



PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY CAREFREE COUNTRY CLUB • 9705 LAKE BESS RD. • WINTER HAVEN, FL • 33884

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

It will come as no surprise to you when I suggest that things at Carefree never seem to be the same. Just when we think that we have it all together we come face to face with changing expectations. Where do these expectations come from? A very quick study would suggest they come from us. That also should come as no surprise to you. Throughout our lives we have been challenged by conditions, concerns, needs, responsibilities that require us to consider and plan for change. Why should it be different now? It is either status quo or a different plan; it is either bigger and better or smaller and better, it is the good old ways or the good new ways. In any case it requires that we be prepared to make a choice. That is the crux of my message.

Some years ago I recall hearing a demographer describe his concerns about the problems in trying to predict the future. He said "that the problem in trying to predict the future was that it wasn't what it used to be." I spent some time with that thought and have come to realize that in the real world we must take every opportunity to be informed and aware of those issues that affect our lives and community. I am of the opinion that we do that well at Carefree. We are clearly an exception to the often quoted statement "that men and women of our generation do not buy green bananas".

Let me predict some things that are in Carefree's, and your future. We will be considering a budget for the coming fiscal year that will dictate the means by which we will operate and provide services to the members of our association. Does it meet your expectations for the future? Be informed and aware! The State of Florida also has expectations for our future in requiring that we update our Waste Water Treatment Plant by 2010, and it has financial requirements that we must address. Be informed and aware! Various study groups are preparing proposals regarding our existing facilities that suggest alternatives for improvement based on changing needs. They should be heard and given serious consideration.

Continued

Message from the President....continued

We will be celebrating the birth of Carefree in March of this year. We will have the opportunity to revisit Carefree of the mid 1980's and compare it to the Carefree of today and perhaps give thought to the Carefree of the future. We will have the opportunity to remember those members of the Carefree community who have come before us, whose plans for the future have provided us with the Carefree that we have come to know and appreciate. Will those who come after us entertain the same opinions?

Charles A. Rogers, # 555



FEBRUARY NEW RESIDENTS' RECEPTION



Everyone is invited to meet, greet and welcome our new *Carefree* residents at a reception Sunday, February 11th at 7 p.m. in the Upper Clubhouse. Please wear your name tag for our new residents.

- Make over 80 newcomers feel comfortable in our fine community.
- Talk about the many positive aspects of our *Carefree* history.
- Ask them about their interests and fields of expertise in a relaxed and fun-filled evening with coffee, cookies and ice cream.
- Enjoy our *Carefree* Fun Band directed by Peg Smith; some classical piano by Joan Plauda and more.
- For more information contact Frank or Kathy Weis at 318-1781.

Welcome Committee – Frank & Kathy Weis, #821
318-1781

COME ALL RENTERS & OWNERS!
POT LUCK – NY, NJ, DE, PA, MD

Saturday, February 17th
Shuffleboard at 1 p.m followed by
cocktail hour at 4 and dinner at 5 p.m.
in the Upper Clubhouse



Door Prizes!
Sign up in Pool Hallway!

Sue Aber, # 554
Mary Ann Coopy, # 648
Mary Margaret Johnston, # 851

LADIES, YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!

Each year Carefree tries to offer a number of craft classes that can be completed in one or two sessions. I am looking for ladies who have a craft project they would be wiling to teach to the residents of Carefree, to participate in SHOW & TELL at the Spring Fling Bazaar, Bake Sale and Craft Sale that will take place on March 9th. This actually means that you will sit at a table with your craft and people can sign up to participate in the making of your project. These craft classes will take place during the 2007/2008 Carefree season.



Please call me at 326-9698 or stop by lot # 337 with your questions and to sign up to participate.

Carolyn Hapke, # 337

Blood Mobile

The Blood Mobile will be here on February 16 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

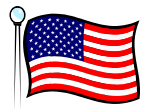


All of us owe Dick Gengler and Don Lawrence a big 'THANKS' for the outstanding job they have done over the past seven years in making sure Carefree is beautifully decorated at Christmas time. Now they have decided to "retire" from decorating, so we have some big shoes to fill.

