attend.



Driveway Sales

Are permitted the first Saturday every month. This month's will be on Saturday, March 4th.

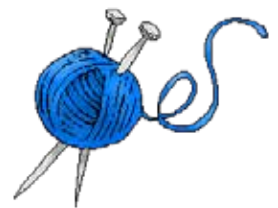


RICE CREEK STITCHERS

By: Linda Seese (480) 516-7333

This group has been meeting since the middle of November and we have had so much fun!! We've met our neighbors, learned from each other and shared our talents and accomplishments with each other. We've made a few group projects, with some great success and some not so successful! Laughed till our sides hurt! We'd sure love to have you join us!

So... could this group be for you? Are you interested in meeting wonderful neighbors? Like to Knit? Crochet? Quilt? Embroider? Craft? Want to learn how to do these things? Have talent you would like to share? Like to be with friendly, creative people?? Join us in the Craft Room, on Tuesday afternoons, from 2pm – 4pm. Looking forward to seeing you there!!



MUSIC

There are informal jam sessions at the pavilion on Tuesdays and Thursdays around 7pm. If you play an instrument, sing or just enjoy listening to music, please stop by.

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CHAPEL

By: Chapel Elder Vincent Donnell, Pastor

"MINDFUL MARCH"

Let this mind be in you, which was also in Christ Jesus (Philippians 2:5)



Mindset is a result of what your mind is filled with.

Where your mind goes, your life follows. Make your mind a disciple to the word of God and guard it with your heart. Finally, brethren, whatsoever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report, if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things (Philippians 4:8).

Join us in the hall for **Chapel Service every Sunday at 9:00am** Followed by fellowship coffee hour.



CARDS

If you like to play cards (or would like to learn), the following are options you might consider:

Euchre on Monday nights at 6:30pm in the craft room.

Hand, Foot and Elbow on Monday nights at 6:30pm in the Hall

Pinochle on Tuesday and Wednesday nights at 6:30pm in the craft room.

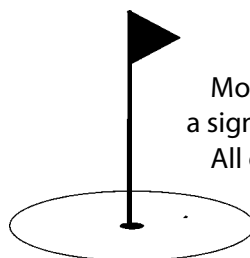
Calendar



Please remember the calendar in this issue was correct when submitted on the 15th of the month prior. Check for any updates in the hall, or better still, join us for free coffee on Friday mornings for the latest happenings!

Painting (Oil, Water or Acrylic)

Wednesday in the Craft Room
9:00 am - noon



GOLF

Monday and Wednesday mornings, there's a sign-up sheet in the hall. All golfers are welcome!



Don't forget to set your clocks AHEAD 1 hour on Sunday, March 12

LINE DANCING

Wednesday at 3:00pm in the hall.



STAINED GLASS

A new class has started on Thursday afternoons at 1:00pm in the ceramic/stained glass room to the left of the Maintenance Building on Karen Creek.



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To our valued customers;

Our top priority is the health and safety of our employees and of our customers. Our employees are closely following the Centers for Disease Control's (CDC) guidelines and recommendation, like frequent hand washing, social distancing, and staying home if they are feeling ill.

We have taken steps to limit exposure to the virus by making our customers aware that there is no need to have any contact with our employees if you choose to do so. Our business falls under the state's guidelines as "Essential Business".

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Horseshoes



ATTENTION ALL HORSESHOE PLAYERS! We will be pitching at 9:00 am everyday Monday thru Friday, with a tournament on Saturday. You do not have to have your own shoes to participate. Come have some fun!



Bowling

By: Nancy & Ron Ferdinandsen (586) 871-5333

ALL GOOD THINGS COME TO AN END :(

We have had such a great season of Bowling; we've had the most bowlers we have ever had. The laughing never stops, and we have great people who can be picked on and still keep laughing. The fellowship has been amazing!

A lot of the Snowbirds go home the end of March, so our last day of the season will be March 23rd.

