



*Thank you for your kindness.*

## **Acknowledging Acts of Kindness Club Newsletter - April 2025**

*“Kindness is loaning someone your strength instead of reminding them of their weakness.”*

We've had a great year so far and have some exciting meetings coming up to round out our year before we take our summer break in July and August.

Our April meeting is this coming Thursday, the 10<sup>th</sup>, at 12:30 – 2:00 at the Bacall Recreation Center and promises to be a very different one. Jen Smith will be leading us through the process of making

“Plarn” which is used to make beds for the homeless. What a great idea! It’s a chance to show kindness to our earth by utilizing plastic bags to make beds to show kindness to our homeless. Please bring your own best scissors. Jen will have a demonstration of the beds and how they are made. Don’t miss this!

We will also hear from Lyla Laino from Follow the Need International about their upcoming shoe drive to help employ women in Kenya.

In May I will be giving a mini version of the course I teach at the Enrichment Academy on “How to Live a Life of Kindness” based on my book of the same name.

And our June meeting will be a “no business – just fun” Ice Cream Social to help us say goodbye for the summer.

## Welcome to Our New Member

A warm welcome to our new member, Geralyn Faynor, from the village of Delaney.

We have recently updated our membership and have about 90 active members. We are always looking for new members who want to be active in our events, so feel free to pass the word to friends and neighbors.

## Acknowledging Acts of Kindness (AAOK) Events

Our Candidate Selection and Event Coordination Leader, Cathi Coy, has put together a list of upcoming AAOK’s through October so there will be lots of opportunities to join us in these events. These are fun and consume very little of your time (a normal AAOK takes about 15

minutes). We promise you will leave feeling good all over. Contact Cathi if you would like to be involved or if you have someone you'd like to nominate for their amazing kindness. Cathi can be reached at [Cathi Coy](#).

We had a very exciting AAOK on March 11<sup>th</sup> just prior to our meeting where we honored Barbara McManus for the wonderful kindness she has shown in all her work with the Wildwood Soup Kitchen. This was held at their annual awards dinner for all those who volunteer at the Soup Kitchen. Our thanks to those of you who helped serve the meals and participated in honoring Barbara.

## St Pat's Day Parade

This year we again participated in the annual St. Pat's Day parade in Spanish Springs. Thanks to all who took part in this annual event! As usual we had a great time and got a great reception from a huge, green crowd.







## Giving Clubs Showcase

It seems like a long way away but save the date on your calendar for our bi-annual Giving Clubs Showcase. It will be on Saturday, October 25<sup>th</sup> from 10-2 at Everglades Recreation Center.



## Kindness Opportunities

Our Outreach Coordinator, Jen Smith, has been doing a wonderful job providing kindness opportunities for our members. There is probably no place on earth that has more opportunities to spread kindness. Come to the meeting to find more about these.

## Website Updates

Chris Coy has been doing a great job of making some changes that will ease navigation, enhance the club information, and make everything easier to find. Here are some of the things you will now find on the site:

- All newsletters will be there with the current one posted on the "Home" page.
- All kindness presentations will be easily accessed.

- Our calendar will include all our upcoming events.
- The form for nominating those to be acknowledged will be easy to download.
- And much more!

Thanks so much, Chris, for your help! Keep checking the site at [aaokclub.org](http://aaokclub.org) for more updates and pass it on to others.

## Fundraiser

Here's another date to save. We have a very exciting fundraiser coming up in November with Petrina and her **Crazy Trivia Show**. For those who have never seen Petrina perform, you will be in for a real treat. The date is Saturday, November 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm at the Colony Recreation Center. Our fundraiser will help us carry out our events, and also to contribute to other groups we support such as Project SOS, Honor Flight, and more.

We could really use a few volunteers to help us with this. Please let me know if you can help.



## Our Kindness Cards

When we started our club 6 years ago, we were all about handing out our kindness cards to people we spotted doing kind acts. This is still one of our strengths. Every time you acknowledge someone increases the chance they will continue their kind acts. People love to be recognized, and it makes you feel great too.

We always have plenty of cards at the meeting and, if you can't make the meeting, let me know how many you want, and we will figure out how to get them to you.



## Areas Where We Need Your Help.

We could use your help in a couple of areas. I know many of you are busy, but we could really use some help in these areas. None of them will take a lot of your time.

- Social Director – Help organize events involving food and social activities. You won't be alone – a lot of us will help you out.
- Newsletter Editor – I've been doing this for 6 years. Time for someone else to take over.



- Fundraiser – We need some of you to help in our November Fundraiser.

Let me know if you are interested or would like to know more about a position. Your help will be greatly appreciated.

### 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 of shirts and other AAOK stuff)

See you on April 10th

Stay Healthy, Happy and Kind!

Lindsay Collier, President, [lindsaycollier@comcast.net](mailto:lindsaycollier@comcast.net).

**WHEN YOU CAN'T  
FIND THE  
SUNSHINE, BE THE  
SUNSHINE.**

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