Anyone interested in this position please contact Loree Ruple, # 825 – 324-2069



CANAM GOLF
TOURNAMENT



It is scheduled for Monday, February 12th. Awards Presentations will take place in the Upper Clubhouse at 4 p.m. that day. See bulletin board in the Golf Center for additional tournament information.

Bert and Dick Mackey, #834 326-9351

RECYCLING COMMITTEE TIPS



Many thanks to the Building & Grounds group for building our new wall for our recycling area.

Our recycling program is in full swing. Please remember to rinse and drain all containers before placing in their bins. Remove all caps and lids, crush plastic bottles and aluminum cans. Collection barrels are for plastic, tin, glass, aluminum cans. Inside the recycle room there is a can for plastic bags.

The newspaper dumpster is a separate dumpster in the rear of the maintenance building.

Thanks to all my committee for all your help.

Ed Richards, # 712

I want to thank all of you caring people in Carefree for the many prayers, cards, flowers, food and smiling faces while I was in the Life Care Center. I now have a new shoulder. It's great! Thanks to all.



Nola Bowman, # 801

During my stay at Winter Haven Hospital and Life Care after my "golf cart" accident, the help, prayers, cards, visits and good wishes from the people of Carefree have speeded my road to recovery and strengthened my soul.

Thank you all very much.

Fran Green, # 232

A great big thank you to all our friends at Carefree for your prayers, cards and telephone calls as Bill recuperates from his surgery. It's wonderful to have so many angels in the park! Bill is progressing very well here at home in Nisswa!

Betty & Bill Henney, # 632

**GRAB YOUR PARTNER AND COME
SQUARE DANCING**

Saturday, February 24th – Upper Clubhouse
7 – 8:30 p.m.
Caller is Keith Stevens



Ticket sales will be in Golf Clubhouse on
Thursday, February 15th
from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. Tickets \$5
Limited to 80 persons so come early!
Conveners are Les & Robbie Hansen, # 871

Final square dancing night will be Saturday, March 31st,
so mark your calendars now! For more information call
Loree Rumpel # 825 at 324-2069.

2007 POLK SENIOR GAMES REMINDER

THE SPIRIT LIVES ON



February 24 - March 11, 2007

The Fifteenth Annual Polk Senior Games are coming up February 24 through March 11. The games offer 85 events to choose from with Bocce Doubles held here at Carefree on March 2.

The entry deadline is a postmark by February 7 or hand delivery to Senior Games Office in Bartow by Friday, February 9th. Books with event schedules, rules and entry forms are available by calling the Senior Games Office at 533-0055, or contacting Bob Smith.

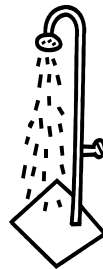
The games are inexpensive at \$8.00 for the first event and only \$3.00 for each additional event with a \$29.00 maximum. After 8 events the rest are free. The most highly participating Senior Community based on the ratio of participants to number of lots is also awarded a trophy. Carefree has come close to winning it in past years. Get involved, you will enjoy it, and let's capture the trophy this year.

See you at the Games! Bob Smith, # 351 – 324-1523

"RED ALERT" AT OUR POOL!

**SCUM ON HOT TUB? = MANDATORY SHOWER
FIRST**

People wearing oil and NOT showering are causing the problem. Filters cost \$100 each and have to be replaced when 28% plugged. This builds up excess pressure in the lines and could cause them to BURST, hence additional repairs and expenses. Enjoy the hot tub and pool!



Thanks for your respect!

Pool Chair – Karen Jensen, #1020

CAREFREE BOOK CLUB



The next meeting will be on
Tuesday, February 13 at 7:00 p.m.
at the Golf Center.

All Over But the Shoutin' by Rick Bragg will be discussed.
Everybody Welcome.

For more information contact:

Kay Hathaway #348 (324-7167)

**ANNUAL FLEA MARKET
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 22ND
8 a.m. to 11 a.m.**

8 – 9:30 a.m. Coffee & doughnuts - \$1.50

11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Lunch – \$3.00
Sloppy Joes, chips, beverage & dessert.

