



Thank you for your kindness.

Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club Newsletter

October 2024

“There is no exercise better for the heart and soul than reaching out and lifting others up.”

Our season started off with a bang at a fun-filled, packed September meeting. Our October meeting is on Thursday, the 10th at 12:30 at the Bacall Recreation Center. Please join us to see some of the great things we have planned for this year, hear stories from some of our members, and discuss our kindness activities.

In October and November we will be having our sock drive (see the attached flyer). Bring your new socks in at our meetings - we will have a container for them. Include some crazy ones

too (kids love them I'm told) and as an extra incentive we will have a prize for the craziest ones.

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 to showcase 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 have one coming up on Saturday, October 26th at Ezell Rec Center from 10-2. We want to have 2 members each hour at our table to greet people and ask questions.

We will have a sign-up at the meeting to fill these spots. If you can't be at our meeting and would like to fill one of these hours, please let me know ASAP.

Welcome New Members

Please welcome our new members:

Joe and Lilian DeAngelo - Hadley

Cathy Krzyzek

Susan Howley

Debbie Behnke

Judy and Bob Krajewski - Chitty Chatty

Cathi Coy

Marilyn Nemes

Jodi Walton - Newell

Jackie Fields - Newell

Educational Focus Group

One of the most exciting things we have going on now is our Educational Focus group led by Pearl Seavitte. Pearl and Sheila Hayes shared some of the activities they are doing with Lady Lake Elementary in our September meeting. Susan Sittmer, Cathy Krzyzek, Cathi Coy, and Marty Goudey also have volunteered to be a part of this group. This should allow us to expand our reach to other schools. We look forward to hearing more in our October meeting.

Just think of the positive impact of helping children live a life of kindness!

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.

Giving Clubs Showcase – Saturday, October 26 from
10-2 at Ezell Rec Center

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

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

Wreaths Across America at Florida's National Cemetery –
Dec 14 at 11:00 am

Fundraiser – February

St Pat's Day parade – March 17, 2025

Changing a Life With Your Change – December meeting. A unique, creative way for raising funds for Feed Our Starving Children

Feed Our Starving Children – January 30th, 2025, at Live Oaks Church, (time tba)

Flags for Fallen Vets – Prior to Memorial Day in May

HELP!

We really need your help this year. 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 need to fill these positions so, if you are at all interested, let me know. These won't take a lot of your time (we meet each month on the first Thursday) and I guarantee you'll enjoy the experience.

We also could use help in some other areas.

- 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 contact me at lindsaycollier@comcast.net.

Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Events (AAOK's)

One of our goals in promoting a culture of kindness is to honor a very special person each month who has shown exceptional kindness. We had some wonderful events with these acknowledgments but haven't been too good at scheduling them monthly. We do have a pretty good list of possibilities and hope to stick to our monthly goal.

We have one coming up on Monday, October 21st at Ezell Rec Center at 1:00. These take less than 15 minutes and are very inspiring and lots of fun. We would like to have a couple members help us out who have never done this before and it's a great opportunity for members from the Ezell area. Let me know if you are interested.

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.

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 AAOK stuff)

See you on October 10th!

Stay Healthy, Happy and Kind!

Lindsay Collier, President, lindsaycollier@comcast.net

**"There are three ways
to ultimate success:
The first way is to be kind.
The second way is to be kind.
The third way is to be kind."**

Mr. Rogers

