

Parrot Talk

September 2020 Edition

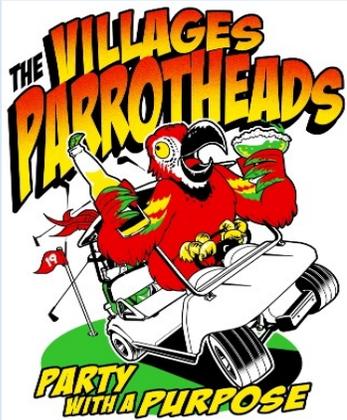


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Corporate Sponsors:

- Parady Life & Annuity
- Cody's Roadhouse
- Rescare Homecare
- Palmer Country Club
- Mallory Hill Country Club
- Fire Station #44
- Laird Law, P.A.
- Cline Executive Suites
- Village Streetrod
- Top Seal Roofing Systems
- Legacy Country Club
- Havana Country Club
- Sumter Landing Dental Care



President's Corner

Hi Parrot Heads – I am happy to report that our Daytona beach getaway, our 16 ½ birthday party, was a huge success. Thanks to Judy Koch and “Koch Tours” for organizing a great weekend. Thanks to all the musicians who were outstanding, and thanks to you for keeping it a safe environment to have a party. And we did have a purpose as we raised around \$900 for our charities through 50/50, wristbands, and your generosity.

We also had a charity drive for baby food and items to help the kids in the Ocala forest through Project SOS where you really came through again. Your donations totaled over \$4000 which overwhelmed Father Gary. Thanks to Marsha Herring for organizing a much needed event as her garage was full.

Our first blind basket raffle was held on Saturday, 8/29, and was a huge success. There are still 3 more raffles for the baskets, so get your tickets online ASAP. After this, we have the large items, valued at over \$200 each, to raffle off. You will be able to get chances for individual items through ticketleap for this. Watch your emails for more info on this.

Well, we have been busy but we are going to be doing more. On 9/9, we are having a gift card drive at Lee & Sue Caron's home, 2140 Darwin Terrace, from 6-8pm, in the Village of Amelia. One of our favorites, Retro Express, will be playing. There's more info later in the newsletter about this one.

As the firehouse meeting rooms are closed, we still want to have our September 11th blood drive but with a little different flavor. It will be at the Methodist church behind Southern Trace plaza. Check out the article about this one. As you know, blood is desperately needed so please help.

As you can see we are starting to “somewhat” party with a purpose again, and are looking forward to getting “Back to Normal”, but we still don't know when that we will be. Watch your emails and check your promotions and spam files to make sure you get everything. Hope to see you all again as soon as possible, so until then – Keep Your Phins Up 

Website: villagesparrotheads.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/TheVillagesParrotHeadClub/



Siesta Key Cancelled

The Club's annual trip to Siesta Key has been cancelled. Some of you are still going. There will be no club tents and tents will not be allowed to remain on the beach overnight. We have asked some of the bars and restaurants who we've worked with in the past to make coupons available for Club members. Watch you emails for more information. If we do receive coupons you will be able to print them off. We plan on bringing this trip back in 2021.

We also had a decorate your balcony contest the winners were the Alosi's, the Babasa, and the Quevedo's. Hollywood and the tropics played on Sunday night. Monday started out on the beach for many.... Noon to 3 with Dudley on the pan who also brought us a Caribbean beat along with reggae...we got a little rain interruption but as soon as the sky cleared he started back up and also joined Highway one for a while who wrapped up our evening with a bang!

Daytona Beach Birthday Party

By Judy Koch

Well we had a great time in Daytona Beach....

We started the event with a early bird karaoke with Mark the shark on Saturday night....it was a singing event and warmed everyone up for more fun on Sunday and Monday!



Everyone seemed very happy with the accommodations Everyone is excited for the plans for next year! I hope this is enough information Thanks Judy.



Sunday everyone enjoyed the beach in the morning and then at noon Guy George started playing near the pool area he features playing the pan and had a great Caribbean flair that put everyone in the party mood we had a parrot in the pool riding a big fish (Ann Blanchard) ...we had rafts with beer pong games.... and just general pool

games! He ended at 3 and everyone went for dinner or a power nap!

We had a 50/50 raffle which included two 1 night stays at the Best Western...it was a success.



Driveway Party for Project SOS

Lee and Sue Caron are hosting a driveway party on September 9th at their home (2140 Darwin Terrace) with music by Retro Express from 6 PM to 8PM weather permitting. Bring your own bottle and lawn chairs. Lee's neighbors on both sides are gone so we can spread out and responsibly distance. **You can also bring a gift card from either Walmart or Publix.** Project SOS will use them to buy means and fresh produce to hand out to the people who are living in the Ocala National Forest.





