

PUBLISHED ANNUALLY, NOVEMBER THROUGH APRIL, BY CAREFREE COUNTRY CLUB • 9705 LAKE BESS RD. • WINTER HAVEN, FL • 33884

MESSAGE FROM OUR NEW PRESIDENT!



I look forward to representing you as your new President of the Board of Directors of Carefree Country Club and congratulate our newly elected Directors and Officers. I would also like to thank out-going Officers, President Charlie Rogers, Treasurer, Ennis Robertson and Secretary, Duane Zaun for their dedicated service over the past years in various positions on the Board. Thanks to all the Committee Chairmen, Committee Members and Volunteers who gave their time to make Carefree a great place to be.

The next year will be challenging as the Board works to continue to improve our beautiful park and listens to the ideas of all our residents.

To all who will soon be leaving for the summer have a safe trip home and I look forward to seeing you in the fall.

Andy Kiriluk, # 457



CAREFREE COUNTRY CLUB

MISSION STATEMENT

(Who we are, our purpose, and reason for being)

Carefree Country Club is a resident owned adult cooperative gated community providing top-quality services, and a wide variety of activities which meet a lifestyle commensurate with the expectations of its residents.

VISION STATEMENT

(An image of the future we seek to create)

Carefree Country Club is a friendly, adult gated community of 500 units where residents feel welcome. Through cooperation with management, resident volunteers participate in committees and activities ensuring a healthy environment and enhancing community well-being for current as well as future residents. The Board of Directors, management, committees, residents and employees cooperate to provide a vision for the future which uses innovation and technology to meet new challenges with new ideas in a cost effective and exceptional manner.

(Adopted by Board of Directors at March 8, 2007, meeting)

Thanks so much to all of you for your concern, prayers, cards, and cheer-up visits during Don's "events" in January. It truly is heartwarming and reassuring to be part of this Carefree community. Thank you, thank you.!



Don and Carol Montgomery #681

Thank you to our many friends at Carefree who have been here for us since the difficult, unexpected loss of our son, Mark. The flowers, cards, memorials, support, prayers, hugs and handshakes are all very much appreciated. "Don't stop Believin'".

Bill & Shirley Selisker, # 467

Thank you for all your prayers, cards, words of encouragement and many acts of kindness following the death of my Mother.

Joyce Kovert & Family, # 249

We want to thank all the loving, caring people in Carefree for all your cards, prayers and visits. What a great group of friends you are! Thank you.

Bob & Mary Gospeter, # 254

I would like to thank all the people who sent flowers, cards and prayers for the recent death of my Mother on February 2nd.

Bob DeBord, # 469

Thank you Carefree friends for your prayers and concerns over my recent trip to the hospital. Thanks also for all the cards, phone calls and goodies. It sure helps with the healing process. What a great place to live not only when you can take part in all the activities but when you aren't feeling "up to par".

Dick Badgley Lot # 636

We wish to thank the Carefree Community for being such a source of joy for our Mom, Jean Bailey, and a source of support to all of us during her final months.

We are most grateful.

The Family of Jean Bailey



I truly appreciate your expressions of caring and concern in the passing of my Mother. Thank you for the flowers and gifts. Your generosity reminds me of just how blessed I am by those who surround me with kindness and compassion during this difficult time. Thank you for allowing me to matter to you.

Michael Rice, Golf Superintendent

Many, many thanks to my Carefree Family for your prayers, cards, visits, flowers, phone calls, goodies and meals. Your concern, generosity, and kindnesses make Carefree a wonderful community, and a special place in which to recuperate. Love and appreciation.

Sally Hammond, # 626

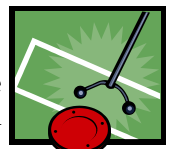
A Special "Thank You" to Randy Giger, who washes homes in our community. Randy washed my Father's home, shed, and driveway as a gift for his 102nd Birthday in July. This was a very thoughtful thing for Randy to do and was very much appreciated.

Dad is Syd Drager on lot #732.

Thank you Randy!

