



RCR'S Showboat a Smash Hit.

The highlight of the season, the annual variety show, played again to full houses. The theme was "Showboat," and from the opening number, an enthusiastic rendition of "Waiting for the Robert E. Lee," to the traditional closing of "Let There be Peace on Earth," there was never a dull moment.



This was the 15th year that Al and Jane Bills have produced the popular event. Peter Crich has recently taken over the directing, and as usual, Ed Fisher and his crew came up with some great sets and scenery. The performers went to great lengths to get into character with proper (and sometimes hilarious) costumes and wigs, and Bill Primeau kept everything tied together on the keyboard with help from Anne Brown on the piano.

Peter reports that 484 food items, together with over \$1100, were collected for the local food bank. He also announced that next year's theme is

"Anything Goes--Then And Now." The "then" means that some great acts from past shows will be resurrected and combined with different "now" acts.

If you are interested in joining this fun group... you are in luck! New people are always welcome to join either on stage or in a supporting role. Look for the announcement of the first meeting and auditions in January.

RCR Players return to the stage on March 8th and 9th, 2014. Mark it on your calendar NOW!





Activities Report



Lori Lilly
Activities Director

Well.....here we are approaching the end to another season at Encore. My how time flies when you're having fun! Still trying to fit in as much as we can finishing up March. With Easter being early this year it seems like a lot of residents will be heading out a bit sooner than usual. There are still some events you will want to put on the calendar for April. There will be the last

dance of the year "The Spring Fling". This will be on April 2nd and tickets are on sale in the lounge. The last pancake breakfast is on April 6th. On April 9th will be the last Birthday/Anniversary get together celebrating April & October. As always everyone is welcome. I hope that everyone had a great season. To those that will be traveling home be safe and have a happy and healthy summer. There are some new fun things being planned for next year

already. A professional dance company will be teaching dance lessons. There will also be a dinner show in November, an evening party at the pool, the Tom Becker show in December and the three entertainers for January, February and March. These will all be fantastic shows that I think you won't want to miss. Season ticket reserved seat holders will be able to attend an appetizer party prior to the show. Movie night will continue. A Picnic will take place every month beginning in November. You will want to plan on being back in October for the annual Halloween Dance. So as you can see, you better rest up this summer for another fun filled season at Encore!

I'd like to say THANK YOU to everyone that offers their time to volunteer and makes this park what it is. The hours some of you put in are amazing with never a question of what needs to be done. You also are a huge part of my job as activities director and it would not be possible without you. I have had an opportunity to get to know a lot of you better and make new friends. I cannot thank you enough.

Thank You for a wonderful season!
Lori

New Procedures for Volunteer Program

As another season ends here at Royal Coachman, we sit back and think of all the things we did and didn't do. There are so many activities offered for our enjoyment. So many resident volunteers have made it possible. Our volunteers make this Park as we all know.

Working with and then substituting for Gene Anderson as Coordinator of Volunteers has been a great experience. As I take over the "reins" of the volunteer program, I am certain I will be asking his advice and counsel. He has done a tremendous job over the past 20 years. We all appreciate all of his efforts on our behalf.

As the seasons change, so will some aspects of the Volunteer Program.

If you are the leader of an activity, please check with your current volunteers about their availability. If you find you need new or additional volunteers, you can fill out a Request for Volunteers Form or call Pat Lang at 941.412.8882 to give her the information.

If you are new to the Park or a "new" volunteer, please fill out the Volunteer Registration Form. It is helpful to note the type of activity (ies) you would be willing to work on. Your name will be added to the data base and Activity Leaders will be notified of your interest. You will also be notified that your request has been received.

The Volunteer Hours Report by Activity will be changed: leaders of the activities will no longer have to report hours. Leaders and workers will still be reported at the end of the activity (or by March). For activities that take place in March or April, or those activities which don't end until March or April, leaders must submit the report form by March 1 also. Please make sure your information is complete when submitted.

Jason, Lori Lilly, and I have discussed issues surrounding the Volunteer Luncheon at the end of the season. This is the Park's way of thanking residents for their dedication and service during the season.

Beginning next season, residents must volunteer in a minimum of three activities. In the case of an on-going activity such as Pancake Breakfast, Setup Committee, etc., a volunteer must be actively involved in three separate dates.

Pat Lang

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Message from the Manager



Jason Rosenberg
Park Manager

Please remember to obey the speed limit in the resort and through the s-curve. People are still driving too fast as they approach the gate.