Call Barb Rowe at 324-1927 or Sandy Weber at 318-0299 to reserve your table at \$5 per table.

Donations for Carefree tables greatly appreciated day of sale.



RE-SALES

There are now 12 units
and 2 lots for sale.

February Open House will be:
**Friday, February 2nd
from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.**

The last open house for this year will be
Friday, March 9th.



**THE CAREFREE
GREY EAGLES**

The Carefree Grey Eagles met Monday, January 15th, in the upper Clubhouse. They viewed an older issue of "The World of Aviation", an aviation program originally shown on WCCO-TV in Minneapolis. Also enjoyed was socializing, hangar flying (airplane talk, b.s.), coffee and doughnuts.

Aviation Axioms: A check flight ought to be like a skirt, short enough to be interesting, but still long enough to cover everything.

Those who hoot with owls by night should not fly with the eagles by day. Takeoffs are optional. Landings are mandatory.

Art Tomes, # 552-324-3322

I hope that you have all enjoyed Carefree's Nativity Scene.

Again I want to thank those who make it possible through their Memorials and Gifts in the past.



Thank you to Roger Anderson, Jerry Fischer, and Clare McArthur who helped dismantle it.

MICHIGAN DAY

Meet your fellow Michiganders
Saturday, March 3rd
3 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. - Upper Clubhouse



Tickets - \$6.00 per person
Sloppy Joe Dinner provided!
Coffee and Lemonade provided!

RSVP by February 15th to:
Howard or Carol Houghton, # 472-875-1201



CAREFREE BEARS

We appreciate your donations, especially polyester fill - we've really been stuffing those bears! This Fall we gave 111 to Winter Haven Hospital and over 100 to the Sheriff's Department. Thanks to all our ambitious and dedicated women who make this possible.

Join us on Thursdays from 1:30-3 p.m. in the Lake Bess Room.
Marion Roberts, # 689



**VALENTINE'S DANCE
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10TH**

7:30 to 10:30 p.m.
Music by Heartland

Tickets will be on sale at the Golf Center on Monday, January 29th from 8 to 10 a.m. and Tuesday, January 30th from 10 a.m. to noon.

Required: Photo ID or Carefree name tag and CASH (no checks). Limit 2 tickets per lot. Table seating may be chosen at the time of ticket purchase.

Conveners: Porter & Peggy Hood # 749
Don & Carime Corbett # 735
Sonny Nuteson & Marje Baade # 259

**2007 ANNUAL CAREFREE
MEMBERS-ONLY TOURNAMENT**

There will be both a Carefree Members' Golf Tournament (four days) for men and women and a Carefree Senior Members' Golf Tournament (two days) for men and women 72 and over. The Tournament dates are Monday, March 12; Tuesday, March 13; Thursday, March 15 and Friday March 16. Rain dates are Wednesday, March 14 and Monday, March 19.

Please mark your calendars to keep these dates open. Any person with a white Carefree Golf I.D. picture card is eligible to register for the tournament. This card must be shown at the time of registration. A \$8.00 per tournament event registration fee is due at the time of sign-up. Sign-ups will be held in the Golf Center on February 26th and 27th and March 1st from 9 a.m. to 12 noon. Each entrant must have a ten-round established handicap.



Golf Tournament Co-Chairmen:
Bud Aber, # 554-325-9753
Bob Borgstrom, # 808-324-5672



THERE'S STILL TIME

There is still time to be a candidate for the Board of Directors. You have until 5 p.m., Monday, February 5, to complete and return the "Notice of Intent to Run" form to the office.

The Second Notice of the Annual Meeting will be delivered in the park on or about February 13. If you have any questions please contact the office or a member of the Election Committee - Bill Andre, Jerry Lerom or Ray Peterson.



CAREFREE TRAVEL CLUB NEWS

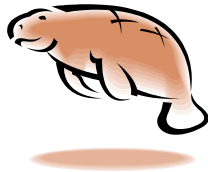
Our last Travel Club meeting was held on January 9th. We discussed our travel options for this season, and will be looking for new ideas for 2008 at our March 12th Travel Club Meeting.