Shirley Francis, # 718

SHUFFLEBOARD



Well after two days of marathon playing we have two new champions Don Voce won 1st place and Al Herridge was runner up. Marlene Vrooman came in 1st For the ladies and GeGe Vickery was runner-up.

We had our tournament dinner in the upper Clubhouse on Sunday, March 11th. Lots of really good food and a lot of laughs.

Comes join us next year and have fun.

Don and Lana Voce, # 624

THANK YOU CAREFREE!



You made the Spring Fling a huge success.

Bakers you outdid yourselves with goodies; vendors thank you for participating; thank you crafters your projects will be greatly enjoyed next season; and to all the ladies that volunteered to work, a special thank you.

Joy Gordon & Carolyn Hapke

CAREFREE BOOK CLUB



Our next meeting will be Tuesday, April 10th at 7:00 p.m. at the Golf Center.

"The Master Butchers Singing Club" by Louise Erdrich will be discussed.

November 2007 – Book will be "Devil in a White City" by Erik Larson

Everybody Welcome.

For more information contact:
Kay Hathaway # 348 (324-717)
or Pat Retherford #815 (325-9891)

THANK YOU

I would like to thank all of you who made my first year as Activities Special Events Coordinator such a pleasure. You have provided Carefree with a year of fun and entertainment. I am so proud of all of you for a job well done. I couldn't have done my job without you. It's so nice to see so many new faces here and I would like to encourage all of our new residents to call me or any other coordinator to volunteer your time and expertise. There is no better way to become an active part of our community than to volunteer! Have a wonderful summer and we will see you again in the fall.



Judy Kiriluk, Special Events Coordinator, # 457

**"Ah, summer, what power
you have to make us suffer
and like it."**

—Russell Baker

RECYCLING COMMITTEE

Recycling will end April 1. Thanks to all the volunteers who kept this volunteer service working.

To continue after April 1 the following is available to you. Plastic bags, egg cartons, other styrofoam cartons can be taken to Publix.

The county maintains large containers two blocks from the hospital. Turn left off 1st Street and go two blocks. There are containers for phone books, plastic bottles, glass, tin cans and cardboard.



Ed Richards, Chairman, # 712
Dick Gengler, # 824

RECYCLED GREETING CARDS!



The recycled cards were taken to Dee Forsman, former Carefree Resident, now living at Lake Howard Heights and the group there sent the following message:

"A special thank-you from Lake Howard Heights goes out to you for the cards given to us and we appreciate Dee getting them for us. Thank you!"

I will continue to collect cards during April.

Eulalie Wicklund, # 438

THURSDAY BOWLERS!!!



We had the wrong telephone Number for George in the March Issue. Here is the correct one:

George Aberts, 324-1743
Gene Johnson, 324-5590

If you have any questions, please give us a call!

NEW PICTURES



Thanks to Leroy Martinson for taking pictures of our activities. Also Nancy Martinson, Nancy Boere, and Linda Andre for the beautiful display on our picture bulletin board, outside of the Marketing Office. Stop and take a look!

Peg Smith, # 585

**THE CAREFREE
GREY EAGLES**

The Carefree Gray Eagles met on Monday, March 19th, in the upper Clubhouse. Wayne Bailey, Unit 614, presented a DVD and some personal recollections on more than 10 years with Pacific Western Airlines, Air Cargo Division.

The one hour presentation on moving oil rigs via C130 Hercules in the Canadian High Arctic and other types of cargo to many parts of the world, was well received by 30 Gray Eagles and friends.

Our next meeting will be on Monday, April 16th!

Plan to join us!



Art Tomes, # 552

Blood Mobile

The Blood Mobile will be here on Friday, April 13th from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 noon. Please be a donor for this important cause.



Sign up sheets will be located on the bulletin board in the Lower Clubhouse by the pool.

Thanks.

Mary Wedig #350

CAREFREE BEARS

Good work, ladies! We have completed and donated over 600 stuffed bears this season to Winter Haven Hospital; Regency Medical Center and the Sheriff's Department.



Thanks to everyone for your monetary and other donations. They are very much appreciated! The last day for working on the bears will be Thursday, April 5th from 1:30 to 3 p.m. at the Lake Bess Room.