Good news is we don't have to stop bowling. If we get at least 12 bowlers we will continue until you want to quit. I'm pretty sure The Alley will work with us.

It has been a PLEASURE being able to arrange the schedule each week!

A big shout out to RON for all his help, it would have been a lot harder without him.

Until next season. Have a great Summer and hurry back in the Fall!

Pool Tournament

There is a pool tournament every Wednesday at 6:30 pm.... and is open to all.



Yard Games

Bocce ball, ladder ball and corn hole games are available for your use and are located in the library.



Shuffleboard

Come join us on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday at 9:00 a.m. for a morning of shuffling!

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SPRING FLING 2023

THEME: **FABULOUS 1950'S**

DATE: ***Friday March 10th &
Saturday March 11th***

WHERE: - MAINLY "IN" AND "NEAR" THE HALL

Events:

Friday (EVENING)

- \$5.00 Euchre

Saturday (all day – starting at 7:15am)

- Free Donuts and coffee
- Photo Booth
- Opening ceremonies
- Games on the road
- Games in the Field
- Luncheon – hamburger, chips and a drink
- Shuffleboard Games
- Bingo
- Awards session in the Hall
- Sock Hop Dance in Evening



WHO IS WELCOME - All Rice Creekers with a Spirit of Adventure and a Sense of Humor!

Cart decorating and costumes are optional. Keep in mind there will be wonderful prizes for both categories!

FABULOUS 1950'S

**SPRING FLING 2023 MARCH 10th & 11th
SCHEDULE**

SCHEDULE IS TENTATIVE.

TIME	EVENT	LEADER
FRIDAY MARCH 10th		
6:30 p.m.	Euchre	Phyllis K
SATURDAY MARCH 11th		
7:15 – 8:45 a.m.	Coffee and donuts Photo booth	
8:45 – 9:15 a.m.	Opening Ceremonies	Mitch A. & Floyd A.
9:15 – 10:30 a.m.	Road games – on Don Creek (Begin when opening ceremonies are done)	Sharon B.
10:30 – 10:45 a.m.	Balloon toss	Cathy A.
10:45 – 11:30 a.m.	Field games – field behind horseshoe pit and pavilion	Norm B.
11:30 a.m. - 12:45 p.m.	Hamburger luncheon – pavilion area Porch Band plays at luncheon	Floyd A. Bruce A.
12:45 – 2:00 p.m.	Games on shuffleboard courts	Dave H
1:30 – 3:30 p.m.	Bingo in the hall	Paul A.
3:30 – 4:15 p.m.	Awards ceremony and jail money draws	Norm and Sharon B
4:15 – 7:00. P.m.	Rest up for Sock Hop	
7:00 – 10:00 p.m.	Dance – Sock Hop 50/50 draw	Norm and Sharon

MARCH

March is traditionally thought of as the beginning of spring. When we think of spring, we think of rebirth, rejuvenation, renewal and regrowth. Everything turns green and the flowers bloom. Or, if you live in Florida, it's the dry season, and everything turns brown and crispy. The month was named after the Roman god of war, which I think is very appropriate given the tumultuous weather that kicks off in March! The days lengthen and sun gets warmer. However, the arctic cold fronts are not done with us yet, hence the very real threats of severe thunderstorms and tornadoes! I found a remedy for muddy footprints on your carpets from spring rains: sprinkle the carpet with salt to dry out the mud before vacuuming.

Important dates to know in March: the first full moon is on March 7 and is known as the Worm Moon because of the earthworms that come out when the soil warms up. Daylight Savings Time begins on March 12. St. Patrick's Day is March 17. The first day of spring is March 20.

Some not so important dates in March: March 11 is International Fanny Pack Day; March 13 is National Earmuff Day and March 31 is World Backup Day.

I know this goes without saying, however, I encourage you to celebrate National Earmuff Day in a safe and sober manner!

STORMY WEATHER IS ON THE WAY!