February 12/13 – AM – Webster Flea Market – on to Homosassa Springs Wildlife State Park; overnight at Spring Hill, Hansen Inn. 13th – Tarpon Springs (1 night). \$165 per person-double occupancy.

March 12-18 – St. Augustine, Charleston, Beaufort & Savanna Trip (6 nights) - \$1057 per person-double occupancy.

April 4/5 – Fort Myers – Manatee Boat Tour, Broadway Palms Dinner Theater “Dam Yankees”; April 5th – Edison Ford Museum (1 night). \$265 per person-double occupancy.



March 31 - “Mama Mia” (Broadway Show) Clearwater. \$85 ticket/bus. Call immediately for tickets (PTT)

Watch the bulletin board in the lower level of the Clubhouse; Channel 95 and our Carefree Times Newsletter for details and pricing. Call “**PERSONAL TOUCH TOURS** at 292-8701 to RESERVE. 1146 Havendale Blvd., Spring Lake Square in Winter Haven to sign up. If we have 20 people from Carefree going, they will pick us up. If not, you would meet the bus at Spring Lake Square SW corner by Personal Touch Tours. When reserving, tell them you are from “Carefree”.

Interest sheets are on the bulletin board, lower level of the Clubhouse – **SIGN THEM** if you have reserved/paid for a trip. This will let us know if we have enough for a bus pickup. The next Travel Club meeting is March 12th – 7 to 8 p.m. February meeting is cancelled.

Travel Coordinators,
Judy & Harold Honkola, # 710
Virginia & Jim Kirchoff, # 435

FEBRUARY...THE MONTH FOR LOVERS AND ACTIVITIES



We're definitely in "full swing" and you won't want to miss one exciting event! Please check out the bulletin boards and this month's calendar for events that suit your schedule. If your calendar is anything like mine, you'll want to prioritize early.

The Blood Mobile will again be here on February 16th. Pints that are donated are credited to a Carefree account to be used whenever members of our community are in need of transfusions. Just recently one of neighbors received two pints. If you can, please donate.

The pool committee is again reminding members to please shower with soap prior to use of the pool and hot tub. Also, please remember to use towels on all the deck chairs. Your consideration saves important association dollars. You'll soon be hearing channel 95 music poolside. Speakers will soon be installed set to a low volume and on timers for your listening pleasure.

A "user guide" for all private parties will now be returned to all residents using our facilities. These guides will explain all responsibilities enabling an enjoyable time before and after the event.

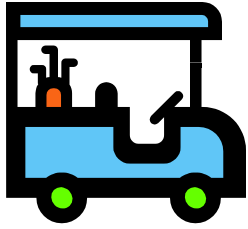
Volunteers are now working with Ray Slaunwhite to conduct introductory sessions on the use of all fitness equipment. Sign-up sheets will be available, what a great way to introduce and re-introduce yourself to proper usage of all equipment. The fitness room continues to have evil doers at work, please be aware of any and all unusual behavior and report it to the office.

Your Activities Committee approved a \$2,000.00 donation to the association to defray the cost of a new storage/work building for Buildings and Grounds. Each and every ticket or burger you buy at a sponsored activity helps enhance Carefree, where else can you have fun and save money at the same time.
Kay Dawson, Chair, # 448

Movies for February – Wednesdays 7 to 9 p.m.

- Feb. 7 R.V. – Comedy with Robin Williams
- Feb. 14 Streets of Laredo – Western with James Garner
- Feb. 21 Bandidos – Action Comedy with Selma Hayek & Penelope Cruz
- Feb. 28 The Illusionists – Drama with Edward Norton

'FORE' YOUR INFORMATION



Carefree golfers continue to make positive comments about our golf course. As golf chair, my weekly meetings with Mike confirm my belief that the course will continue to improve. As in the past, please consider the course a "work in progress".

Other changes are new yardage markers. Glen Kelley and his crew have planted bushes at the 150 yard markers, you'll also find blue and red markers at the 200 and 100 yardage respectively. Please pass your "thank you" on to Glen.