Knitted baby hats for the Regency program (preemie babies) seems to be taking off. We've already received some completed hats and know the ladies are hard at work. The local stores are out of knitting needles!

Marion Roberts, # 689, 325-9030

THE LAST DANCE!



Saturday, April 7th
From 7:30 to 10:30 p.m.
Music by The Heartland Band

Convenors: Lary & JoAnn Dillavou, # 247
Alice & Gary Gilbertson, # 257
Bill & Christine Baxter, # 245



Many, many thanks to everyone who made the **Flea Market** such a success. Thanks to all those who parked cars, set up and took down tables, brought baked goods, prepared lunch, priced and sold items, donated items, purchased donuts, coffee or lunch, bought tables and items for sale.

We made \$906.02.

Sandy Weber, # 638
Barb Rowe, # 1027

Congratulations to the . . .

**NEW CLUB GOLF
CHAMPIONS OF 2007**



- Bev Lewis – Ladies Low Gross
- Jo Anderson – Senior Ladies
- Paul Dawson – Men's Low Gross
- Don O. Olsen – Senior Men's Champion
- Kay Dawson – Ladies Low Net

After a closely contested tie breaker play-off with Brad Buckner, Roger Kantner and Mike Landry, Jim Morgan became the Men's Low Net Champion.

Many thanks to the 178 total entrants in the four tournaments and an extra special thank you to the countless volunteers who made the tournament successful.

Bob Borgstrom & Bud Aber

LAWYERS FOR CLOSINGS!



Please be advised that **Weaver** will no longer be doing closings for Carefree! You can cross their name off the list in your Blue Book!

ACTIVITIES



Writing that first article for the Carefree Times back in October, the end of season seemed so far off, but it's already time to say good-bye. Has this been another great year or what? Dances, bingo, art classes, movies, luncheons and the list goes on and on. How could one possibly say enough about all the coordinators and volunteers who made this season another lasting memory for Carefree residents. I applaud each of you, especially my Activity Committee. Without you and your volunteers none of this could have happened.

Personally speaking, out of all the activities this season I have to say I really enjoyed the 20th Anniversary. It goes without saying that all the hours spent putting it together was a true labor of love and admiration for all the Carefree residents that have been here for 20 plus years. Each thank you card and e-mail we've received shows that you agree with us. Activities had assumed that this event would cost us, boy were we surprised! The Flamingo event raised over \$2,000 and with donations that followed, we showed a profit of \$755.41. Each Carefree resident that chose to get involved was further proof of a caring community we each call home. Thank you once again.

On behalf of Activities we wish each of you a Happy Easter and a safe trip back north. Until we meet again in the fall, stay happy and most importantly, stay healthy!

Kay Dawson, # 448

CAREFREE TRAVEL CLUB NEWS

A trip planned for next February, 2008, is Savanna and Charleston. The information is on the bulletin board, lower level of the Clubhouse. To reserve, please call the number listed on the pamphlet.



Thank you to Channel 95, the Carefree Times, and our Carefree Website for posting information for us.

A special "thanks" to those that traveled this season, and everyone at Carefree for attending our "Travel Club" meetings. Because of inactivity in "travel", we will not be holding "Travel Club" next season.

Your Travel Coordinators,
Judy & Harold Honkola - Lot 710
Virginia & Jim Kirchoff - Lot 435

DOCUMENT REVIEW PROCESS UNDERWAY



A committee, comprising of Sal Aquilino, Charlie Rogers, Diana Strejc, Frank Weiss, Duane Zaun and Jerry Lerom, was charged with the responsibility of reviewing the five Carefree Corporation documents. The committee has completed an initial review of each document, and is currently studying each document in depth, noting specific language that will be considered for amending.

The committee has identified one important change that should be addressed now. Specifically, the Declaration of Covenants(*), initially a developer driven document, contains language pertaining to the "developer" of Carefree. Considering the developer is no longer involved, this needs to be addressed, but— not so simple!!!! Unlike the Bylaws and Articles that can be amended with a simple majority (251 plus) of all designated voters, the Covenants require 80% (400) to amend. Several years ago Carefree's attorney urged Carefree to amend the covenants' rather "cumbersome amendment process" and make it consistent with the Bylaws and Articles. The committee feels strongly that this change should be made now.