Membership

On Line Membership Renewals

The Club is now online with new-members, member and ticket sales. We are using a program called TicketLeap, and it is really easy.

This will free up space at phlockings (whenever they return), help us with social distancing to help keep us safe, and get rid of a lot of those tables which take up space. Thanks to Mark Goldberg, our website designer, you will be able to renew, have your friends join the club, and purchase tickets to events on-line, all from the comfort of your own home. Just think - no more long lines.

Please note: **we are not asking you to renew memberships now.** We plan to start renewals on October 1st. The renewal membership will remain at \$20. However, the new-member price will be \$30. If you go to the Club's web site, www.thevillagesparrotheads.com, there is a practice event for renewals, new-members, and events which you can use to practice and see how the new system works. Please note: we will be asking for your Village-ID number from now on. If you are not a village resident, please use your first name and your street address number (example: shark1234) as your Villages ID numbers. Please go to the website and use the practice sessions, and you can contact Mark Goldberg with any questions. His email is Mg1135@sbcglobal.net

Sunshine Committee

If you know of a member who has an illness, injury or surgery or someone who is suffering the loss of a spouse or child, please notify Patty Petretti who is the Chairperson of the Club's Sunshine Committee. Patti's email is: patamus1747@gmail.com

9/11 Blood Drive

As you know, we always have a blood drive on September 11th, and we all know the significance of that date. There is a significant need for Blood in Florida, especially due to the current situation. There may not be any restaurant coupons due to the restaurants reluctance to give them out during these times which I am sure you understand but you will get a 9/11 T Shirt. Plus, all donors will receive a wellness checkup including:* COVID-19 antibody test, blood pressure, pulse, temperature, iron count and cholesterol screening

The Fire Station rooms are still closed due to Covid, The drive will be held at the New Covenant United Methodist Church behind Southern Trace shopping center, 3470 Woodridge Lane. This was ONEBLOOD's choice and is golf cart accessible. It will be on Friday, September 11th, 2020, from 8am-4pm

Due to the pandemic, only a few people will be permitted on the bus at one time and masks are required. You will need to make a reservation through the website: oneblood.org.

We will need no volunteers for this drive as no one should be gathering. If you do give blood, please go through our club's website and/or contact Jaci Burdash, our volunteer coordinator at JLB2500@gmail.com in order to obtain your volunteer points.

Do not present to donate if you have a fever. You must wait at least 14 days before donating if you have been exposed to someone who has or may have COVID-19, have recently been tested and are pending test results for COVID-19 or if you have a confirmed active case of COVID-19. For more information please contact Larry Fish at larry.fish@oneblood.org.



Open Letter From Project SOS

To say the Parrot Head members have been generous is really an understatement, as they have been absolutely amazing. When I first put out the peel for donations to help our military families and others in need as a result of the Covid19 pandemic, I never dreamed so many people would come forward to help. This is especially true when it came to the large number of infants and children we now have under 5 years old whose specific needs can be expensive with diapers, baby food, baby wipes, and the simple little toys that bring a smile back to their faces. However, under the watchful leadership of your Community Relations Trustee Marcia Herring and the kind hearts of your membership in just two days over \$5,000 in baby supplies and \$490 in donations was raised through the charitable giving of the Parrot Head Club. This was truly the answer to our prayers.

On Saturday, August 22nd Project SOS-Support Our Soldiers and The Gateway to Hope at St. Patrick's Church Mission distributed these items to hundreds of families in desperate need. Automobiles, bicycles, and even people pushing shopping carts and carrying canvas bags showed up at 7:00 AM for the weekly food distribution we have been holding, however this past week there was a big change in store for them. We were finally able to provide for the little ones thanks to your kindness. Just about everything you donated was distributed with some of the items held in reserve special needs. The funds that you provided were used to buy fresh meat and fish to help improve their diet and add a little more protein in order to keep them healthy. Most of the monetary donations and food gift cards are used for this purpose to provide a balanced diet and keep them from getting sick. The strollers, playpens and especially the toys and coloring books were a huge hit. Over one thousand people were served and all of you are the ones made that possible. Father Jim Giles and I have now added a little to The Parrot Heads "Party with a Purpose" motto. We think of it more as, " Party with a purpose - and do unto others as you would have others do unto you". I don't think the Lord would mind us borrowing his words in this particular case because you have certainly lived up to them.

God bless you All,

Fr. Gary Kadow, St Patrick's Church
Project SOS and Gateway to Hope



Charity

Sponsor Spotlight

Parady Financial Group has been a significant corporate sponsor of the Parrot Head Club for years. They have sponsored our annual golf tournament and covered all of the costs of our casino nights.



