

Carefree Times



January 2008

PUBLISHED BY CAREFREE COUNTRY CLUB • 9705 LAKE BESS ROAD, WINTER HAVEN, FLORIDA 33884

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Happy New Year!

By the time some of you read this the Christmas Season at Carefree will have come and gone. For those who spend the holiday season in Carefree you will have had the privilege of seeing the way residents got into the spirit of Christmas; yards and lamp posts decorated. The decorations in the common area were great. Special thanks to Jim Witmer, Nancy Martin and the residents of Seventh Street for doing the park decorating.

The winter Solstice, December 21 is one of my favorite days of the year. As a northerner I know that after the December solstice days grow longer and spring is not that far off. While I hate to admit it I even miss the snow for an hour or so around Christmas; making snow angels with grandkids. . . and then sanity returns.

What will 2008 hold for Carefree residents? We will celebrate leap year, a new slate of Carefree Directors in March and in November a new President will be elected. Your Directors and Ad Hoc committee will continue plans to upgrade the waste water treatment plant so the current codes can be met by 2010.

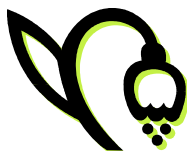
As we plan for the future we must make some improvements to our front gate. Those improvements must include walking and bike exit/access. Finally the Board must find ways and means to increase our reserves. Were we to face another summer of severe weather our current reserves would not meet the needs.

Do you make New Year's resolutions? Let's make 2008 the year of the positive. If you have something nice to say, say it; if not keep it to yourself.



I wonder what the ice fishing is like in the North?

Les Hansen, # 871



PLAN AHEAD!

Please mark your calendar for
Sunday, March 2nd

Your presence will help to make our
NEW RESIDENTS' RECEPTION
an occasion!

Watch for more information in
the February Carefree Times

Welcome Committee – Jim & Ginny Kirchoff, # 435
Chuck & Ruth Bianchi, # 512

'TOP THE TATER'



'Top the Tater' will be held
Sunday, February 24th

in the Upper Clubhouse.

Look for ticket information
and other details soon.

This popular event will be
hosted by 6th Street in 2008!

Conveners: Sally Hammond & Martha
Strickland, # 628





I would like to thank all the wonderful people who have been making baby hats for the Regency Hospital.

To date we have sent 41 hats to them. Keep up the good work!

Barbara Rowe, # 1027

FUN BIKE GROUP



We meet every Monday morning at 9 a.m. by the mailboxes!

If you would like to join us please come any Monday morning and join the fun!

Jean Flake, #781
Dolores Borgstrom, #447



Doesn't everyone get the Christmas Spirit when they see how beautiful our park has been decorated?

Let's all give Jim Witmer, Nancy Martin, and their committee: Carol Marlow, Stan and Cindy Kreitz, Teresa Miller and Mickey McMenamin and all the 7th Street volunteers our congratulations for the fine job they did. If you see any of these people about in the park, please take a moment to thank them.

Loree Remple, # 825
Coordinator of Yearly, Special Events

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of Santa's elves for your generosity and caring.

It made our **Employee Christmas Luncheon** a huge success. The employees enjoyed their luncheon, gifts and cookies.



Hugs to all –
Sue Ablar, #554
Anna Giese, #785

GOLFERS NEEDED



Thirty-two Canadian couples and thirty-two American couples are needed on February 11th for the 2008 Annual Carefree CAN AM Golf Tournament. Check the Bulletin Board in the Golf Center after January 6th for further information.

Bert and Dick Mackey, # 834

RECYCLING COMMITTEE TIPS



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, glass and tin. Also a separate one for aluminum cans.

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

Thanks for your help in this project.

Ed Richards, # 712

2008 POLK SENIOR GAMES

The Games will be held from February 23 through March 9, 2008. There are lots of events to choose from and it's time to start preparing for them. Bocce Doubles competition will again be held here at Carefree on Friday, February 29th.

Registration and Rule Books will be sent to all of last year's participants in early January. If you are new to the games or do not receive a copy in that mailing call the Senior Games Office at 533-0055 or contact me at Lot 351, 324-1523 for a copy. I will also have extra registration forms for those competing in the doubles or team events.

Stay young and have fun!!!



To all my dear friends at Carefree . . .