Amending the Covenants doesn't require a special membership meeting, but can be done with a ballot mailed to the members, completed and mailed back to Carefree. If 400 members approve the change to the Covenants it will be easier to make other important changes later. The committee will be discussing this recommendation at the April BOD meeting.

As we continue with the review process we will be addressing a number of suggested improvements/ amendments, discussing these with you and asking for your input. We hope you will take a few minutes to check out the documents in your Blue Book as we make reference to them. It is important to remember — these documents drive the decision making process at Carefree.

Jerry Lerom, # 858

(*)Declaration of Covenants is a governing document that helped create the legal foundation for Carefree Country Club, recorded with Polk County Clerk of Court and "goes with the land".



CAREFREE CHAPEL
COMMITTEE



Carefree Chapel is wrapping up another good year under the direction of Pastor Ray Haugland.

Holy Week will be celebrated with a communion service on Palm Sunday, April 1st, and Easter Sunday services on Sunday, April 8th, at 9:30 a.m. There will be a brunch at 11:30 on Easter Sunday morning. Tickets for the brunch are \$5.00 and can be purchased from Jean Westermann (318-0519), Mary Stewart (326-1646) or Harriet Mouw (875-1648).

We are so grateful to Pastor Ray Haugland for his spiritual leadership this year. We were also grateful that Pastor Gil Meseke was able to provide services for us for two Sundays while Ray was on a cruise with his family to celebrate the 50th anniversary of his marriage to Dorothy.

Carolyn Collin directs our wonderful choir. The choir selections are always well rehearsed and always support the message for the day. Every voice in the choir is appreciated and together they make an excellent music. Belle Heald works behind the scenes to keep things running smoothly. Jean Petrie ably directed the choir in Carolyn's absence. Thank you all.

Joan Plauda and Eva Downs have been our organists for this season and we have greatly enjoyed their musical offerings. We are so fortunate to have their talent available to us. Thank you.

Our services are broadcast on Channel 95 every Sunday. I often hear from people that watch our services every Sunday. This ministry is available because of the efforts of our Audio Visual team (Bill Roach, Jim Koksall, Gene Petrie and Walt Shadick, and Ray Petersen) that does such a wonderful job for the chapel and for the park. Thanks guys for making this ministry possible.

What would we do without the ushers and hostesses? Ushering at Carefree Chapel involves all the usual ushering duties plus setting up chairs and taking them down and putting them away. Carl Benhase has done an excellent job of providing ushers for us every season for as long as I can remember. Thank you Carl, ushers and hostesses.

Thank you Art Hunt for taking on the job of treasurer. Every week money counters count the offering and then Art has the responsibility of making the deposits and dispersing the funds and reporting to the committee. We appreciate you all. Continued . . .

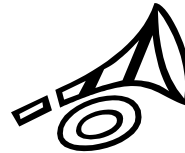
Carefree Chapel Committee – Continued. . . .

There are so many things that go into making Carefree Chapel what it is. Pauline Clark has been setting up for communion services for 20 years now! The beautiful flowers that enhance our services every Sunday are ordered and set up by Jean Petrie. Jean also serves as Vice Chair for the Chapel Committee. Mary Stewart types and prints the bulletin every week and acts as secretary for the Chapel Committee. Gene Johnson, Roger Kantner and John Heald serve on the Chapel committee and we value their direction. Thank you all. Together we are able to offer a place to worship in our Carefree community.

Have a wonderful, healthy summer.
We hope to see all of you again next fall.

Jean Westermann, # 705

GOLD TONES



Do you play a musical instrument? We are looking for musicians of all abilities that love to play.

We would love to have you join us for a Jam Session at 2:00 on January 3rd of 2008. We are going to re-organize the Gold Tones and get together to play for the fun of it until we see what direction the group wants to take. Bring your instrument with you next year when you come to Carefree. We think we can have a lot of fun.