Make sure that you clean up after your dogs, especially if they relieve themselves in someone's yard.

I have not heard about my modified Capital Improvement Plan as yet. I wish that I could say with certainty that the addition of the Pickle Ball courts will be approved. I should have an answer some time in April.

We hope to renovate the Club House this summer and will have a plan in place soon.

Again, please do not move a car, trailer, dolly or RV into either storage location without clearing it with

the office. Space is very limited and we are required to have storage agreements for all vehicles/units. Also, an empty site does not mean that it is not reserved.

The Resort has to approve all unit renovations that include, but are not limited to the following: driveway, lanai, awning/canopy, fence, shed (must be no larger than 6' X 6'), porch etc. Car ports are not allowed, even a temporary structure. If anything is built or installed without prior approval, you will be asked to remove the structure immediately.

I hope that you enjoyed your time here this season. The staff truly enjoyed spending time with you! We look forward to a productive offseason here at Royal Coachman and wish you all a safe and prosperous summer. Before you know it, it will be October!

Jason Rosenberg

Residents Association News

Before I wrote this I went back to last year and found that the winter up north had been so mild that many residents were really looking forward to heading home. Well, it's a different story this year as the news continues to highlight the major snow storms crossing the country as recently as today (3/25). Maybe this year the trek north is not so enticing.

However, it still has been a great year here at RCR. Our weather has been mostly mild and dry and all the major activities were unaffected by rain and storms. Last weekend with the Car Show, Craft Market, and Pancake Breakfast was one of the most active weekends I can remember around the park. And, as always, the volunteers in this park have stepped up to the plate and delivered a home run. I'd also like to recognize the efforts of Lori Lilly to bring new and exciting activities to RCR for the residents. We attended one of her dinner & a movie nights and saw a large crowd enjoying themselves. Our last two shows featuring Brian Gurl and Cahal Dunne were wonderful. If anyone tells me there is nothing to do here I just look at them in wonderment.

The association board continues to work to bring a resident friendly environment to RCR. We did use some of your funds this spring to purchase a new Weber bbq grill for use at major park functions (it performed well at the Car Show and Canada Day.) We also spent money to store and secure this grill on the pavilion. Use of the grill can be arranged through the office. I'd also like to recognize our two newest board members, Larry Falcone and George Shepard, for completing a project I dropped on them. They consolidated and digitized all the past board paperwork going back to 1999. Thanks, guys!

I sincerely hope all of you have a safe trip home, experience a great summer season, and return to RCR next winter prepared to have another enjoyable season.



Kerry Gonnam
Board President

Kerry Gonnam



Rick Kent, Chairman of the Canada Day Event, presenting Kerry Gonnam, President of the Residents' Association Board, with a check for \$400 for the Residents Activity Fund. They did this last year also and it goes to a fund that supports activities serving a large number of residents in the park.



More...News Around the Park

Annual Chorus Concert

The RCR Chorus performed its annual concert and kept the audience on its toes. Norma Weller did a splendid job keeping everything right on schedule, and Carl Klopshinske directed an outstanding all male chorus of "Hey Look Me Over." It was great to see Arline Wilson step up to her position on the podium to direct once again. Arline and her sister Marilyn Hunter directed the chorus for many years,

Between sets, the sing-a-longs gave the audience a chance to participate and, all in all, it was a great



evening. Look forward to it next season!

The very best part is that anyone in the park who wants to be a part of the chorus is welcome!

Sewing Group Charity

The Monday sewing group was busy in March sewing a very unusual item. At the request of an oncology nurse, seat belt pads were made to protect the shoulder port entry when patients are driving to and from their cancer radiation treatments as well as any time they are in a car.

The port entry is very sensitive and these pads, that are removable and can be used for either the driver or the passenger side, provide the protection needed. The pads utilize a soft outer material, quilt batting and Velcro. Each year members of the sewing group use their talents for a worthwhile project and this certainly qualifies. The pads will be given to the radiation unit associated with McNeal Hospital in Illinois.



*Janet Grace with the Sewing Clubs
Seat Belt Pad Project*

Arts and Crafts Fair

At the beginning of each season, crafters start to meet regularly to get ready for the annual craft fair. No matter how many times you see the results, it is always mind boggling to realize how much talent there is here in the park. Paintings, sculptures, needlework, stained glass, wood work... and it goes on...ending with the yearly display of favorite teddy bears! Nobody here at RCR needs to take a back seat to the displays at the professional arts and crafts shows that appear regularly in the cities and towns around the area.

