



Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club Newsletter

April 2021

Our February meeting was a huge success! We had 27 in attendance to include 7 new members. That brought our membership to an even 100! We also had the pleasure of hearing Joyce Gilette tell us about the Dollars for Scholars Program and Anne Sheehan give us an update of our Dayton, Ohio affiliate. Things are looking up and the future is looking bright!

So we will continue our meetings (still using the current Villages guidelines of course) and have our **next meeting on Thursday, April 8th at 12:30 at the Bacall Recreation Center**. There is a possibility that we may have too many for our usual room so we have the option this month to meet in the larger room at Bacall. Hope to see you there. Since we missed our 2-year anniversary celebration in February, we will celebrate it then. We will also have some guest speakers with stories you will want to hear. Bring some \$1 bills for our happy/sad opener.

Fund raiser

As you know, our plans for a fund raiser in January had to be postponed because of concerns about the state of the pandemic. We now have a new date for this, **Wednesday, May 5th at 6:30 pm**. This will be at the Sea Breeze Recreation Center and begin at 6:30. We will have a 50-50 drawing and prize raffle along with a couple of surprises. The Villages has increased the safe capacity for our room so there are tickets available (and all current guidelines will still be followed)

The event is “An Evening of Song (and dance?) with Suzie Casta”. If you have never seen Suzie perform, you are in for a real treat. She has one of the most beautiful voices and her performances are infectious. You will leave feeling good all over – guaranteed!



Proceeds from this will give us the opportunity to carry out all the programs we are planning. Please support us if you can, and **pass it on to friends (flier attached)**. Tickets are just \$10 pp and it is a BYOB and snacks event for Villages residents (or guests with passes) only. If you purchased tickets for the January event you are good to go. Jen Smith will have tickets available at our meeting or you can contact her at jpsmith5@comcast.net or 352-250-3431.

Welcome New Members

A warm welcome to our new members:

Curtis Armstrong – Country Club Hills

Joyce Gillete – Tamarind Grove

Becky Nehring – Fenney

Bonnie Pearson – Springdale

Jenny Robison – Polo Ridge

Barbara and Frank Thompson – Fenney

Kindness Cards and Certificates

Many of us have shied away from handing out our **Kindness Cards** during the pandemic. If you are comfortable it may be a good time to get back to this. And, if you do, please share your experiences with us at the meeting. We will have plenty of cards available at our meeting if you need them.

You can always pick up as many cards as you need at our meetings. If you can't make the meeting the cards are always available for pickup at my front porch at 383 Awendaw Loop in the Village of Tall Trees.

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 me know (lindsaycollier@comcast.net) and I will work with you to make it happen.



Website and Facebook Sites

We have a terrific website (AAOKCub.org) and our Website Advisor, Tweet Coleman, is doing a wonderful job keeping this up to date. 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.

Upcoming Events

Our ***Candidate Selection and Event Coordination Focus Group*** has several acknowledgement events in the planning stage. The state of the pandemic put a temporary halt on these but our plan is to have one or two in April and May.

As usual, you are invited to recommend any candidates you feel are worthy of special recognition. So, if you know of someone who has shown exceptional kindness, please let us know via our “Candidate Nomination Form” (on our website).

In 2019 we had a “**Himalayan Golf**” event that was very successful. We have another planned on **Saturday, April 24th at 11:00 am**. Golfers need only bring a golf ball, a putter and a pencil. Optional Lunch will be at Sonny's BBQ in Sumter landing. Golf is FREE and open to all; you do not need to be a golfer. We will have a sign-up sheet at our April meeting. The course is located adjacent to the golf cart path just south of Arnold Palmer’s. Bring a few dollars to buy a raffle ticket for a golf related gift basket. For reservations call or email Jen Smith 352-250-3431 or jpsmith5@comcast.net.

Do you have any ideas for other opportunities for future events? If so, let us know.

Sonny’s BBQ

As many of you know, we have struck a nice relationship with Sonny’s BBQ because of their focus on kindness which includes having a Chief Kindness Officer, Kennon Adkinson. We have our board meetings at Sonny’s, they have contributed prizes for our fund raiser, and they may even be a part of some of our future acknowledgments.

Check out some of the kind things they are doing at [this site](#).

Club Merchandise

Custom Apparel in the Publix Plaza on 466 now has a catalog of products with our club logo. This includes men's and women's Tee and polo shirts, full zipper fleeces, nametags, masks, totes, and hats. And the prices are very reasonable. Our catalogue can be seen at [aaokclub merchandise](#) and you can order on line if desired.

Stay healthy, happy and kind!

Lindsay Collier, President. Lindsaycollier@comcast.net