Pat Richards # 712,
Jean Westermann # 705

NOTE FROM OUR CAREFREE HISTORIAN!



We are collecting stories and photos on the history of Carefree Country Club for our "History of Carefree Country Club" publication which will be published in 2008.

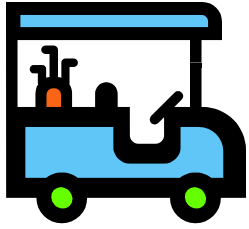
If you have information that is now at your "Northern" address please bring it with you when you return in the Fall so we can include it in our collection.

If you would like to mail any material for the history book over the summer months you can be sent to me at:

1406 Rest Point Road,
Mound, MN 55364

Les Horn, # 807

'FORE' YOUR INFORMATION



.With the writing of this article, another successful season of golf is coming to a close. As chair of golf, I'd like to thank my committee members and their volunteers for another great year. Each volunteer ensures a smooth running golf course and center for each Carefree resident. These volunteers make the position of chair an enjoyable experience and I appreciate each of you.

The golf season started with a few bumps, but by working together with both our new staff and volunteers these issues were addressed and we all enjoyed a great year. With monies from the committee for a trim mower, we expect to see a new and improved course next fall.

Another donation of \$1,000.00 was given to the association to off-set the expense of a new buildings and grounds building. This committee deserves our thanks for all their projects including the Golf Center which each of us enjoys both for golf as well as cards and private parties.

We hope you're all enjoying your new Carefree logo clothing. With another successful year we look forward to offering new items sooner. Expect to see new items by November, and we'll try our best to find visors for the ladies as well.

Hats off to Bob and Kathy Borgstrom and Bud and Sue Aber for another successful Annual Tournament. They along with their volunteers gave each participant a well run event even with a rain date.

The Golf Committee welcomes two new members for next season, Marv Arthur and Patty Pennington. Don Lenhart and Glen Kelley after serving six and five years respectfully are taking semi-retirement. Our thanks to each of you.

Have a great summer, and with God's blessing, we'll see you in the fall.

Paul Dawson, Chair, # 448

The new address for the **Carefree Website** is:
www.carefreecountryclub.org

Articles for the Carefree Times can be sent to:
times@carefreecountryclub.org

2007 STREET BOCCE BALL TOURNEY

486 Carefree residents participated based on a daily count (approx). 126 games were played.



A parade was led by a "motorcycle brigade" (scooters); Frank Farrington was the Grand Marshall riding in a vintage Olds convertible.. Queen candidates followed in decorated golf carts. A 4-piece "band" on a flat bed trailer belted out tunes led by accordionist, George Arndt. 3rd and 4th Street had the top participation numbers resulting in the selection of Judy McArthur as 2007 Bocce Queen.

The 7th Street Saints are the champions with 3rd and 4th Streets coming in 2nd; and 5th Street was 3rd.

"Winner" of the monkey (6th Place) was 6th Street.

Thanks to all participants, Captains, Judges and helpers who again made the event a lot of fun. Special thanks to Del Cowel and his helpers for a great lunch.

Convenor: Ron Nelson, # 610

55 & ALIVE!



An "AARP Driver's Safety Class" will be held again in the Fall of 2007.

Mark your calendars for:

November 12 from 10:30 to 2:30 and
November 13th from 9:30 to 1:30.

Look for the sign-up sheet when you come back in the Fall. It will be posted in the pool hallway.

Edna Danielson – 325-0929
Pauline Kaskinen, 324-9519

BOCCE BALL

All players have enjoyed a great season, as the Bocce Ball Courts have been very well maintained. After a well attended competition the 2007 Carefree Bocce Ball Champions are Don & Carime Corbett.

Let's look forward to 2008 and another great season.