The course will continue to be closed every Monday from 11 a.m. until noon to allow a safe environment for our divot fillers. Here is another group of devoted volunteers which needs our thanks for keeping our course in excellent condition.

The price of beer for Men's Beer and Brat event continues to drop. Congratulations to Jim Witmer for a hole-in-one on #2 on Men's Day, January 3rd. Congratulations Jim!

Look for new logo clothing to be arriving in two or three weeks. A new array of clothing has been chosen, with many new pieces which are bound to add new life to your golf attire.

Plan ahead for this year's Club Championship! Check off your March calendar for the 12, 13, 15, and 16. Rain dates are March 14 and 19. Watch the bulletin boards for more information.

Paul Dawson, Chair, # 448

Congratulations, Karla Gengler!

Karla had an eagle on # 4 on Tuesday, January 16th!



CAREFREE CHAPEL COMMITTEE

I want to thank everyone that participated in the drive to collect one gallon zip lock bags filled with toiletries for the homeless. We collected 130 bags this year. The Homeless Coalition picked up the bags on January 15th. Last year the Homeless Coalition covered 181 square miles interviewing over 900 people. The bags are given to people that are interviewed. As you can see the need is great. Thank you everyone for your support of this endeavor.

We welcome you join your Carefree friends and neighbors at our Chapel services, held at 9:30 AM every Sunday morning. If you are musically inclined you might enjoy singing in our excellent choir. Carefree Chapel Choir is under the direction of Carolyn Collin and accompanied by Joan Plauda who are very talented musicians. It's not too late. Choir practices are held on Saturday mornings at 9:00 AM.

Jean Westermann, Chapel Committee Chair, # 705



ST. PATRICK'S DAY DANCE
SATURDAY, MARCH 10
7:30 TO 10:30 P.M.
Music by Len & Lois

Tickets will be on sale in the Golf Center on Monday, February 26th and Tuesday, February 27th from 9 to 11 a.m.

Bring your photo ID—2 tickets only per lot. \$6.00 per person. Cash only please!

Convenors: Sharon McClintock, # 1012
Paul Murray, # 573
Mary & Harry Beernink, # 875
Bonnie & Bob Edwards, # 562

COMING IN MARCH . . .

is the Shuffleboard Tournament. It will be held on March 1st & 5th. Sign-up will be at the courts the last two weeks of February. All are welcome to come.



Shuffleboard dinner will be Sunday, March 11th. Bring a cover dish to pass and your own drinks. More to come in March!

Don Voice, # 624

STREET DANCE CALENDAR – 2007



Mark your calendars now for the 2007
Street Dances

Thursday, February 22nd – 4:00 P.M.
until Dusk

Convenors: Rod and Barb Brown, # 464

Thursday, March 22nd – 4:00 P.M. until Dusk

Convenors: Chuck and Ruth Bianchi, # 512

MUSIC BY THE GOLDTONES

STREET BOCCE BALL



Sixth Annual Street Bocce Ball
Tournament
2007 Game Schedule

Feb. 5 Fierce Fighting (5th St.) vs Saints (7th St.) -10:30 am
Bandana Gang (3rd & 4th Sts.) vs All Stars (8th St.)
- 1:30 pm

Feb. 12 Patriots (6th St.) vs A Team (1, 2, 9 & 10 Sts) -
1:30 pm

Feb. 19 Losing Team Elimination - 10:30 am
(Two lowest scoring losing teams play. High
scoring losing team has a bye)

Winning Team Elimination – 1:30 pm
(two lowest scoring winning teams play. Highest
scoring winning team has a bye)

Feb. 26 Bocce Ball Parade at 9:30 a.m.

Fourth Place Competition – 10:30 am
(Winner of Feb. 19th game plays losing team with
a bye)

Championship Competition – 1:30 pm
(Winner of Feb. 19th winning team elimination
match plays winning team with a bye)

No prior Bocce Ball experience required.

Join others from your street for some friendly camaraderie
and competition.

The team with the highest participation will win the title
for their Bocce Ball Queen..

