



## **Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club Newsletter**

**March 2020**

First of all, a warm welcome to our new members **Irene Bolton (Caroline), Carole and Pete Lee (Hemingway), Sue Roebuck (Winifred), and Sheri Scott (Polo Ridge)**. Our membership is growing (76) and you can all help by getting the word around. The best advertisement is word of mouth and my experience is that folks just love what we do.

### **Our Board of Officers**

As we develop, we are becoming a bit more formal. We now have a full slate of officers to help guide our club. We had our first meeting on February 27<sup>th</sup> and will be meeting every month a week prior to our club meeting. Our board consists of:

Lindsay Collier, President

John Maiorino, Vice President

Jen Smith, Treasurer

Amy Donato, Secretary

Carol Cholette, Membership Chair

## First Anniversary

In our February meeting we celebrated our one year anniversary. Thanks to Carol Cholette for supplying the delicious cake and the spread that surrounded it. We got some well-deserved publicity in the Villages Daily Sun to boot. Even our friends in the Largo Ladies club in the next room helped us celebrate with cupcakes. We are off to a great start, and we thank all of you who have helped in so many ways.



## St Pat's Day Parade

The St. Patrick's Day Parade is on March 17<sup>th</sup> in Spanish Springs at 3:15. As of now we have 19 members participating and 4 carts! What a great turnout! We are limited to our 4 carts but I'm told we can have unlimited walkers. So it's never too late to join in the fun – just let me know. The Christmas parade was a blast and we got some great club exposure. Along the route we will be handing out cards and looking for kids to give our Kindness Rocks to. The look on the face of a little kid getting a Kindness Rock is priceless!

## Honoring Candidates for Extraordinary Kindness

Right now we have a "Level Two" event scheduled for March 18<sup>th</sup> and also a tentative one in early April. We keep these events pretty secret because our goal is to make them a surprise to the honorees. Our **Candidate Selection and Events Coordination" Focus Group** guides the process of selecting candidates and arranging events with the nominator playing a key role. If anyone has a better name than "Level Two" please let us know.

This will be our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> event and my thanks to all of you who have helped. They have been very successful! More details will come in the April Newsletter.

## Kindness Certificate

Chardell Kern, our club's Graphic Artist, has put together a "Kindness Certificate". This is an exciting new way to acknowledge folks who carry out kind acts that don't quite fit into the Level Two program. An example is a bartender at one of the Country Clubs that found out many kids don't get gifts for Christmas and started a program to collect toy donations.

**Do you know someone who we could honor with this certificate?**

**CERTIFICATE *Of* KINDNESS**

**Recipient Name**

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The Villages Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club thanks you for your extraordinary kindness. Your kind acts and positive attitude serve as a model for others to promote a culture of kindness in our community and beyond.

ACKNOWLEDGING  
**AOK**  
ACTS OF KINDNESS CLUB  
PROMOTING A CULTURE  
OF KINDNESS

*KINDNESS  
Rocks!*

PRESENTED BY: \_\_\_\_\_

ON THIS DAY: \_\_\_\_\_

*Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring ~ all of which have the potential to turn a life around. – Leo Buscaglia*

## Club Shirts

For our first year Joe Santoro has graciously supplied our T-Shirts for free and we thank him for that. This has changed, and the T-Shirts will now be sold for just \$10 each. The money will go directly into our treasury. There are limited quantities and sizes available and, when they are gone, shirts will be obtained through Custom Apparel in the Buffalo Ridge area on Rt. 466. They have our artwork and you can select from a variety of styles. We just ask that you go with our red color for consistency. A few collared shirts are also available at \$20 each. We will have our inventory of shirts at each meeting until sold.

## Dayton Satellite

Our Dayton satellite continues to be very active in the distribution of our Kindness Cards to various schools and organizations. Anne Sheehan and her husband Terry are now in their rental home in The Villages for April and May. I had the pleasure of personally welcoming Anne and she will be at our upcoming meeting. We will give her a warm club welcoming there and have a chance to hear from her about her activities in Dayton.

See y'all at the meeting (good grief- I'm becoming a Southerner). Giving a warm smile is one of the best ways to share your kindness. With that in mind let me leave you with a wonderful short poem by the late Spike Milligan.

Lindsay Collier

*Smiling is infectious; you catch it like the flu.*

*When someone smiled at me today I started smiling too.*

*I walked around the corner and someone saw me grin.*

*When he smiled I realized I had passed it on to him.*

*I thought about the smile and then realized its worth.*

*A single smile like mine could travel around the earth.*

*So if you feel a smile begin, don't leave it undetected.*

*Start an epidemic and get the world infected.*