



Jim Dieleman Interview

This month our Parrot Head Profile features Jim Dieleman. Jim and his beautiful wife Johnna live in the Village of Amelia. They moved from Colorado into a rental in the Village of Piedmont for a year while they scoped out various neighborhoods and open houses. Just as their lease was expiring they found their dream home! They chose the Village of Amelia because of its central location and also because it was a very socially active neighborhood. They will have been in the Village of Amelia 10 years this coming July.

Besides the Parrot Head Club, Jim enjoys the social activities in his neighborhood, including Bunko nights, monthly socials with entertainment in a rec center, a yearly bus trips or cruise, and with our current conditions, weekly driveway parties with social distancing. They are also members of the Baby Boomers, the Iowa Club, the Colorado Club, three different beach clubs, Mickey Fanatics, and Goofy Villagers. Jim also enjoys playing golf in The Villages. It sounds to me like Jim and Johnna know how to have a good time!

Jim grew up in Pella, Iowa, the home of Pella Windows and famous for its Tulip Town Festival. After graduation from the University of Iowa Jim went to work for the S.S. Kresge Company, which after about five years changed its name to the K-Mart Corporation. He was employed by them for 28 years in retail management. He has also managed an Ace Hardware Store and an appliance store. Jim and Johnna have two daughters and one son, seven grandchildren and one great grandchild.

Jim and Johnna had never heard about the Parrot Head Club until one day when Johnna was working with the Villages Real Estate Department, Judy Turner mentioned it to Johnna and said she thought they'd enjoy it. They went to a Phlocking and have hardly missed a meeting since!

You have probably seen Jim doing his bit as a volunteer for our club's 50/50 drawings along with Johnna. If you haven't, you haven't been paying attention as he is up at the microphone at practically every phlocking! They volunteer for the blood drives by giving blood and also helping to staff the drive if needed. Jim is also a member of the club's travel committee.

When Jim talks to people about the Parrot Head Club he likes to point out that we are a very charitable organization and it's one of the things he likes best about the club. They both love attending all the events, holiday parties, and pool parties that the club organizes.

Jim would give new members the same advice he was given as a new member of the club. Get involved, help with the 50/50, be a name taker at the door, join a committee that plans a party. The more you get involved, the more people you meet, and the more people you meet, the more fun you will have. How can you lose?