As you prepare to close your winter home for the summer, please take a moment to look at your home and surrounding lot. The rainy season in Florida kicks off in late June or early July. One day, a thunderstorm shows up in the afternoon, and then its game on, every day, until late August. Some of these thunderstorms are really scary. Tornadoes are not uncommon. Check your gutters and downspouts to make sure they are secured. Check decorative shutters to make sure they are secured. Place outdoor items such as garden tools, decorations, folding chairs, ashtrays, etc. in your home or shed. If you have awnings over your windows, close them. Check your landscaping and remove dead or broken limbs. In general, secure anything that could become a missile in windy conditions.

Some Local And Not So Local Happenings

3/2 – 3/12 STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL – Plant City

All things strawberry, together with rides and top name entertainment. <https://flstrawberryfestival.com/>

3/3 – 3/5 FIRESTONE GRAND PRIX - Downtown St. Petersburg

Three-day 19th annual event! <https://www.gpstpete.com/>

3/3 TAMPA BAY BOAT SHOW – Tampa

Area boat dealers/manufacturers, and the latest in boating and fishing supplies.

<https://floridastatefair.com/event/tampa-bay-boat-show/all/>

'3/4 CRACKER COWBOY DAY – Dade City

Live entertainment and all things cowboy, with demonstrations, music and food. <https://pioneerfloridamuseum.org>

'3/4 - 3/5 GASPARILLA FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS – Tampa

Live entertainment, local and national art, and over \$92,000 in prizes! <https://gasparillaarts.com/>

3/11-3/12 TARPON SPRINGS FINE ARTS FESTIVAL

– Tarpon Springs

Over 300 local and national artists.

<https://exploretarponsprings.com/events/>

3/12 BRANDON SUNDAY MARKET – Brandon

Fresh produce and honey, local artisans, vendors, and food trucks. <https://tampa.beyondthenest.com/content/brandon-sunday-market>

3/18-3/19 BLOOM 'N' CHALK FEST – Safety Harbor

Local, national & international artists create sidewalk masterpieces. <https://www.bloomnchalkfest.com/>

3/18 WINTHROP POPUP MARKET – Riverview

Local market featuring artists businesses and one-of-a-kind products. <https://www.winthroppopupmarket.com/>

3/18 DE SOTO NATIONAL MEMORIAL – Bradenton

Travel through 500 years of Florida history. There will be programs and weapon demonstrations throughout the day at this National Memorial.

<https://www.nps.gov/deso/index.htm>

3/19 GREEK INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE – Tarpon Springs

Greek dancers, Greek food and cultural arts celebrating Greek heritage.

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100066844165547>

3/25 PARRISH HERITAGE DAY PARADE & CHILI COOK OFF FEST – Parrish

Listen to the music, enjoy some local food and browse the many vendors.

<https://www.parrishchili.com/>

3/30 – 4/2 TALL SHIP FESTIVAL – St. Petersburg

Catch a glimpse, step aboard, and even set sail on a fleet of tall ships. Enjoy fine festival foods and food trucks, craft beers, music, street performers and festival marketplace.

<https://tallshipsstpete.com/>

GREECE FOR A DAY

By: Doug Vaughan

Want to visit Greece for a day? Just short of 90 minutes' drive from our park is Tarpon Springs, home to the highest percentage of Greek Americans in the US! Known as 'The Sponge Capital of The World', the sponge diving industry was begun in the late 1800's and attracted many divers from the Greek Islands.

In the Historic District on Tarpon Avenue, you can stroll along brick streets while browsing in art galleries, antiques stores, and specialty shops housed in buildings dating from the late 1800s.

Less than a mile to the North is Dodecanese Boulevard, home to the World-Famous Sponge Docks. Still home to a working sponge diving industry, the quaint dock area is full of attractions, restaurants, shops and even a Greek bakery. Fancy some Souvlaki with Tzatziki sauce and Spanakopita for dessert? You'll find it all – and more here! You can also take an informative boat ride with St. Nicholas Boat Line. Call for details at (727) 942-6425.