Thanks to all who made my days brighter by their visits, the many gifts and cards. Also those who kept me in their prayers. What a great community we live in.. Thanks to all,



Pauline Clark, # 653

STREET DANCE CALENDAR



Thursday, February 28th – 4:00 p.m. to dusk

Thursday, March 27th – 4:00 p.m. to dusk

We are in need of conveners for both of these dances.

Contact: Audrey Elfering, Lot 261 – 326-6784 for more information or if you have an interest in being a convener.

CAREFREE SINGLES



Potluck – Sunday, January 13th
Upper Clubhouse
3 to 5 p.m.

Please wear your name tag!

Bring a dish to share, your own dishes, utensils and beverage.

Sign-up sheet in Lower Clubhouse Hallway.

CAREFREE BOOK CLUB

The next meeting will be on
Tuesday, January 8, at 7:00 p.m.
at the Golf Center.

“The Locket”

by Richard Paul Evans will be discussed.



Everybody Welcome!

For more information contact
Kay Hathaway #348 (324-7167)

WISCONSIN DAY

Please join us in the Lake Bess Room on Sunday, January 27th for cocktails at 5 p.m. Dinner at 6 p.m.

Please bring a dish to share, drink and your own table service. Don and Carol Frank will be hosting.



Any questions prior to January 16th call
Sandy Weber at 318-0299 or Bonnie
Heezen at 326-5470.

Open to anyone who lives or has lived in
Wisconsin!

WORK DAY – 2008



Mark your calendars now!

**The date is
Thursday, February 21st**

Last year we had a great turnout
and we are counting on YOU for February.

Burt Brevik, # 360 – 324-7346

MARKETING & RE-SALES REPORT



Special thanks to the following:

To: Les Horn for his guidance and expertise in helping me to have the resale's program.

To: Dan & Marian Novodvorsky for the superb job of keeping the resale's going throughout the summer months.

To: The following committee members: Jim Augendahl, Bob Carlisle, Joe Chutich, Loren Dorman, Joan Fischer, Fred Gengler, Kay Hathaway, Avaunne & Doug Hed, Del & Roger Hoeschen, Marilyn Johnson, Don King, Arline Lawrence, Eleanor Malone, Jack Moulton, Herb Nelson, Carol Neville, Adolph Passint, Phyllis Pokorny, Arden Sanstead, Art Tomes, Edsel Wickland, and Leroy Martinson, Marketing Photographer.

Without their time and dedication this program would not have been a success!

Thanks to all of you!

Betty Hall, # 622

**Open Houses will be from
9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on these dates:**

Friday, January 25, 2008

Friday, February 22nd

Friday, March 14th

"Here's to the bright New Year, and a fond farewell to the old; here's to the things that are yet to come, and to the memories that we hold."

-- Anonymous

THE CAREFREE GREY EAGLES



Our next meeting is

Monday, January 21st

at 10:30 a.m. In the upper Clubhouse!

Plan to join us!

Art Tomes, #552 – 324-3322
Gene Petrie, # 772 – 326-1372

Special thanks to Darwin Francis, Jerry Fischer and Roger Anderson for doing the repairs that were needed on the Nativity Scene. We finally have a roof!

Beginning in 2001 this project has been the result of your contributions to Memorials and Gifts. The new star is a gift from George and Sharon Aberts # 618. Thank you to them for that addition and to all who have contributed over the years. Enjoy!

Merry Christmas and Blessings in the New Year.

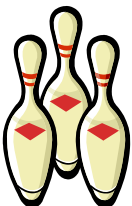


Any questions about Memorials and Gifts let me know.

Jo Anderson, # 616
324-9298

FRIDAY BOWLING LEAGUE

Happy New Year to all, and welcome back to all returning and new bowlers! The season starts on January 4th at 3 p.m. As of this writing we are in need of a few regular bowlers and, as always, we will need substitutes throughout the season.



New owners, especially are welcome and encouraged to join in the fun.

This is a great way to make new friends!

Bob Borgstrom, # 808

FASHION SHOW & LUNCHEON

Friday, January 18th, 2008

Upper Clubhouse

11:30 a.m.

Fashions by BonWorth!

Prizes – Prizes – Prizes – Prizes

Tickets will go on sale on
Friday, December 14th,
Thursday, January 10th &
Friday, January 11th

from 10 am to noon
in the Golf Center

\$8.00 per person
Bring your Carefree ID



WINTER DANCE

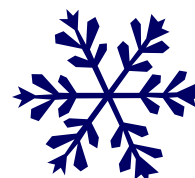


SATURDAY, JANUARY 26
7:30 – 10:30 P.M.

