



Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club Newsletter

January 2023

A Happy New Year to all from all of us at The Villages Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club. Our next meeting is on Thursday, January 12th at 12:30 at the Bacall Recreation Center.

Gary Kadow from Project SOS will be there to tell us all about this year's Christmas party and some of the things they are doing to help Veterans and their families in the forest. Gary is an amazing person and wonderful speaker, and I know you will enjoy what he has to say.

We also have a lot of other things planned to help us jump start the New Year.

Elections

In our December meeting we held our first ever AOK Club Board election. The result is a very strong board that will certainly bring us into an exciting future:

Lindsay Collier – President

Jen Smith – Vice President

Peggy Cunningham – Secretary

Linda Martin – Treasurer

Becky Nehring – Membership

Welcome New Members

Nine new members were added at the end of the year bringing us to a total of 212 from over 65 villages! Please join us in welcoming the following:

- Carolyn Cottrell – Liberty Park
- Jane Harris – Gilchrest
- Foster Jordan – Pine Hills
- Maureen Kops – St James
- Elaine Moecker
- Karen Charron – Buttonwood
- Sandra Davis – Santo Domingo
- Patsy Hedrick – Hillsborough
- Rachel Jones

Club Activities

We ended 2022 in style. We again marched in the Christmas parade and handed out a lot of kindness cards (about 1800) and rocks (130). We also played a major role in the Project SOS Christmas celebration including buying gifts for 22 kids and attending their Christmas party in Ocala. Our thanks to all who participated for your generosity.





A Couple of Dates to Save

We are planning another fundraiser with Petrina's **"One Women Show"** on February 4, 2023, at 6pm at the Mulberry Grove Rec Cener. This is a truly amazing show with one of the best entertainers in The Villages. See the attached flyer and invite your friends. **Tickets will be available at our meeting for just \$15 pp**, or you can get them through the contacts on the flyer. **This is an event you shouldn't miss!**



We are also co-sponsoring the 2023 Giving Clubs Showcase on the same day from 10am-2pm. This event will be at the Lake Miona Rec Center and will showcase over 60 clubs that carry out acts of kindness. This is a truly amazing event that involves clubs and organization here in The Villages that give of their time to create a culture of kindness in our community and beyond. Attached is a flier for this event and any ideas you may have for it would be welcome.

Acknowledging Acts of Kindness

We have several ways to acknowledge acts of kindness. We have our kindness cards that are available to all of you as well as people who request them through our website. We estimate that we have handed out over 40,000 of these!



THANK YOU FOR YOUR POSITIVE ATTITUDE & KINDNESS

To promote a culture of kindness in your community please pass on this card.

FOR INFORMATION & FREE CARDS CONTACT US AT

aaokclub.org

Sponsored by SantoroFoundation.org

We also have a Certificate of Kindness available if you know of someone who deserves special recognition. A great example of this is our member, Cindy Dillon, who wanted to recognize a neighbor, Liz Parrott, who showed special kindness to another neighbor in Polo Ridge.



And we try to have an acknowledgement each month of someone who was suggested to us for their exceptional acts of kindness. Our Candidate Selection and Event Coordination Focus Groups takes these recommendations and creates an event to honor them. We present them with a variety of, and do it in a very creative way, and we would love to have your involvement in this.



Kindness Course

On Wednesday, Jan 11 from 2-4 pm I will be teaching an Enrichment Academy course called “How to Live a Life of Kindness” based on my book of the same name at Lake Miona Rec Center. I will be covering a lot of the 60+ ways to bring kindness into your life from the book. There are still seats available – just a thought. Check out page 36 of the attached catalogue. There are also courses from other club members to include Jacki Rose, John Maiorino, and Tweet Coleman.

Kindness Is the New Cool!

This new book will give you all you need to live a life of kindness!



It's been said that 'Kind' is the new cool. The main thrust of this book is to help you to raise your own level of kindness and promote a culture of kindness wherever you go. This book takes a unique look at the nature, characteristics, and benefits of kindness. Most importantly, it details dozens of ways that you can use to lead a life of kindness. These techniques will help you lead a more fulfilling, happier life, and also to become a prophet of kindness with all those you impact. You will also have fun along the way and experience some wonderful stories of kindness.

Club Shirts, Hats, Nametags, and More

Custom Apparel in the Publix Plaza on 466 has a catalog of products with our logo and their prices are very reasonable. Their catalogue can be seen at [aaokclub merchandise](#). This includes men's and women's Tees and polo shirts, full zipper fleeces, nametags, totes, and hats. And you can order online if desired. Visit them today and checkout their great selections. **Show off your club colors and logo!**

Our Website and Facebook Sites

Our website has been recently updated so you should check it out and share it with your friends.

Website - <https://aaokclub.org>

Facebook Page - <https://www.facebook.com/AcknowledgingActsOfKindness>

Facebook group - <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 January 12th

Stay Healthy, Happy and Kind!

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