Anclote Key Preserve State Park is a barrier island located just off the coast of Tarpon Springs and is a popular spot for hiking, bird watching, and fishing. Also Fred Howard Park is a must-visit for those who enjoy the beach, as it offers miles of white sandy beaches and scenic views of the Gulf of Mexico. <https://exploretarponsprings.com/day-in-tarpon-springs/>

COMEDY CORNER

By: Bunny Conner & Lynda Baxter



What do you call a dinosaur with an extensive vocabulary?
The saurus.

What kind of insect jumps on a moon dog? A luna tick.

Velcro - what a rip off.

Why couldn't the turkey play in the rock band? He forgot to bring his drumsticks.

To me drink responsibly means don't spill it.

I had my patience tested. I'm negative.

My luck is like a bald guy who just won a comb.

I've been watching my weight. It's still there.

I want be 14 again and ruin my life. I have new ideas.

At my age, rolling out of bed is the easy part. Getting off the floor is a whole other story.

Saw a store with a sign that reads "We treat you like family!"
Yup, NOT going in there.

On the surface: Cool as a cucumber. On the inside: Squirrel in traffic.

It turns out that when asked who your favorite child is, you're supposed to pick one of your own. I know that now.

TRIVIA CORNER

1. In what country is the Tulip Festival celebrated?

- A. Netherlands
- B. Canada
- C. Ecuador
- D. Denmark

2. Mexican Carnival is a spring festival celebrated where?

- A. Texas
- B. Arizona
- C. Brazil
- D. Mexico

3. The first Sunday after the first full moon after the spring equinox is always what?

- A. Mardi Gras
- B. Easter
- C. Ground Hog Day
- D. Cinco de Mayo

4. What condition results when the temperature warms after a long winter?

- A. Allergies
- B. Sudden weight gain
- C. Dizziness
- D. Spring fever

5. Cherry Blossom Festival is a spring festival celebrated in which country?

- A. China
- B. Japan
- C. Taiwan
- D. Tahiti

(ANSWERS ON PAGE 13)

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RECIPES



March is when all things green begin to pop up: asparagus, artichokes, lettuces, spinach, and more! It's also time for citrus fruits, strawberries and kumquats!

Veggie Baked Ziti

1 lb. ziti pasta
1 Tbs extra-virgin olive oil
1 medium onion, chopped
2 cloves garlic, minced
2 Tbs tomato paste
1 tsp dried or fresh oregano
1 28 oz can crushed tomatoes
1 ½ c fresh ricotta
1 10 oz package frozen spinach, drained and chopped
Zest of ½ lemon
½ tsp red pepper flakes (optional)
Salt
Freshly ground pepper
2 Tbs thinly sliced fresh basil
½ c grated Parmesan
2 c shredded mozzarella

Preheat oven to 350 degrees. Boil pasta in salted water until al dente, then drain. In a large saucepan over medium heat, heat oil. Add onion and cook stirring until soft, about 5 minutes. Stir in garlic, tomato paste and oregano. Cook for 2 minutes or until slightly darkened. Add crushed tomatoes and season with salt and pepper. Simmer stirring occasionally until slightly reduced, about 15 to 20 minutes. Remove from heat and stir in basil. While the sauce is simmering, in a medium bowl, combine the ricotta, spinach, lemon zest, and crushed red pepper. In a large bowl combine the pasta and the sauce. Fold in ricotta mixture, leaving large clumps. Spread about half of the pasta mixture into the bottom of a large casserole dish. Sprinkle half of mozzarella and Parmesan over the pasta. Top with the rest of the pasta mixture, then top with remaining cheeses. Cover with foil and bake until the cheese is bubbling, about 20 to 25 minutes. Serve with more basil to garnish if you like.

Note:

I like to use fresh veggies. Zucchini, asparagus, kale. Instead of frozen spinach, I use fresh. Wash thoroughly and remove the stems. I do not precook any of the veggies. Just make sure you cut them in sizes that will have comparable cooking times.