Music by: "Double Take" (new band)
Tickets go on sale
Monday, January 7th and
Tuesday, January 8th from
10 a.m. to 12 noon
In the lower Clubhouse

Tickets are \$7.00 per person
Bring your photo ID and cash (no checks)

Tucker & Joann Gray, # 243 - 324-5371
Bud & Mary Fields, #263 - 326-1704
Bobby & Martha Thomason, #238 – cell
540-761-5529

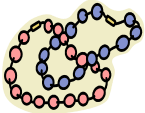


KNITTING AND CROCHETING CLASSES

Robbie Hansen will be teaching knitting and crocheting classes. If you have a desire to learn either of these crafts, please sign-up in the Lower Club House, on the Arts and Craft section of the Bulletin Board leading to the pool. You will be notified after the first of the year as the time classes will be held.



JEWELRY MAKING



Andrea Gengler will be teaching Beginning and Advanced Jewelry Making. Classes begin on Wednesday, January 16th and will run for seven weeks, Beginners Class runs from 1 - 2:30 P.M. and the Advanced Class (participants who attended last years classes) from 2:30 to 4 P.M., all classes will be held in the Lake Bess Room. Sign-Up Sheets are located in the Arts and Crafts section of the Bulletin Board in the Lower Club House Hall leading to the pool. (Please note that only three spaces remain for the Beginner Class as sign-ups were also held during Show and Tell at the Spring Fling.)

EUCALYPTUS TREE

This is a reminder for all the ladies who signed up to make Eucalyptus Trees. Linda Tarpley will be teaching the class between 9 A.M. and 12 Noon on Wednesday, January 30, 2008 in the Lake Bess Room. If you have any questions or circumstances have changes where you will be unable to attend, please call Linda Tarpley at 318-9615.



SCRAP BOOKING



A series of three classes will be held on the art of scrap booking; Monday, January 14th will feature the Christmas theme, Monday February 11th the theme appropriately is love, and the March theme will be spring. All classes will be held in Lake Bess Room between 2 - 4:30 P.M. A minimum of five participants are required for any class to be held, with a maximum of no more than twelve. The cost of each class will be \$12 for the furnished supplies. The class will be taught by Ellie from the Scrap Book Studio.

For further information check out the poster and sign-up sheet on the Lower Club House bulletin board or call Carolyn Hapke at 326-9698 (after December 30th).

WELCOME TO ACTIVITIES

2008

There are so many events being planned that I urge you to "Read, Watch and Listen". Read the Carefree Times and bulletin boards, watch channel 95 and listen to your neighbors plan their winter months at Carefree!

Look for a new elliptical machine in the fitness room bought with \$800 of Activities monies. Our fitness equipment is showing wear, which is good, as more and more residents look towards fitness, recovery from surgeries and continued well being.

Keep Saturday, February 23rd open for a fun packed event to raise monies for a new dock. Rubber Ducky's will be invading our community with prize monies of \$1,000! More info to follow.

If you feel the urge to volunteer this season please give me a call or stop by for a visit, we're always looking for new activities and new volunteers.

Am sorry to report that supplies, which were purchased with your money, continue to be stolen. Everything from coffee to flatware. If you notice anything unusual please report those episodes to the office.

In closing, your Activities Committee looks forward to another great season and you're all invited to partake of the fun!

Kay Dawson, Chair - # 448

CAREFREE COMPUTER NIGHT

We meet once a month!

Our next meeting will be
Monday, January 14th.

Plan to join us and bring your laptop!

Bill Roach, # 877
Dave Clark, # 241

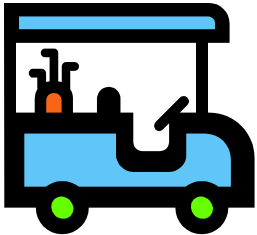


'FORE' YOUR INFORMATION



Last February Carefree mourned the passing of Merle Archibee, a 20 plus year resident. Merle and her late husband, Bob, were both active residents who enjoyed nothing better than a round of golf and then watching other residents enjoy the game from their home on 1st Street. It was their wish to leave the Carefree Golf Committee a gift in their estate. This past summer the committee received \$10,000.00 for the beautification of our course. An ad hoc group from the Golf Committee along with Mike, our golf course supervisor, are now working on those plans using the monies from the Archibee estate. We look forward to improvements on the #2 tee box along with other beautification projects. Committee members, volunteers and employees will be working on these improvements this season. We are committed to using these funds wisely and within the guidelines of the Archibee's wishes.

