



## Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club Newsletter

**November 2023**

*Our next meeting is on Thursday, November 9th, at 12:30 at the Bacall Recreation Center.*

*We have some very exciting events and updates to cover, along with another interesting speaker. Bob Sjorgen from Villages Public Safety will be telling us about a wonderful program called "Neighbors Saving Neighbors" which is guiding the development of the many AED sites in The Villages. Is there anything kinder than saving someone's life? Come learn more about this program.*

*We will also have our new kindness cards for you at the meeting which we are quite excited about. Come and get them!!*

*Our December meeting will be our Christmas party and in January we will have a speaker from the Humane Society.*



## Giving Clubs Showcase

Our club co-sponsored the first Giving Clubs Showcase held in The Villages southern sector at Ezell Recreation Center on October 28<sup>th</sup>. This was a tremendous success with 50 giving clubs and organizations participating. We will also sponsor a winter showcase in February at Lake Miona Rec Center. More about that as we get closer.

Our thanks to all of you who chipped in to help!

## AAOK's

Our AAOK's (Acknowledging Acts of Kindness) are some of our most exciting events and we would love to have more of you volunteer to be a part of them. It takes little time, and it will make you feel good all over! We have several tentative AAOK events in the offing.

## November Fundraiser

On Sunday we had our bi-annual fundraiser, the Curlie Girllies Musical Comedy Show, with Krista Joy and Leesah Stiles. The show was wonderful, and we had a full house from what I could see. These fundraisers put us in a position to donate to a few of the many clubs and organizations in The Villages and surrounding communities that spread kindness.

Our thanks to all who made this event possible and a special thanks to Bonnie and Don Mulneix who did such a great job with our 50/50 raffle.





## Upcoming Events

We have some exciting events coming up. Learn more about and sign up for these at our meetings or at [aaokclub@gmail.com](mailto:aaokclub@gmail.com).

- Wreaths Across America – December 16th
- Project SOS/Gateways of Hope Christmas Party – Dec 9th
- Villages Christmas Parade – November 29th
- St Pat's Day Parade – March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2024
- Flags for Fallen Vets – Pre-Memorial Day, 2024



## Days of Service

Here is something new we are going to try which many of you may find exciting. From time to time, we will have "Day of Service" events to give our members the opportunity to participate in a variety of acts of kindness. We feel we have a perfect event to begin this activity.

**Feed My Starving Children (FMSC)** offers an opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children around the world! It offers volunteers a one-of-a-kind experience. You'll hand-pack rice, soy, dried vegetables, and a nutritionally complete blend of vitamins and minerals into bags which are then sealed, boxed, placed on pallets and shipped to partners working hard to reach the neediest children around the world.

Through volunteering at FMSC, you'll get the chance to impact hundreds of kids in just two hours per packing shift. You'll experience what it's like to make a tangible difference today.

Packing meals will take place at Live Oak Community Church, 12070 CR 103, Oxford, from February 26<sup>th</sup> – 29<sup>th</sup>.

We will have a sign-up sheet for those interested at our meeting, or you can sign up at [AAOKClub@gmail.com](mailto:AAOKClub@gmail.com).

Another future event we are anticipating is a "Team Building Work Day" at the Chase Sanctuary & Wildlife Conservation in Webster.

## Club Shirts, Hats, Nametags, and More

Custom Apparel in the Publix Plaza on 466 has a catalog of products with our club logo. This includes men's and women's Tee's and polo shirts, full zipper fleeces, nametags, totes, and hats. And the prices are very reasonable. Their catalogue can be seen at [aaokclub merchandise](#) and you can order online if desired. Visit them today and check out their great selections so you can show our AAOK Club colors.

## Kindness Certificates

Our Certificates of Kindness are another very easy way we use to acknowledge acts of kindness. If you have someone you know who has shown exceptional kindness, you can use this to acknowledge them. If you would like to do this let me know ([aaokclub@gmail.com](mailto:aaokclub@gmail.com)) and we will work with you to make it happen.



## Website and Facebook Sites

We have a terrific website ([AAOKClub.org](http://AAOKClub.org)). Visit this often to see the latest events and news. Our blog is a way of sharing interesting articles on kindness, and we invite you all to contribute to this. The latest blogs include articles from two of our members and a story of kindness that will bring tears to your eyes. If you have something you would like to share sent it to [aaokclub@gmail.com](mailto:aaokclub@gmail.com) and we will make sure it is added (with your name of course). While you are on the site check out the latest blogs and enjoy.

We also have a Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/AcknowledgingActsOfKindness>

and a Facebook group at:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/2392926004127163>

Check them out, give a big like, post some good stuff, and share it with as many as you can! You will find a lot of interesting examples of kindness on these sites.

See you on November 9<sup>th</sup>!

Stay Healthy, Happy and Kind!

Lindsay Collier, President, [Lindsaycollier@comcast.net](mailto:Lindsaycollier@comcast.net)

*To Be Rich,  
Is Not What You Have  
In Your Bank Account,  
But  
What You Have  
In Your Heart.*