Everyone can participate. Classes are open to anyone who would like to learn...or teach. If you have a favorite craft and wish you could see it get started, post a notice on the bulletin boards, and who knows? There might be others wishing the same thing. It's that easy.



Wood Carvings on display at the Craft Fair



More...News Around the Park

Beach Picnic Enjoyed Rain or Shine

On March 18th the last beach picnic of the year was held on a very rainy and cool evening. Nevertheless, 71 people came to enjoy the delectable hot dogs and very delicious pot-luck.

Carolyn and Jim Lucas said they have been coming for 14 years. They were new to the park and invited to attend by Bob and Ruth Curtis who said it was a good way for newcomers to meet their neighbors. Carolyn and Jim have been coming ever since.

Toni and Dave Skiver have chaired this event since November of 2008 when there were 38 people in attendance. The number has grown and last month there were 110 people sharing their dishes and eating the hot dogs that had been cooked by Dave Skiver, John Shinnors, Paul Martin and Fred Paulus. The “bun ladies”, Vi Corning and Lynn Shinnors, are regulars who take the hundreds of buns out of the bags.

The beach picnic was originally started by Sandy and Ray Schmidt and was taken over by Mary and Morey De-

Paepe. In 2008 Toni and Dave stepped in to help and ended up being the chairpersons.

Dolores Samulski



March goes out like a Lamb

Well here we are again at the end of the season. Things are beginning to wind down, but not before one very busy month!



Guests line up to take advantage of the goodies served at the pool party

The last auction of the season started the month with a bang! What fun! The variety show soon followed with

sellout crowds each night. Denny Foley entertained at the pool party, annual dinners and goodbye festivities were held, and Encore thanked its hundreds of volunteers in bang up fashion with a lunch at the pavilion.

Snowbirds are beginning to wrap up to return to their “other” homes until those cold north winds blow them back down to RCR for next season.

Our yearly “before you leave” list will help you check off the wrap up chores as you’re packing to leave.



Denny Foley entertained



Going once! Going twice! Gone!!!180 Times

Yes! That is how many times this season that “auctioneer extraordinaire” Dave Jones said these words. The fun auctions, as usual, were a great success thanks to Dave and his many helpers – the guys who handled all the articles, the gals who handled all the money, and those who took care of the refreshments.



Auction articles waiting for the first bid

The highest sales were a fishing pole for \$30, also some jewelry for \$30, carpet cleaner for \$29, a storage table for \$27, a chaise lounge and cover for \$25. The majority of sales were in the \$5 - \$20 range. 33 items auctioned off for under \$5. 2 items generated no bids. Resident buyers spent a total of \$583 that day and \$583 was earned by resident sellers.

The March auction consisted of 40 items. The highest bid earned a bicycle for \$41, a computer desk, chair, and lamp went for \$28, a large car cover for \$26, a HP fax, printer, scanner w/ink went for \$21. Most items auctioned off between \$5 and \$30. 12 items went for under \$5. 4 items generated no bids. The buyers spent a total of \$270 that day and \$270 was earned by resident sellers.

So, thanks to everyone who offered articles to be auctioned off, and thanks to those who bid, and thanks to those who just enjoyed watching the action. Now, it’s “going once, going twice”, and we’re gone until the 2014 auctions.

Mary Jane Franklin

The January auction found a long line of residents lined up outside the rec hall long before the 8 a.m. opening. Unfortunately, many of them were turned away when the limit of 75 items was accepted before 8:30. The highest sale in January was \$125 for a honeymoon table and 2 chairs, a Schwinn bicycle went for \$50, a computer desk for \$40. Most items sold for somewhere between \$6 and \$30. 27 items sold for under \$5. There were some great bargains made! Only 2 items generated no bids. Resident buyers spent a total of \$990 that day and \$990 was earned by resident sellers!

The February auction consisted of 73 items. And again, some great bargains were made!



Does Anne Brown look as if she got a deal?



More...News Around the Park

Anglers Club Fish Fry

On Friday, March 15th, the RCR Anglers Club ended its season with its 5th Annual Fish Fry. Approximately 80 members and guests enjoyed a feast of fried fish, hush puppies, and a wide selection of dishes furnished by the wives.