Marianne Kiegel, # 431

DANCES – 2007-2008



Sat. Dec. 1 Welcome Back Dance
7:30 – 10:30 p.m. Heartland Band
Conveners: Don & Janis King # 250

Mon. Dec. 31 New Year's Eve Dance
8:15 – 12:15 a.m. Heartland Band
Conveners: Fred & Katie Ducham # 769
 Howard & Carol Houghton # 472

Sat. Jan. 12 Brats Dinner-Dance
5 – 6 p.m. Dinner
6 – 9 p.m. Dance – Roger Schultz
Conveners: Del & Carolyn Hapke, # 337

Sat. Jan. 26 Winter Dance
7:30 – 10:30 p.m. Double Take
Conveners: Tucker & Joann Gray, # 243
 Bob & Martha Thomason, # 238
 Bud & Mary Lou Field, # 263

Sat. Feb 9 Valentine's Dance
7:30 – 10:30 p.m. Second Time Around
Conveners: Dick & Rae Pearson, # 611
 Dick & Sondra Hausker, # 133
 Ron & Sharon Nelson, # 610

Sat. March 8 St. Patrick's Dance
7:30 – 10:30 p.m. Len & Lois
Conveners: Ralph & Norma Domras, # 523
 Larry & Bonnie Heezen, # 812



... FROM THE EDITOR!

A special thanks to Shirley Francis, # 718, and her Committee for delivering the Carefree Times each month. Thanks too, to Jean Petrie for preparing the calendar and list of committees.

The deadline for the November 2007 issue of the Carefree Times will be Thursday, October 18th. If you have access to e-mail I would appreciate getting articles that way. Articles can be e-mailed to:

times@carefreecountryclub.org

Handwritten articles can be dropped off at Lot 533.

Have a happy & healthy summer!

CAREFREE NATURAL HISTORY

By Byron Bratlie # 909



As some of you probably know by now we have one baby owl in the nest near the Clubhouse. Apparently one of the eggs had fallen out of the nest somehow. The young one is probably about 2 weeks old as of

March 20th. The most likely explanation for the egg on the ground is that a crow or blue jay tried to steal it.

I have had reports of two sets of twin Sandhill Crane chicks in the park but have been unable to find more than one set at a time. I know there was a set at Lake Bess, so maybe they wondered over here.

For the people who were not here, I'm going to list the birds I have coming to my feeders. I have about sixteen species that are regulars, plus a few others that visit the yard. The regulars are Wild Turkey, Bobwhite Quail, White-Winged Dove, Eurasian Collared Dove, Mourning Dove, Common Ground Dove, Red-Bellied Woodpecker, Blue Jay, Northern Cardinal, Eastern Towhee, Red-Winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Boat-Tailed Grackle, Brown-Headed Cowbird, Northern Mockingbird. Visitors are Fish Crow, Carolina Wren, Brown Thrasher, Yellow-Rumped Warbler, Palm Warbler, and right now I have two or three Gray Catbirds that have been here about a week. I have also had Gray Fox, Rabbits, Raccoons, Bobcat and an occasional Gopher Tortoise.

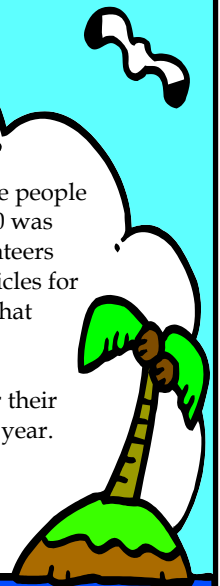
We should be having young ospreys in the nest in the near future.

CANCER FUN-D DAY!

Cancer Fun-d Day was exactly that! The people of Carefree did a super job! Over \$5,600 was raised this year. Thanks to all the volunteers that worked; those that contributed articles for the raffle and silent auction; and those that contributed to the 158 luminaries.

A special thanks to the Doten family for their hosting and working so hard again this year. Thanks Carefree!

Mary & Lew Trumper, # 835



MARKETING

Twenty years ago, Harold Wargin, who worked with John Olson, the developer of Carefree Country Club, made a statement that "someday there will be a waiting list of people who will want to buy in Carefree Country Club". That statement has come true – as of today, March 17th, 2007, we have zero lots and units for sale.

We have a waiting list started in the Marketing Office and already have four parties interested in purchasing a unit or lot. Owners have sold 34 units and lots since October 1, 2006 to the present time.