We are still in need of two volunteers for our club tournament, if interested please contact me. Also, divot fillers are still needed. Sign-up sheet is located in front of the restrooms in the Golf Center, both men and ladies are welcomed.



With our course in great condition and residents being considerate of each other and the course, this season should be memorable for all.

Paul Dawson, Chair – # 448

GOLF HANDICAPS

Good sportsmanship calls for handicaps based on ALL rounds played. Please post ALL rounds on the computer files. Come March, eligibility for the Club Championship Tournaments will depend on handicaps based on rounds this season. Be prepared.

Do\$\$ars for the Dock

A BIG THANK YOU to all the golfers who participated in the betting hole on Men's Day!

As always the results were positive and \$165.00 was raised. The Golf Committee hopes you enjoyed the event and we promise future events as well.

Paul Dawson, Chair – # 448

ELECTION COMMITTEE

Our annual membership meeting of the Carefree Country Club Corporation scheduled for March 15, 2008 seems a long way off, but it's not too early for the Election Committee to begin preparing for that very important day. The Election Committee has primary responsibility to oversee the elections that take place at our Annual Meeting. Of the several decisions that will be made at the meeting we call your attention to the election of board members to the Board of Directors. As of this date, this year's meeting will require us to elect four directors, three to a three-year term and one for a one year term.

During the past twenty plus years we appreciated the leadership and foresight of many talented Carefree residents, men and women who have used their skills and experiences to address the important issues that have come before us. They have represented us as they created policies and directives required for the successful operation of a community such as Carefree.

It is time for us to identify those who are willing and able to carry on in the tradition of service and leadership. As we have in the past, we will contact individuals who have been recommended to us by the membership as having qualities required of Board Members. Our task is not to convince, but to inform and to answer any questions put forward by interested homeowners. We also want to hear from those among you who are interested in becoming candidates for the Board. "Notice of Intent to Run" form may be obtained from committee members or from the Office. The signed form is due back in the Office no later than February 4, 2008. We encourage Carefree members to make us aware of those friends and neighbors they would like to recommend to us as prospective candidates for the Board.

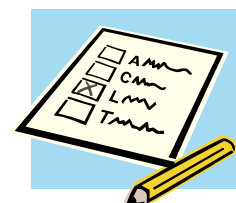
The members of this committee, listed below, are prepared to take your nominations and discuss the possibilities of Board membership with those concerned. Please let us hear from you. We cannot carry out our responsibility without your help.

Jerry Lerom #858 (318-8043)

Bill Andre #876 (875-1084)

Ray Petersen #540 (325-9825)

Duane Zaun #364 (324-9390)





UNIVERSAL RED SHIRT
hiring event at Carefree
Monday, January 28th

Would you like to work 1 to 3 weeks a year and get free admission to Universal, Islands of Adventure, Busch Gardens and Sea World? Would you like to get complementary passes for Universal and Islands of Adventure for family and friends? Would you like to get paid for your effort and even get a free ride in a fancy bus to the job? Do you look good in red?

Then come to the Universal Red Shirt program recruiting event at noon on Monday, Jan. 28, in the upper clubhouse and learn all the details. Universal will be hiring for all three divisions: food services, merchandise and operations. People will be hired on the spot (no further interview) and **MUST** attend the event to be considered for a job...no exceptions!

For more information, contact Twyla Ring, Carefree Bussing Captain, or email Universal directly:

strategicstaffing@universolorlando.com

Twyla Ring, #536, 318-9228

YOU CAN'T BEAT BEER, BRATS, AND DANCIN'

It's beer, brats and dancing on Saturday, January 12th. Come join the fun - dinner begins at 5 PM with the famous Carefree brats, sauerkraut, potato salad, chips, dessert and all the trimmings, and the ticket price includes beer and wine.



Join the dance crowd in a polka or a waltz with music by "Schultzie", beginning at 6 PM. Tickets are \$10.50 per person, \$21 per couple and go on sale in the Lower Club House, Friday, January 4th, from 8-10 AM, only 120 tickets will be sold.

Be prepared to reserve your seat at the time of ticket purchase. Limit 2 tickets per lot. Bring golf badge photo ID, renters and non golfers bring name tag ID.

