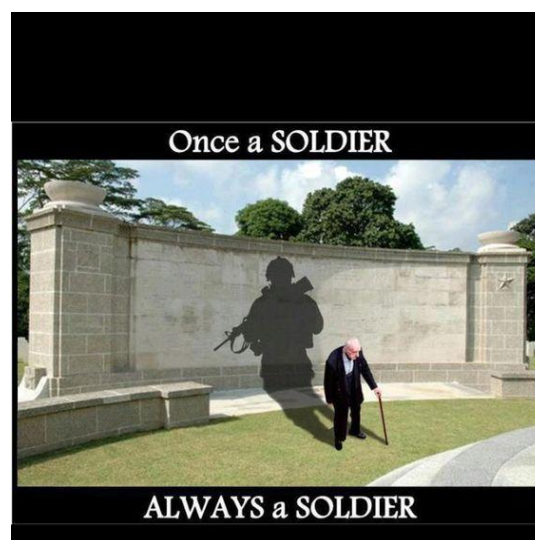




Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club Newsletter

Our next meeting is on Thursday, February 8th, at 12:30 at the Bacall Recreation Center. We will have a great speaker, Joan Halstead, from Villages Honor Flight. We have what is possibly the most active Honor Flight program in the country here in The Villages where many Veterans call home. Don't miss this chance to hear about all the wonderful things Honor Flight does for our Vets.



We also have some exciting upcoming events to share, and a couple of surprises in store for you that will add some excitement to our

meeting – some things we have never done before. Curious? See you there.

The Santiago Women's Club has their annual book sale in late February at the Savannah Rec Center. Their members make afghans and teddy bears for seriously ill children who attend Boggy Creek Summer Camp as well as supplies and educational materials for several schools near The Villages. So this is a great opportunity to unload all those books, games, and puzzles that have been taking precious room in your home. Bring them along and we will drop them off for them.

For our March meeting we are planning a fun social that will include ice cream and trivia. For April we hope to have a speaker from Hands of Mercy Everywhere, May will be TLC Services, and June will be Zonta. More about these wonderful organizations later.

Feed My Starving Children Event

Our first "Day of Service" event, FMSC, will take place on Tuesday, Feb 27th from 9-11 at the Live Oaks Community Church at 12070 County Rd 103 (behind Walmart). We are excited that 35 of our members have signed up for this (list attached). Our slot is now full, but Abundance of Love also has a slot available. If you would like to be added please contact Jen Smith at 352-250-3431.

If you would like to know more about this, please check out their website at <https://www.fmsc.org/>. Our club will also be donating \$500 to them.

We will be planning more "Day of Service" events in the future. Have some ideas for future events? Let us know.

January AAOK

At our January meeting we had the pleasure of honoring one of our own members, Judy Samuelson, for her incredible kindness. She has a long list of groups where she spreads her kindness to include American Legion, Villages Library, Our Moment Café, Salvation Army, school mentoring, Honor Flight, and more. Thanks, Judy, for your amazing kindness!



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 but are always looking for more. Our goal is to have one each month. Do you know of someone who deserves to be acknowledged for their exceptional kindness? If so let us know. We have a couple of people we plan on honoring but are always looking for more.

March Fundraiser

We have two fundraisers each year to provide funds, most of which are donated to various causes we feel are helping create a culture of kindness in our community and our world. Each of these has been very successful and this one will probably sell out quickly. The show will be on Friday, March 22nd at 7:00 pm at Colony Cottage Rec Center and the cost is just \$15pp. Tables of 8 can be reserved if you have a group you would like to impress.

Jen Smith will have some tickets at our meeting, or you may contact Jen at 352-250-3431 or Linda Martin at 864-337-6808. Attached is a flyer for the event which you can share with your friends.

To whet your appetite a bit, visit Mike's website at <https://www.mikepalmaventriloquist.com/>

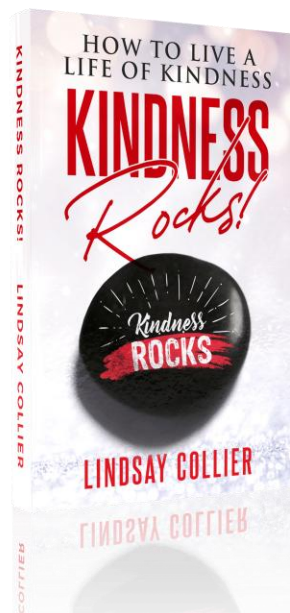
Giving Clubs Showcase

The February Showcase at Lake Miona was a resounding success with 54 clubs taking part to share their kind acts. Our thanks to those who helped us with the event – we really appreciate it! Our next Showcase is scheduled for October 26th from 10:00-2:00 at the Ezell Rec Center in the Sawgrass area.



Kindness Rocks!

"Kindness Rocks! How To Live a Life of Kindness" was published a couple of years ago. Being the author, I am a little biased, but I think it's the best book ever on the topic. Here's my offer. Buy the book for \$10 (half Amazon's price). Place a review on Amazon, let me know, and I will return \$5 to the club treasury. I will have some books at the meeting, but you can get them from me anytime.



Kindness Cards

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

Always keep a few with you because you never know when an act of kindness will pop up, and you don't want to miss the chance to show your appreciation. That's what we are all about!



Kindness Goes Viral with Steve Hartman

This was in last month's newsletter but, if you didn't get a chance to check it out, it's well worth your time. It's a little over 40 minutes but has some wonderful stories of kindness!

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WL54nQy6NYA>

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 us 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 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 February 8th!

Stay Healthy, Happy and Kind!

Lindsay Collier, President, Lindsaycollier@comcast.net

One

One tree can give life to a forest,
One smile can start a friendship,
One hand can uplift a soul,
One idea can shape the future,
One candle can wipe out darkness,
One laugh can conquer gloom,
One ray of hope can lift your spirits,
One touch can show that you care,
One life can make a difference,
Be that 'one' today.



enjoy