



Thank you for your kindness.

Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club Newsletter

May 2024

*The best way to cheer yourself up is to try to
cheer someone else up – Mark Twain*

Our May meeting is on Thursday, May 9th at 12:30 at Bacall Recreation Center. Our member, Kathy Belisle, will tell us about VHA Helping Hands, a Community Services Program that provides free health related equipment to those in need. We will also have Tina Talton tell us about Hands of Mercy Everywhere which provides homes for teen girls, teen mothers, and their babies. Come hear about these two wonderful providers of kindness.

And something new! We will have kindness gifts to give to two people who are attending the meeting. Everyone will receive a raffle ticket and we'll have a drawing at the end of the meeting to see who wins.

Our June meeting will be the last before our summer hiatus in July and August. We will try something a little different and exciting for this and I will be sending you a flyer on it. Put this on your calendar and help us celebrate our "See You in September" meeting.

April Events

April was a pretty busy month:

We had a rather disappointing number of members (8) sign up for Flags for Fallen Vets on May 26th at the Florida National Cemetery. We were hoping for 50 or so, but the good news is that all the buses have been filled. This is one of our most heart-warming events of the year.

Five of our members, Jen Smith, Linda Martin, Pearl Seavitte, and Ron and Linda Stevan volunteered at the Wildwood Soup Kitchen. Thanks to you all! I'm told they all had a great experience and Jen will share some thoughts about this on Thursday. We look forward to more opportunities like this in the future.

The "Follow the Need" shoe drive for ladies of Guatemala was very successful and our thanks to all who were able to donate shoes for the cause. They have had enough donations to help 10 women start their own shoe businesses.

And our member, Barbara Bickley, was able to take place in the "100 Random Acts of Kindness Bus Tour" sponsored by the Brain Health Group. She will share some thoughts about this on Thursday. Thank you, Barbara.

AAOK's

In our April meeting we had the honor of recognizing Cindy Brown for her hard work and kindness. Cindy is an aide to Congressman, Dan Webster, and spreads kindness in our community in so many ways. Thank you, Cindy, for all you do to spread kindness and smiles to our community.

Ways to Get Involved in Our Club

Here are a few upcoming opportunities to be more involved in our club. This was in our last newsletter, and I received a grand total of zero responses. We need your help to make our club work!

- Social Director – Help organize events involving food and social activities.
- Website Manager – Update our website (AAOKClub.org) from time to time. Minimal experience needed – we will train.
- Newsletter Editor – I've been doing this for 5 years. Time for someone else to take over.
- Fundraiser Director – help plan and organize our 2 yearly fundraisers.
- Educational Focus Group – your chance to help promote kindness in our local students. We would like to get some activities started for the next school year.

Let me know if you are interested or would like to know more about a position.

We will also need a new Membership Chair on our Board beginning next year. This is a great chance to be a part of our Board and it will not take a lot of your time.

If any of these possibilities sound good to you contact me at aaokclub@gmail.com. We guarantee it will be a positive, fun experience for you.

Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Events (AAOK's)

Our goal is to have one AAOK each month. Do you know of someone who deserves to be acknowledged for their exceptional kindness? Perhaps a friend or neighbor or even someone you have read about that has done something extraordinarily kind. If so let us know. We have a couple of people we plan on honoring but are always looking for more.

We have over 140 members in our club and are always requesting ideas from you for people we should honor. But we never hear from any of you. Surely some of you must know of someone we should honor. Let us know.

If you know of someone who we should honor just contact me or any of our Board members and we will make sure it happens.

Club Sites to Visit

- **Our club's website**
- **Our Facebook page**
- **Our Facebook group**
- **Custom Apparel** (go to businesses/groups A-L for our catalogue)

See you on May 9th

Stay Healthy, Happy and Kind!

Lindsay Collier, President, Lindsaycollier@comcast.net

Constant kindness can accomplish much. As the sun makes ice melt, kindness causes misunderstanding, mistrust, and hostility to evaporate. – Albert Schweitzer