This year Parady Financial was the sponsor of our Hootenanny which raised \$4,000 for Project SOS which was used to

provide a 4 year scholarship to a young lady (a veteran's daughter) living in Ocala National Forest to college.

Parady describes their investment strategy as maximizing the benefits of life insurance and annuities to establish guaranteed income. The Parady Cares Foundation supports local children, veterans, senior citizens and those in need by creating partnerships with organizations who have the resources to aid in breaking the cycle of poverty, overcoming health oppositions and maintain a healthy lifestyle. With the help of Parady, our Club has been able to provide funding to local Charities we support.

Wildwood Soup Kitchen Update



The virus has changed the services provided by the Wildwood Soup Kitchen. Before the Pandemic, they would cook and serve hot meals to over 100 people each day and deliver hot meals to home bound people in need. They no longer provide hot meals. Instead, they deliver a weeks worth of food to the people who rely on them. They

are using this time to renovate their dinning hall and kitchen. When the work is complete they will begin providing carry out meals for the people who would have normally eaten on site. The Soup Kitchen also provides food to the people living at the transient motel near the I 75 interchange and the homeless people who live in the woods behind the motel.

Blind Basket Raffle

The baskets from the now cancelled 2020 Poker Run are now being raffled off over 4 weeks. Week 1 has come and gone. You can still purchase tickets for weeks 2, 3 and 4. You have until September 3 to buy tickets for week 2 so don't wait or you'll be too late. You can buy tickets by going to the Club's [web site](#). You can purchase tickets for one week at a time or for the remaining 3 weeks. The tickets purchased for each week are thrown away when the drawing is over so if you want to participate in the next, you have to buy more tickets. This would be a good time to remind you that the reason for the Poker Run and the Basket Raffle is to fund the Club's donations that support local charities who feed hungry people and veterans and help the homeless get back on their feet again.



Member Profile



Our Parrot Head Profile this month features our lovely club secretary, Gypsy Ginchereau. Gypsy has lived in the Village of Sabal Chase in the Tanglewood Villas since July of 2006. She and her partner, Ren Titus, share the home with Joezy, her 5 year old German Shepherd, Nevele, her 14 year old 28 pound (!!) male Blue Russian kitty, and her seven year old female kitty, Sara. Quite a nice little family I'd say!

Gypsy was born and raised in New Jersey, but moved away when she was 18. She lived in North Carolina for 20 years and eventually migrated to Orlando, Florida when she was 39.

Before moving to The Villages Gypsy worked for a defense contractor in Orlando. Her last position was Director of Proposal Operations. When she moved to The Villages in 2006 the company asked her to continue to work from home as a contractor with both the west coast and east coast proposal centers which she did for 3 more years.

One afternoon when Gypsy was driving down Morse Blvd in her golf cart she was behind a cart that had a Parrot Head bumper sticker that said "Party with a Purpose". When the driver pulled into Hacienda Country Club she followed him and asked about it. He told her about this wonderful club that enjoyed many group activities, but also gave back to the local communities. She loved the idea and contacted the club to join. Her first event was the Christmas Light Parade.

Gypsy has given many volunteer hours to the club starting with a Garage Sale to raise money for Relay for Life. She has helped with many parties, bus trips, website administration, new member orientation, and creating most of the club flyers. She also started the "Chic Clique" which is a group for the ladies in the club that have done bus trips, pool parties, and dinner and movie nights. She has also served on the Board in several positions over the years, including Secretary for the second time. Her two favorite volunteer activities are creating the flyers and chairing the annual Siesta Key Beach Get-away.

What Gypsy loves most about The Villages Parrot Heads Club is the charity work we do. The club truly strives to help as many people as it can in the tri-county area. It makes her very proud to be a part of that effort. She says we have so many caring, generous, industrious members. There is so much talent among our members that when someone comes up with an idea to raise money for charity we have the resources to get it done – and done right!

As a long-standing member of the club, the best advice she can give new members is to volunteer. She says if you want to meet new people, make new friends, and earn a sense of accomplishment put yourself out there and help The Villages Parrot Head Club do what it does best. Party with a Purpose.

Club's Executive Committee



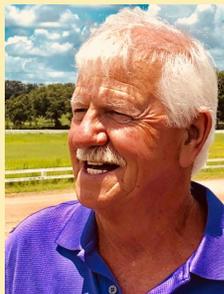
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Appointed Staff Positions



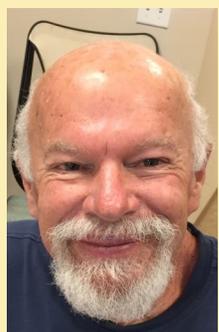
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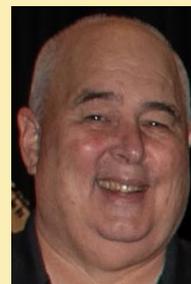
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