Ron Nelson, # 610

Work Day is Thursday, February 1st

Sign up on Thursday, Jan. 25th
in the Lower Clubhouse.

If you have requests for work please call
me no later than
Friday, January 26th.

Last year we had a great turnout
and we are counting on YOU!

Burt Brevik, # 360 – 324-7346

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

The new e-mail address for the **Carefree Times** is times@carefreecountryclub.org

The new e-mail address for **Carefree Channel 95** is: channel95@carefreecountryclub.org

The new e-mail address for the **Carefree Website** is: website@carefreecountryclub.org

The new e-mail address for the **Carefree Office** is: office@carefreecountryclub.org

The new e-mail address for **Ed Rawles, Carefree Manager**, is: edrawlesmanager@carefreecountryclub.org

Bill Roach, Carefree Website Administrator, # 877



'TOP THE TATER'

Ticket sales Feb. 5-6

Fifth Street hosts 'Top the Tater' on Sunday, Feb. 18. Tickets, \$6 each, will be sold from 10 a.m. to noon at the Golf Center on Monday, Feb. 5, and if still available will continue on Feb. 6.



The popular event offers many toppings for a baked potato and also coleslaw, brownies and coffee.

"Happy hour" begins at 5:15 p.m.; dinner service begins at 6 p.m. Bring your own table settings.

Convenors: Norma Domras, #528, 324-7523
Twyla Ring, #536, 318-9228

BIBLESTUDYBIBLESTUDYBIBLESTUDY



The Bible teaches us that we should STUDY the Bible. Here's an opportunity to study the bible AND get to know some more friends here at Carefree. We women have studies on Monday, Thursday and Friday. So pick a convenient time for you and show up!! The men's study is held on Monday morning.

You know the old saying, "If you always do what you've always done, you will always get what you've always gotten". So make a commitment to put more of God in your New Year and that will make it a happy, peaceful one.

Contact: Joan Lundgren, 324-9501

CAREFREE COMPUTER NIGHT



We meet once a month!

Our next meeting will be Monday, February 19th.

Plan to join us and bring your laptop!

Mary Ellen & Bill Roach, # 877

"Just don't give up trying to do what you really want to do. Where there is love and inspiration, I don't think you can go wrong."

- Ella Fitzgerald

CAREFREE NATURAL HISTORY

By Byron Bratlie # 909



First of all, I have to apologize for the length of time since my last article. I guess I had a case of writer's block! Ha! Actually, sometimes it's rather hard to find something to write about the park, without repeating yourself, so some of my writing may be about things outside the park.

I know some of you have been keeping track of the owls at the Clubhouse. Did you know that the short screech you are hearing is the young Great Horned Owl's call? Apparently they do not learn to hoot until they are a year or more old. These owls are the ones who were born last February. I had never heard a young one until we spent the summer here. I would walk at night and hear them calling and finally caught one sitting on the fence at the ninth tee. By the way, they are nesting again near the Clubhouse.

If any of you are interested in birding, nature in general or just want to see different places, we have a birding trip almost every Thursday. We go all over central Florida from Titusville and Merritt Island to Babcock-Webb Wildlife Preserve, near Punta Gorda, to Honeymoon Island. If interested please call Marvel Loftus at 324-9657 or myself at 324-4949.

I had one interesting occurrence this week. I saw an osprey chasing a bald eagle all over the sky above the 2nd and 3rd fairways. Either the eagle stole the osprey's fish or was too close to its nest. As I have said previously, if you see anything unusual in nature or have a question please give me a call at 324-4949 or stop by # 909.



Notes from the Carefree Times Editor:

1. We no longer mail the Carefree Times. Only those people on the "in-residence list" will get the Times delivered to their door. We keep extra copies on the office lobby counter for those just coming in or anyone who did not receive one.
2. We are printing the list of Coordinators and Committee Chairs this month as there have been a number of changes. I would suggest you keep this copy for future reference as we will not be printing it in March and April.
2. Deadline for articles for the March Issue of the Times will be: **Thursday, March 15th**. Please send to our new e-mail address: **times@carefreecountryclub.org** or deliver to Ruth Armstrong, # 533, 325-9093.

