



German Fest—Back by Overwhelming Demand in 2012

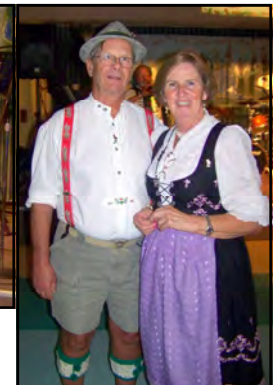


German Fest, as usual, was a complete sellout as soon as the tickets went on sale! No wonder....the consensus is that the food was the best ever. Angelo's can do much more than just Italian food—they proved it with their German offering. Of course the beer, nice cold Bud, was enjoyed by all.

The band, Alpine Express, was outstanding. One member played an alpenhorn, a saw, cowbells, a trumpet and a guitar. Another member, in addition to playing a mean set of drums, amazed everyone with his xylophone solos..

The date has already been reserved for February 2nd next season. Over 250 guests, and many others who couldn't get tickets, are now eagerly awaiting German Fest 2013.

Peter Crich



Darrell & Kathy Robinson dance to Alpine Express while Lew & Birgit Palm dress for the evening.

Reminder....

Tony Johnson's harmonica concert on March 3 will be held in the Rec. Hall.

www.royalcoachmanresort.net

Visit our website for more news and information. Current Monthly Calendar, Park Directory, Photo Galleries, important safety information, Activities Guide, and more are all available anytime. Contact Kerry Gonnam or Al Santini to place your announcements or news on the website.



News Around the Park

Farewell to Fran & Wally Wolf

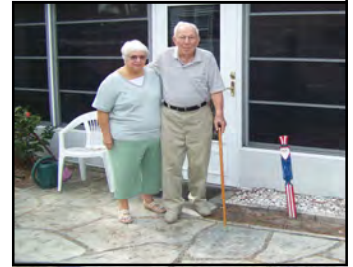
On Feb. 5th, the clubhouse was filled to capacity as friends came to bid farewell to Fran and Wally Wolf who are leaving RCR to spend the rest of their retirement in Avon, Ohio.

Fran, who is 80, and Wally, 88, have been at Royal Coachman for 26 years. They arrived here in 1986 looking for somewhere to spend the night in their motorhome. Nancy Levine found a site for them across from Paul and Anna Cady with whom they became good friends. They are still very close.

The Wolfs obviously loved the park and never left. They were on site #42 for six years, #131 for two years and #207 for the past 16 years.

Fran helped Nancy Levine in the mailroom and continued doing that job for 15 years. She taught the quilting class for about 8 years. She was also involved in many other activities in the park. Wally started the stained glass classes, was one of the original members of the Association Board, and helped start the woodshop.

Fran and Wally were avid boaters and met at the Rocky River Yacht Club in Ohio. They have been married for 33 years. Fran has two sons and Wally has two sons and a daughter. Fran and Wally would love to hear from you- 2833 Shakespeare Lane, Avon, Ohio 44011 or call 440-937-2204



Dolores Samulski

Bentley's Ice Cream in Park



Board Member Bill Rudy and Chris Stevens of Bentley's flank the new ice cream stand at RCR. The stand will be open 5-8 on Wednesdays and 3-8 Saturdays and some Sundays on the veranda by the pool. Cones, dishes, & sundaes will be available in assorted flavors. If successful this year they may be back next year; so check it out.

Health Fair at RCR



Regina Kelley welcomes Kerrie Phillips of Medical Gardens Hearing Center to our Health Fair held Fri., Feb. 10th in the Clubhouse. Eight health care providers attended and explained their services to our residents. Forty-four people visited the hearing center's booth and thirty seven visited the chiropractic booth while many enjoyed the free massages.

Share a Bear

Every two years Nancy Spurgeon and the ladies in crafts donate teddy bears they have made to SPARRC, an organization that helps abused women and children, and to the Florida Highway Patrol that uses the bears to comfort children who have been injured in traffic accidents.

Residents are urged to add to the collection by donating a bear. Any size is welcome. Smaller bears fit smaller kids. Bring a bear or two to 325 Kapok or call 941-486-1064. Nancy would like to see a bumper crop this year.