Norm Jung announced that membership was at an all-time high of 40 members.

Despite disappointing fishing this year due to red tide and poor weather conditions the membership provided a large quantity of fish fillets for the fish fry. Norm announced revisions in the grouper season for fall and announced plans for fishing trips in November to take advantage of those changes. The attendees were entertained by Bill Primeau and his keyboard while they ate.



Car Show and Craft Market

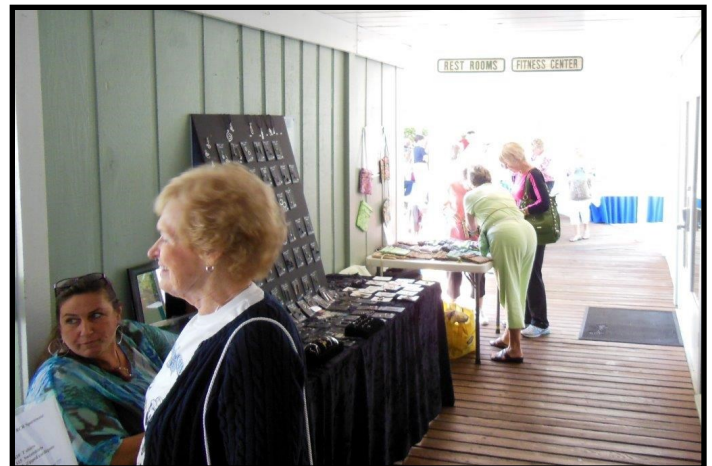
I have to say today, Saturday, March 16th, has been one of the most exciting days I've ever witnessed here at RCR. Donna and I began at the Pancake Breakfast, which appeared to be very well attended. We then set up her



Cournoyer told me he had over 45 cars signed in and the parking lot was full of people. When I checked with Donna it was easy to see they had had one of the most attended Craft Markets ever. Of course, the weather could not have cooperated more. Now tonight we will conclude with Dinner and a Movie at the Rec. Hall. Everyone seems to be in a great mood.

Kerry Gonnam

booth at the Craft Market which this time was taking place on the Veranda since the Car Show was in the parking lot. When I came back at 11 the place was packed. Ron





Before you leave . . . don't forget

Before you leave....

Each year we present guidelines to use in closing up your unit for the summer months. These are simple guidelines. If you ask five neighbors what they do, you probably will get five different answers!

- Notify local home post office to hold mail until your return and change your billing address for monthly invoices sent to your Florida address. (FPL, Verizon, etc.)
- Prune shrubs vigorously to make allowance for summer growth.
- Put ant and roach baits inside the house.
- Spray metal tools you're leaving with WD40.
- Remove propane tank from barbecue grill. Store in well ventilated area.
- Store bikes upside down in utility shed.
- Disconnect everything from wall outlets.
- Turn off fridge, prop door open to discourage mold. Check twice to make sure all food is out.
- Pour ½ cup bleach down sinks, toilet and tank.
- Pour small amount of vegetable oil down sinks to keep water from evaporating.
- Stretch plastic wrap tightly over the top of the toilet bowl and tank, again to keep water from evaporating.
- Take batteries out of everything.

- Turn off water supply valve under the park model and make sure hot water heater is off.
- Turn off all electrical circuits at the fuse box.
- Lock all windows and close blinds to keep the sun from fading furniture.
- Leave key to unit (clearly marked) in mail box for office use if necessary, and leave address labels in office for forwarding mail.

Tri County Air Conditioning gives this advice:

Mildew, which can be a health hazard, thrives in COOL, DARK and HUMID conditions. The humidistat is set so that it reacts to high humidity by turning on the air conditioner....not to cool the house, but to decrease the moisture.

Set air conditioner/humidistat according to instructions provided by installer. (Generally humidistat at 55-60 and thermostat at 80). If you do not have air conditioning in your lanai, crack open the windows to allow for circulation.

Your electric bill will tell the story. If "0" kw are used, you're A/C is not working. If the bills increase dramatically there may be a leak in your unit causing humidity. Check it out immediately.



ELS Golf Tournament

On February 27, at Lake Fairways Golf course in North Fort Myers, Florida (left to right) Dave Barnard, Jack Cooper, Jim Leitch, and Jerry Schwartz took first place in the annual ELS golf tournament, shooting 9 under par. Also participating from Royal Coachman Resort were Gary Besonson, John Caldwell, Dave Flint, & Dick Lang.