

Patti Petretti Interview



Our Parrot Head Profile this month features my own sweet sister, Patti Petretti!

Patti and her husband Marty have lived in the Village of Sunset Pointe full time since 2009. She is happy to report that now her two sisters also live in The Villages.

Uniondale, Long Island is where Patti was born and raised and she and Marty raised their two daughters and one son in Levittown. She was an early childhood educator for 20 years with a specialty in pre-K through 6th grade. Following that she spent 16 years working for American Airlines as a customer service agent, environmental coordinator, and agent advisory board chairperson.

Patti takes a well-rounded approach to the activities she participates in, choosing some for exercise, some for volunteering, some for socializing, and some for crafting. For exercise she does Zumba and water aerobics. Besides her volunteer work with Parrot Heads, she volunteers for several activities at her church including faith formation substitute teacher, vacation bible school arts and crafts teacher, and the back pack program which provides food for children in need, and with the Boomer Loomers she has knitted hats for babies in the NICU and for families in homeless shelters. Her social activities include the Parrot Heads of course as well as two Italian Clubs and the Baby Boomers. In the crafting category she has enjoyed making pine needle baskets, handmade cards, and various projects on her Cricut.

Prior to moving to The Villages full time Patti and Marty visited here and were always seeing articles in the Daily Sun about the Parrot Head Club and what they were doing. They decided this was a club they definitely wanted to join. When Patti moved down full time she saw an article about the Parrot Heads getting together with Habitat for Humanity to build a home. She met Will Stone at the planning meeting and with his help signed up and went to work! She says that Will and his wife Sue took her under their wings and made her feel welcome right from the

Bob O'Neal 1/29/2017

beginning. Together she and Marty worked on four Habitat for Humanity homes and it was an exciting time for them both.

Patti has done a variety of volunteer work for the Parrot Heads including the blood drives, helped with the dances, the poker run, and the hospice golf tournament. Our club has recently started the Sunshine Program and Patti is its first volunteer and is responsible for sending out get well and sympathy cards when notified of a need by the membership.

Her favorite things about the Parrot Head Club is the deep friendships she has made and the way we give back to the community and have PHUN at the same time.

Patti's advice to new members is to not be intimidated by the size of the club but to sign up for some of the activities and step right up and volunteer! It's a great way to make new friends.