Pictured l-r: front: Jan Nowasad, Darla Stone, Sharon Aldrich. Rear: Jan Van Lente, Helen Stone, Betty Baird, Nancy Spurgeon, and Edith Javery





Nostalgia Time

Floods From the Eighties

The picture to the right came to us from Carol Townsend and was taken by her parents, Bob and Ruth Curtis, in 1983. In talking to Don Nigh we found out this flood and others like it, led to the Levines hiring an engineer to design and construct a drainage system. The installation of that system prepared the park for the influx of park models that now exist. It also led indirectly to the construction of the Recreation Hall which has served this park so well for almost twenty years.



1983 Flood in North Section Before Park Models

Long Time Residents

Following are the results of a survey taken of current residents who have been coming to RCR for 20 yrs. or more. If you were unaware of this survey and wish to be included in the list, please call Maureen Norton at 488-3715.

YEARS

50 Jack and Joan Holmes
 40 Paul and Anna Cady
 36 Chet and Bev Gatten
 34 Bert and Gerry Prinzen
 31 Ed and Reba Marshall
 30 Ed and Katy Abel
 28 Jane Maskel
 28 Max and Ruth Voegelin
 27 Trudy Clark
 27 Sarah Leona White
 27 Wally and Fran Wolf
 26 Vi Corning
 26 Morris and Mary DePaepe
 26 Fred and Judy Johnston
 26 Colin and Joan Gray

25 Jim Dahl
 25 John and Betty Mull
 25 Flo Ritz
 24 Gene and Faith Anderson
 24 Jeanne Reuss
 23 Stan and Audrey Boyd
 23 Duane and Donna Dosson
 23 Doris Finn
 23 Gerhard and Annie Kurpiela
 23 Ray and Jan Shurtleff
 22 Jean Lawler
 22 Ralph and Mary Rischmann
 21 June Hansen
 21 Mary Ann Hoffman
 20 David and Sandy Barnard
 20 Jerry and Dora Franciosa
 20 Nancy Spurgeon
 20 Don Woolnough
 20 Arline Wilson
 20 Bill and Norma Wilson
 20 Harvey and Shirley Hiebel
 20 John and Margaret Bilsky
 20 Mary Jane Franklin

In-Park Celebrities

During the 2011 Variety Show, Linda Leslie, impersonating Marilyn Monroe, sang Happy Birthday Mr. President but never realized that John Kennedy was actually in the audience. This made me realize that we at RCR do not really know how many "celebrities" we have here each year. So, I have compiled a list for your attention. As with any list of this type, you must remember the past, use your imagination and understand that omissions will be made. Here is my list and be sure to acknowledge them as you meet during this season.

John Kennedy (President)
 Howard Hughes (Movie producer and reclusive billionaire)

Ed Sullivan (Variety Show Host)
 Eddie Fisher (Singer / Actor)
 Linda Lee (Singer)
 Dale Brown (Author)
 Jackie Cooper (Actor)
 Davy Jones (Singer-Monkees / Undersea Locker)
 Al Santini "The Great " (From the novel)
 Jack & Jill (Schafer or Snitko) (Story book fame- Up the Hill)
 And a few with nicknames:
 Bullalo Bill (Rogowski) – (Western hero)
 Wild Bill (Moore) - Western marshall – Hickok)
 Waylon (Wayne) Jennings



2012 Senior Games

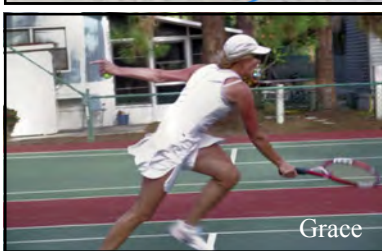
Once again the week of Senior Games was blessed with perfect weather. 374 senior athletes representing 234 households participated in the games this year. 76% (285) were park model owners, 15% (50) were campers, and 9% (39) were park model renters. This year the athletes are almost evenly divided between men and women with 182 (49%) men and 192 (51%) women. The number of athletes in each age group was 20 (5%) athletes in the 50-59 age group, 162 (43%) in the 60-69 age group, 145 (39%) in the 70-79 age group and 47 (13%) in the 80+ age group which increased by 7 (2%). The Macaw would like to thank all the athletes, coaches, and staff for providing this park with a fun week. This event helps define RCR as the place to be in the winter months.

More Pictures?