Cocktail

I'm going to deviate from my usual cocktail recipe, because I can't think of a beverage that complements Italian style food better than a glass of wine.

For the recipe above, if you prefer white wine, my favorite pairing would be a Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc or a dry Riesling. If you prefer red wine, my favorite pairings are Chianti or Zinfandel.

There are no hard and fast rules about drinking wine, such as you must drink white wine with chicken, fish and vegetables, or red wine with red meat or tomato sauces. The thing about wines is if you like it drink it! It doesn't have to be expensive or rare, dry or sweet. What I like may taste like lighter fluid to you. Life is too short to drink wine you don't like!

Cin cin!



TRIVIA ANSWERS

Trivia Answers:

- 1.B
- 2.D (sorry, couldn't resist)
- 3.B
- 4.D
- 5.B

EVENTS GONE BY



Congratulations Sylvia & Nelson!



Charlie's Country Soul



Sunday Drive



Elvis In the Park!



Pig Roast/Pot Luck

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FLORIDA ANCHOR AND BARRIER COMPANY

March 2023

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Line Dancing 3:00 – 4:00 PM Pinochle 6:30 PM Pool Tourney 6:30 PM	2 Quilting 9:00 AM Bingo 6:00 PM	3 Coffee & Donuts 7:45 AM Meeting 8:30 AM Bill D. Williams 7:00 – 10:00 \$7.00	4 Hot Dawgs Noon
5 Chapel 9:00 AM	6 Euchure 6:30 PM Hand, Foot & Elbow 6:30 PM	7 Pinochle 6:30 PM Bowling 12:30 Stitching 2:00 – 4:00 PM	8 Line Dancing 3:00 – 4:00 PM Pinochle 6:30 PM Pool Tourney 6:30 PM Movie Nite 6:00 PM	9 Quilting 9:00 AM Bingo 6:00 PM	10 Coffee & Donuts 7:45 AM Meeting 8:30 AM \$5.00 Euchre 6:30 pm	11 SPRING FLING Charlie's Country Soul 7:00 – 9:30 \$5.00
12 Chapel 9:00 AM Cooking Class with Chef Wayne Mediterranean Cuisine 1:00 – 3:00 \$5.00	13 Euchure 6:30 PM Hand, Foot & Elbow 6:30 PM	14 Pinochle 6:30 PM Bowling 12:30 Stitching 2:00 – 4:00 PM	15 Line Dancing 3:00 – 4:00 PM Pinochle 6:30 PM Pool Tourney 6:30 PM	16 Quilting 9:00 AM Bingo 6:00 PM	17 Coffee & Donuts 7:45 AM Meeting 8:30 AM	18 Omelette Breakfast \$7.00 Hot Dawgs Noon
19 Chapel 9:00 AM Craft Sale 9:00	20 Euchure 6:30 PM Hand, Foot & Elbow 6:30 PM	21 Pinochle 6:30 PM Bowling 12:30 Stitching 2:00 – 4:00 PM	22 Line Dancing 3:00 – 4:00 PM Pinochle 6:30 PM Pool Tourney 6:30 PM Movie Nite 6:00 PM	23 Quilting 9:00 AM Bingo 6:00 PM	24 Coffee & Donuts 7:45 AM Meeting 8:30 AM	25 Annual Picnic Lithia Springs
26 Chapel 9:00 AM	27 Euchure 6:30 PM Hand, Foot & Elbow 6:30 PM	28 Pinochle 6:30 PM Bowling 12:30 Stitching 2:00 – 4:00 PM	29 Line Dancing 3:00 – 4:00 PM Pinochle 6:30 PM Pool Tourney 6:30 PM Movie Nite 6:00 PM	30 Quilting 9:00 AM Bingo 6:00 PM	31 Coffee & Donuts 7:45 AM Meeting 8:30 AM	