Co-chairs for this event are Joy and George Gordon, lot #335 and Del and Carolyn Hapke, lot #337.

CAREFREE CHAPEL COMMITTEE



We want to welcome Dorothy and Ray Haugland to Carefree as they each recover from hip replacement surgery. We look forward to another season of Ray's enlightened messages starting the first Sunday in January.

We also want to welcome back Joan Plauda as our organist and thank Eva Downs for sharing her talents with us in November and December.

Jean Petrie filled in as choir director and did a very nice job while Carolyn Collin took her "trip of a lifetime." We welcome Carolyn back with open arms and thank Jean Petrie for sharing her musical gifts. Without her stepping forward the many voices in the choir would have had to wait to express themselves musically and our services would have been flat.

God has blessed Carefree with a lot of talent and a willingness to share. There are many, many congregations that we be thrilled to have one quarter of the talent we have here.

I hope the new year is a blessing to each of you. Happy New Year!

Jean Westermann, # 1005

SECOND ANNUAL SOUP & SALAD DINNER



MONDAY, JANUARY 21, 2008
UPPER CLUBHOUSE

5:00 p.m.

\$6.00 per person

TICKET SALES: Monday, January 7, 2008
9 am to 12 noon

MENU;

4 Soups, Salad Bar, Dessert & Drinks

There will only be one seating, at 5:00 pm, so be sure and get your tickets. If you miss the sale date for tickets, contact::

Delmar or Barbara Cowel, Lot 885, 325-8419
Mary Wedig, Lot 350, 324-0270



DANCE PROGRAM 2008

LINE DANCE

BEGINNER

Starting Wednesday, January 2

This class is for the novice dancer. The only requirement is a desire to have fun. We will learn basic steps and do easy dances. The class meets Mondays from 9:30 am until 10:30 am and Wednesdays from 10:30 am until 11:30 am.

ADVANCED BEGINNER

Starting Wednesday, January 2

This class requires a basic knowledge of line dance steps. It meets Wednesdays from 9:30 am until 10:30 am.

ADVANCED BEGINNER-INTERMEDIATE

Starting Friday, January 4

This class is a step up from advanced beginner. We will do many of the same dances but we will move at a faster pace. It meets Fridays from 9:30 am until 10:30 am.

Remember — there are no mistakes in line dancing, only innovations!

TRAIL DANCE

Group # 1

Starting Friday, January 4

This class meets every Friday - 10:30 am until 11:30 am

Group #2

Starting Monday, January 7

This class meets on Mondays—10:30 am—11:30 am with the exception of the third week of the month. On that week we will meet on Thursday from 10:30 am—11:30 am

The rosters from each group will be posted on the bulletin board in the lower level of the Clubhouse.

ATTENTION TRAIL DANCERS:

If you are having second thoughts and wondering what possessed you to sign up for this class, relax. This class will not be stressful. I teach the joy of dancing, not perfection. If you are willing to laugh at yourself, and on occasion the instructor, I can assure you that you will learn to dance and have a lot of fun doing it. If you are still having second thoughts and do not wish to participate, please contact me before the end of December so I can move another couple from the waiting list into your spot.

Alice Gilbertson, # 257
324-5923



CAREFREE NATURAL HISTORY

Well, my feeder birds have not improved. I have a few doves of three species, but even they do not show up every day. I don't know of any particular reason why I don't have more birds. I used to have about six pairs of towhees, three pairs of cardinals, blue jays, blackbirds and woodpeckers. Our bird club took a trip over to Viera Wetlands last Thursday. It is a storm water treatment plant west of Melbourne. It did not seem like we saw many birds, but when I tallied up it turned out to be around 53 species, which is not great but not bad either. If you want to see a neat picture of a great blue heron, give Dick Buntman a call. He has a picture of a heron in what I call a "sunning" posture. Neat! I understand it may be put on the Carefree website.

As many of you probably know, our owls are back. I saw one in a pine tree at the clubhouse and then woke up at 5 o'clock one morning to find one calling from the lamp post behind our house. I have not seen or heard of a nest, but they should be nesting about now. As always, call me about anything you see or have questions about.

'til next time!

Byron Bratlie, # 909



Notes from the Editor



1. A special thanks to everyone for meeting the early deadline for this issue. It was greatly appreciated.

2. Deadline for articles for the February Issue of the Times will be Monday, January 21st. Please send to: times@carefreecountryclub.org

Happy Holidays!

Ruth Armstrong, Editor — # 533