

# **Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club Newsletter**

#### October 2023

Our next meeting is on Thursday, October 12<sup>th</sup>, at 12:30 at the Bacall Recreation Center. We have the room at 10:30 for those of you who would like to paint kindness rocks (see attached flyer). These rocks will be used to hand out at our parades. Tickets will also be on sale during this time for our fundraiser (more about that later).

We have some very exciting events and updates to cover, along with another interesting speaker. Teri Snow from The Villages Community Resources with tell us about the many services they provide for us from estate planning, to healthcare advice, VA help, financial planning, and much more.

We are happy to let you know that we will have our new kindness cards for you at the meeting which we are quite excited about. Come and get them!!



## **Our September Meeting**

Our September meeting was a real treat for those who attended. Sixteen-Year-Old Reece Ponds broke all records for food donations during her reign as Miss Teenage Leesberg. Her mentor, Linda Watts, spoke to us about the Florida Miss Hometown USA program. Reece has been a volunteer with this program and has been recognized by many, including Governor DeSantis. Reece wowed us with her wonderful story and her views on kindness.

We were honored to give a Certificate of Kindness to both Reece and Linda along with a donation to her various causes.







#### **Giving Clubs Showcase**

Our club is a sponsor for two Giving Clubs Showcases each year. On October 28<sup>th</sup> we will have our first in the southern sector at Ezell Recreation Center in the Sawgrass area. There will be 48 clubs participating and it's a great opportunity to see some of the activities of these kind groups. The event is from 10:00 till 2:00 and we would like to have 2 members at the table each hour. Let me know if you would like to be one of them.

### **Our September AAOK**

On September 7<sup>th</sup> we honored Liza Walters at the Honor Flight meeting at Rohan Rec Center. It was such an honor to recognize her for all her efforts with Honor Flight as well as her other acts of kindness in front of over 200 of her friends – especially because she was totally surprised. We honored her with flowers, a Certificate of Kindness, a gift certificate, a special kindness rock, and a copy of the Kindness Rocks! book. We also gave Honor Flight a \$500 donation

which pays for one Veteran to D.C. Thanks to Kathy Belisle for her help in setting this up and to those who participated.

These AAOK's 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!

#### **November Fundraiser**

We have a fundraiser coming up on Sunday, November  $5^{th}$  at Lake Miona Rec Center at 6:30 which might just be the best show you will see this year – and it's just \$15 PP! This is a great opportunity to buy a table of 8 for your friends or neighbors. Attached is the flier for this event and tickets will be available at our meeting. See the attached flyer, copy it, and send to your friends.

### **Upcoming Events**

We have some exciting events coming up. Sign up for these at our meetings or at aaokclub@gmail.com.

- · Himalayan Golf Oct 14th
- o Curlie Girls Fundraiser Nov 5th
- o Wreaths Across America December
- Project SOS Christmas Party Nov 29th
- o Villages Christmas Parade Early December
- St Pat's Day Parade March

## o Flags for Fallen Vets - Pre-Memorial Day

### 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) and we will work with you to make it happen.



#### **Website and Facebook Sites**

We have a terrific website (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 <a href="mailto:aaokclub@agmail.com">aaokclub@agmail.com</a> 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 October 12th!

Stay Healthy, Happy and Kind!

Lindsay Collier, President, <u>Lindsaycollier@comcast.net</u>