I want to thank all the volunteers of the Marketing Committee for their dedication and making this a special year.

They are as follows:

Jim Augedahl, Bob Carlisle, Loren Dorman, Joann Fischer, Fred Gengler, Betty Hall, Kay Hathaway, Avaunne Hed, Del Hoeschen, Roger Hoeschen, Marilyn Johnson, Don King, Arlene Lawrence, Eleanor Malone, Gil Meseke, Jack Moulton, Herb Nelson, Carol Neville, Adolph Passint, Don Peterson, Phyllis Pokorny, Arden Sanstead, Art Tomes, Edsel Wicklund and Board liaison, Twylva Ring.



I also want to thank Bill Roach for the outstanding website and LeRoy Martinson for being our photographer.

Before leaving this spring be sure to stop in at the Marketing Office and pick up Information Packages to take back home to give to friends and relatives. They are located on the table next to Marketing Office.

Betty Hall, Chairperson, # 622

THANK YOU

I want to thank the residents of Carefree for allowing me to serve on the Board of Directors for the past three years. I thank them for their support, suggestions and encouragement. In addition, I want to thank my fellow board members, committee members and administration staff for their assistance, ideas and cooperation in providing me with the necessary information to enhance board communications. Most importantly, I want to thank my wife, Mary, for giving up time together so that I could fulfill my duties and responsibilities as director and secretary.

When you see me relaxing on my patio, stop and say hi, and who knows maybe I'll have a Pepsi or two on ice for us to enjoy. Good Bless all of you.

Duane Zaun, # 364
Retiring Board Member & Secretary



CAREFREE
THURSDAY
BOWLING LEAGUE



The Rattlers and the Wolverines will be battling it out to see who will have bragging rights for the 2007 bowling season.

Individual high average for men goes to Dean Tabbert, Bob Thomason and Mike Stepp. Individual high average for the ladies were Martha Thomason, Janet Davis and Joan Johnson.

Most improved average for men goes to Erv Duncley, Richard Davis and Fred Harris. Most improved average for the women goes to Norma Domras, Jane Johnson and Gloria McGuire.

I would like to thank our Treasurer, Roger Pansch, and his wife, Rita, for taking excellent care of our bookkeeping. And a special thjank you to Co-Chairman, George Aberts (and his wife, Sharon) for all their hard work in putting our bowling banquet together at the Whistle Junction on March 29th. Rumor has it that they procured as many as forty to fifty gifts for our bowlers. Way to go George and Sharon!

George and I would like to thank all the team captains and bowlers for a great, fun season. Hope to see everyone back next season.

Gene Johnson, Co-Chairman, # 776

SENIOR SOFTBALL USA



In February the Senior Softball USA held a National Tournament of Champions in Lakeland. A total of 98 teams in different age groups attended.

Carefree resident, Fred Ducham, played with the Michigan Gray Sox Team which qualified for this tournament by winning the Midwest Section in August 2006.

In Lakeland, Fred was one of the leading hitters on the team which won the title in the 75 Division.

Fred was honored by being named to the Tournament All Star Team.

Congratulations, Fred Ducham, Lot 769!

15TH ANNUAL POLK SENIOR GAMES – 2007

Carefree had another good year in the Polk Senior Games held Feb. 24 – March 11, 2007. 78 Carefree residents participated in 127 events winning 26 Gold, 12 Silver, and 13 Bronze medals. This is the 9th year that Bocce competition has been held at Carefree. Marianne and her volunteer staff again did a great job in hosting the event. Medal results are recapped below:

Bocce Doubles (60 Carefree participants, 21 medals)

Gold: Penny Harkins/Karen Almberg, Lary Dillavou/Don King, Carime Corbett/Don Corbett, Bob Smith/Fred McGhee, Ed McCarty/Sherm Olson, Frank Farrington

Silver: Tom Devereaux/Jeanne Dobroski, Marjorie Melhuish/Ross Melhuish

Bronze: Nancy Landry/Mike Landry, Byron Bratlie/Betty Bratlie, Velma Karstetter/Bea Hoffman

