



## Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club Newsletter

**June 2023**

Our June meeting is on **Thursday, June 8<sup>th</sup> at 12:30 at the Bacall Recreation Center**. This will be our last meeting before our summer break in July and August, and it will be very special.

We will have some very special guests, two young students from Clermont, who will share their stories of kindness at their school. They will be accompanied by their grandmother who is from The Villages.

We will also have some great food to include a surprise dessert that will be in your dreams for days to come. There will be an update of some exciting events we have had in the past month, a fun exercise, and a chance to share your ideas on future possibilities for our club.

A special invitation was sent to all members a few days ago about this event.

### Welcome to Our New Members

In May we welcomed 4 new members! We now have 218 members from 63 different Villages! Please join me in welcoming:

Debbie Obine – Santo Domingo

Benji Rust – Liberty Park

Sonja Zolla – Pine Ridge

Nancy Alexander – Santo Domingo

## Expectations from our members

One of the downsides of making it easy and free to join is that a number of people join, and that's the last you see of them. Over the summer months we will be pairing down this list. We will be using an app that will let us know who is opening the newsletter. If we haven't heard from you in a long time, you may be getting a note to see if you would like to continue your membership.

We don't require a whole lot from our members, but this what we would like to see from ours:

- Attend meetings as you can. We understand you may have conflicts.
- Keep a supply of Kindness Cards and use them to acknowledge those who show kindness.
- Participate in our activities (AAOK celebrations, focus groups, and other activities (parades, flags for Fallen Vets, social events, etc)
- Recommend possibilities for monthly acknowledgments when you can.

## Recent Events

### Flags for Fallen Veterans

This is the 3<sup>rd</sup> year we have participated in this wonderful event. Those who have been involved always remark on how moving this activity is. This year we had about 23 participants, and I wish it was more. Our members, Marguerite Desbrow and Kathy Belisle sponsored 4 buses with over 200 Villagers and our heartfelt thanks to them.

I hope we can fill a bus next year. We will also participate in Wreaths Across America at the Florida National Cemetery in December.







## AAOK – Billy LaCasse – Village of Gilchrest

We were honored to acknowledge a truly kind gentleman at Linda Martin's driveway party on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Billy considers his neighbors as his family and is always extending a helping hand including cutting grass, delivering newspapers, loaning his golf cart, and much more.

He sent us this note:

*"Thank you, thank you, thank you, thank you, for a wonderful evening and the presentation of the "Certificate of Kindness". It was a complete surprise, and we are so blessed to have a group of neighbors that share, watch out for each other and enjoy the journey of life.*

*Thanks-we be family, let the good times roll."*





## AAOK – Betty Abshire, Haciendas at Mission Hills

On May 12<sup>th</sup> we acknowledged this wonderful lady for her immense kindness. She gives freely of her time in her activities with Honor Flight, Flags for Vets, Operation Shoebox, DAR, Operation Christmas Child, food drives and more. She also befriended a WWII veteran in an Honor Flight and is taking him on his 'bucket list' trip to Africa.



## October Fundraiser

Get your calendars out right now and make sure that you save Sunday, October 5<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm for our next fundraiser, which may be the best show you have ever seen. It's called 'The Curlie Girlies Musical Comedy Show", with Leesah Stiles and Krista Joy, and we will begin selling tickets as we get closer to the date. You don't want to miss this one!

## 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 and polo shirts, full zipper fleeces, nametags, totes, and hats. And the prices are very reasonable. Their catalogue can be seen at [aokclub merchandise](#) and you can order on line if desired. Visit them today and checkout their great selections so you can show our AOK 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. We will provide you with a copy complete with the recipient's name. If you would like to do this let me know ([lindsaycollier@comcast.net](mailto:lindsaycollier@comcast.net)) and I will work with you to make it happen.



## Website and Facebook Sites

We have a terrific website (<https://aaokclub.org>) and **we need someone to update this site. If you are interested, and have some skills on websites please let us know. We will supply training and this job won't take a lot of your time.**

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 June 8th!**

Stay Healthy, Happy and Kind!

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