



Thank you for your kindness.

Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club Newsletter

November 2024

“Leave footprints of kindness wherever you go.” – Leo Busgalia

We had an uninvited guest at our October meeting by the name of Milton, and he really messed things up. This is the second time a hurricane has cancelled our meeting. Our November meeting is on Thursday, November 14th at 12:30 at the Bacall Recreation Center as usual. We have a busy schedule of exciting end of year events, so join us to catch up on what is happening.

Our October/November sock drive (see attached flyer) got off to a great start despite the storm and there is still time for those of you to bring socks to our meeting if you haven't already brought them to our 4 drop off points. And, if you can't make the meeting, here are the drop off points:

North – 1301 Magana Ct – Santo Domingo

Between 466 and 466A – 383 Awendaw Loop - Tall Trees

Between 466A and 44 – 2964 Kuzmany Ct. Gilchrist

South of 44 – 6043 Conley Ct. – Citrus Grove

We plan on having speakers from the Florida Cancer Center, Tere DeMoss and Asleigh Perkins, who will share some possible kindness activities for our members. This is an opportunity not to be missed.

Elections

Our VP, Jen Smith, and our Treasurer, Linda Martin, will be leaving their positions at the end of the year. They have both been tremendous assets to our club and will be dearly missed. We have two candidates for these positions, and you will have a chance to hear from them. You will also have a chance to cast your vote for all our board members. Be there and be a part of our elections.

Giving Clubs Showcase

Our club sponsors two of these showcases each year, one in the north at Lake Miona in February and one in the south at Ezell in October. These showcases give clubs and organizations in The Villages a chance to show how they spread kindness in our community. We have between 50 and 70 clubs at these, and they are always highly successful and well attended. We had our fall one at Ezell on October 26th which was very successful.

Our next one will be on Saturday, Feb 1st from 10-2 at Lake Miona Recreation Center.



Acknowledging Acts of Kindness (AAOK) Events

We had two events in October acknowledging people for their incredible kindness.

We honored Carol Hutchings from the village of Duval at a happy hour at her home for the kindness she shows to all her neighbors. We also honored Sue Roper, a past President of Tri County Women's Veterans and President of the Veterans Memorial Park.

If you know of someone who we should honor just contact me or our Event Coordinator, Barbara Bickley at bbickley969@gmail.com and we will make sure it happens.



Educational Focus Group

One of the most exciting things we have going on now is our Educational Focus group led by Pearl Seavitte. She will update us on the activities of this group at our meeting. This is such a great part of realizing our mission of creating a culture of kindness. Is there a better place to start than working with our school children and helping them lead a life of kindness. Consider the possibilities!

Upcoming Activities

Here are some of the special activities we have planned for the near future. You can let me know now by return response if you would like to be involved or wait till the meeting when we will have sign-up sheets. We'd love to see a lot of you involved.

Christmas Parade – Friday, Dec 6th at 3:00

We have put in for 8 golf carts and 30 walkers who will be handing out our Kindness cards along with candy canes and kindness rocks. This is such a great time and we always have a good turnout. We'll have a sign-up sheet at our meeting but, if you cannot be there, let me know if you can make it and if you will walk or go in your cart.



Gateway to Hope Christmas party – Saturday, Dec 14th at 1:30

We plan on buying gifts for the children of 19 families. Sign up for as many kids as you'd like and buy the gifts on their wish lists. You are also invited to the party on Dec 14th which is a wonderful experience!



Wreaths Across America at Florida's National Cemetery

Dec 14 at 11:00 at the Florida National Cemetery. There is a conflict with this event and the Gateway to Hope Christmas party we want to make this event available to our members.

Feed Our Starving Children

January 30th, 2025, at Live Oaks Church, (time tba).

As a prelude to this event, we will be having a "Changing a Life with Your Change" event at our December meeting. This is a unique, creative way for raising funds for Feed Our Starving Children. Find out more about this at our November meeting.

Fundraiser – February or March.

Still early, but we think we may have a very exciting and different possibility. We would love to have someone help us arrange the event. Let us know,

St Pat's Day parade – March 17, 2025

Flags for Fallen Vets – Prior to Memorial Day in May.

Areas Where We Need Your Help.

- Social Director – Help organize events involving food and social activities. You won't be alone – a lot of us will help you out.
- Website Manager – Update our website (AAOKClub.org) from time to time. Not a lot of time will be required. Minimal experience needed – we will train.
- Newsletter Editor – I've been doing this for 6 years. Time for someone else to take over.

- Fundraiser manager. Carry out a few tasks to arrange for the once-a-year event. You'll have lots of help.

Let me know if you are interested or would like to know more about a position. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

If any of these possibilities sound good to you or if you would like more detailed information, contact me at lindsaycollier@comcast.net.

Club Sites to Visit

- [Our club's website](#)
- [Our Facebook page](#)
- [Our Facebook group](#)
- [Custom Apparel](#) (go to businesses/groups A-L for our catalogue of shirts and other AOK stuff)

See you on November 14th!

Stay Healthy, Happy and Kind!

Lindsay Collier, President, lindsaycollier@comcast.net.