Walking (4 participants, 5 medals)

Jim Corbeil – 2 Gold in 5K and 1500 meter

Janet Davis – Golf in 1500 meter, Silver in 5K

Bill Baxter – Silver in 5K

Bowling (5 participants, 5 medals)

Frank Farrington – 2 Gold in Singles and Mixed Doubles

Virgil Enger – Gold in singles, Silver in Doubles

Ray Haugland – Silver in Doubles



Other Medal Winners

Tennis Women’s Doubles – Silver, Sharon Nelson & Bert Mackey

Softball – Gold, Ron Carrothers & Bob Lewis

Cribbage Doubles – Gold, Sherm Olson; Bronze, Byron Bratlie

Duplicate Bridge – Bronze, Katy Ducham & Don Corbett

Pepper – Silver, Katy Ducham

Euichre – Bronze, Chuck Sanders

Pass, Punt & Kick – Gold, Bill Wilson

Golf Putting – Gold, Ralph Duchene



Top Medal Winners

Jim Corbeil – 2 Gold in Walking 5K & 1500 meter, Silver in Shuffle

Board Singles, 2 Bronze in High Jump & Swimming – 100 yd. Individual Medley

Bob Smith – 4 Gold in Bocce Doubles, Badminton Singles & Doubles, Racquet Ball Doubles, Bronze in Racquet Ball Singles

Frank Farrington – 4 Gold in Bocce Doubles, Bowling Singles & Mixed Doubles, Softball Throw

New Records

Jim Corbeil – 5K Walk 28:49:08, New record and the fastest time recorded in the history of the games.

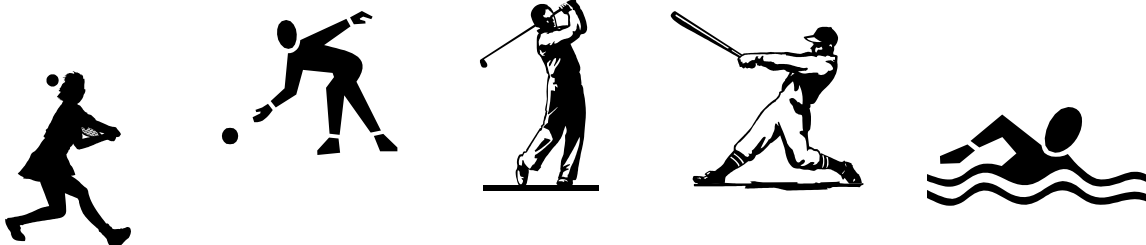
1500 Meter Walk – 8:25:21, New Record

Janet Davis – 1500 Meter Walk 11:02:08. New record breaking her record of last year

Virgil Enger – 743 in Bowling Singles, the highest score in the history of the Games

Ron Carrothers along with others was honored for participating in all Polk Senior Games since the inception in 1992. Fred Ducham would have received that recognition also, except he chose to compete in the National Softball Tournament of Champions held at Lakeland at the same time. He received special honors in this competition noted in an accompanying article.

Bob Smith – # 351



Long Range Community Improvement Meeting

A Resident's Meeting was held on Saturday, March 24th in the upper Clubhouse. Over 130 people participated in an open forum meeting regarding moving forward on upgrading the present facilities at Carefree and/or building an additional facility. Four concepts were on display.

Many questions were asked and feedback given. It was enlightening to include all residents in this "brainstorming" session. Enough material was gathered to allow Long Range Planning to move forward. Gathering information and including the needs in one plan will be the next step. After that we will be requesting money put in the budget to do a feasibility study . This will be a giant step toward accomplishing our goals.

The residents also asked questions on many other issues. Among the topics discussed besides the new facilities were:

- * the five acres that has been discussed purchasing for several years
- * the status of the wastewater plant
- * "Impact Fees"
- * security – a very big concern

It was evident, and expressed by many people, that these kind of meetings are necessary and allowed all residents to feel valued.

Thank you to all who showed interest in the future of Carefree.

Thank you to all of you that came on a beautiful Saturday afternoon and participated. We appreciate all the comments.

The Long Range Planning Team