



Dave Walls Interview

Our Parrot Head Profile this month features Dave Walls. Dave and his wonderful wife Bonnie moved to The Village of Gilchrist in 2013 and they were one of the first 5 homes to be occupied at that time. As more residents moved in Bonnie gathered contact information and organized a neighborhood social group that is very active.

Dave grew up in Wilmington, Delaware. After he graduated from High School he joined the United States Navy Submarine Force and has been away from Delaware ever since. He served for 30 years starting out as an electronic technician working on radar, periscopes, and receivers. He became a Leading Petty Officer, then Chief of the Boat, the senior enlisted officer on the submarine working directly for the Captain. After that he was the Squadron Master Chief several times during his 30 years of service.

Ordering draperies for their new home was what lead the Walls to the Parrot Head Club. It turned out that they contracted with Judy and Ken Koch to do the work. Bonnie mentioned to Judy that she loved Key West and wanted to get a Tiki bar for the back porch. When Judy heard that she said, "Tiki bar! You've got to become Parrot Heads! What are you doing Wednesday?" So they attended their first Phlocking and the rest is history!

Besides being an active member of the Parrot Heads Dave enjoys golfing, and is a member of the Delaware Club. Their neighborhood also does a lot of activities that Bonnie organizes such as monthly dinners, trips, ice cream socials, sunset viewing get-togethers, and an annual Friends-Giving potluck dinner around Thanksgiving.

Our club has been fortunate to have Dave as an active volunteer. He assists Jaci Burdash to set up all the tables and signage for the Phlockings, and he brings tables he stores at home to the Phlockings, and other events. He's helped with the pool parties, poker runs, is a member of the Travel Committee, and the Security Team.

He cooks hot dogs for the blood drives, has co-chaired several bus trips, and was co-chair of the 2020 golf tournament that unfortunately was cancelled due to COVID. Since Dave has a van he is often helping to move things around for our many events. Thankfully, he enjoys helping out and working with our members to make our events PHUN!

Dave loves the people and the camaraderie he finds in the club and meeting people from all walks of life. He says a great club is made up of great people. The other thing he really appreciates is all the trips, activities, and parties he gets to enjoy as a member.

To really get the most out of the club Dave advises new members to volunteer. It's the best way to meet new people and make new friends. He also thinks going on a bus trip is a great way to get involved. You will make the acquaintance of 50 other people and they will get to meet you!