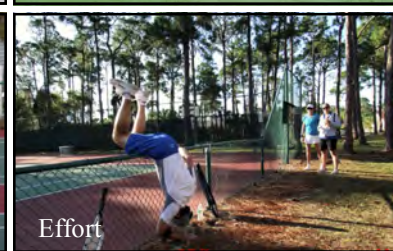
www.royalcoachmanresort.net
Photo Galleries



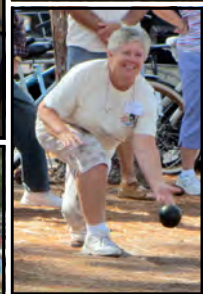
From Beginning



Grace



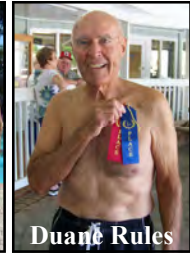
Effort



Bocce Rules at RCR



40 Yd Winners



Duane Rules



Ladies Winners



Bean Bag Golf



Cribbage



Trivia



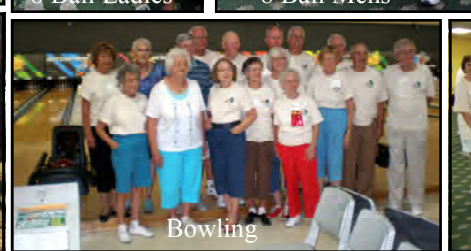
Bicycle Scavenger Hunt



8 Ball Ladies



8 Ball Mens



Bowling



Clubhouse Games



To End

Senior Games Committee. Paul and Regina Kelley pass the torch to Dale Baker for 2013 as Bill and Carol Maier welcome Dale. Thanks for a job well done! We'll see you next year.



News Around the Park

RCR Begins Bike Registration Project

Beginning this month, a group of volunteers will be working to help RCR residents create a bike registry. During the last Association meeting, Sarasota County Deputy Sheriffs told the group that bike thefts are the most common complaint they receive from RCR, and the most unlikely to be resolved. Once a bike is stolen, it is rarely recovered. Part of the reason for this is the lack of specific identifying information, like a bike's make, model and serial number. Joel Aldrich and Connie Garrison have volunteered to help people record important information about their bikes and keep it in a database. They will be at several upcoming events in the park with the forms and assistance in locating the information needed to register bikes. The bike registration form is also available online at the RCR website at www.royalcoachmanresort.net. You can download the form, fill it out and return it to Connie Garrison at #296, or fill it out online and email it to her at clgarrison@aol.com. She will record the information in the database. We suggest that you take a photo of your bike to include with the registration form.



Connie & Joel register a bike.

Connie Garrison

A Word from the Activities Director



Regina Kelley

March! March! Music! Music! Dine and dance with the shop club, enjoy the harmonica of Tony Johnson, and be totally entertained by the talents of your neighbors at the Variety Show. The crafty skills of your neighbors will be on display at The Craft Show. On March 6th Royal Coachman will host the Sarasota Expo Glamour Day complete with a fashion show, jewelry, makeup, massage, and refreshments. Don't miss this chance to pamper yourself! Green beer and special activities show up at the St. Patrick's Day Dance. The last show of the season is the musically entertaining Terry Connolly. Enjoy good food and displays at the 15th Annual RCR Car Show with the sounds of Bill Primeau and the RCR Dulcimer Group! As the season winds down there will be one last dinner/dance. Check the calendar and TV for time and place for these and the regularly scheduled activities. Volunteers will be recognized at a luncheon for the many hours it takes to make RCR a ***** resort. And finally, this is a reminder for everyone who is in charge of an activity, event, dinner, or dance to fill out the forms for the 2012-13 season.

Legacy Trail Surrey

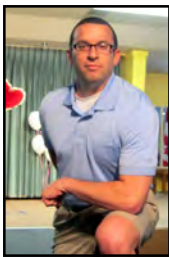
Have you wanted to explore the new Legacy Trail near Encore but don't ride a bike? The Friends of the Legacy Trail are offering FREE surray rides on the trail for anyone who wants to take a ride. The surray leaves from the Laurel Community Center (approx 1.3 miles from RCR). It is easy to drive there, park and catch the surray. RESERVATIONS are required, and can be made online at www.scgov.net or by calling 941-861-5000. The surray rides run Tuesdays and Wednesdays at 9 am, 10 am, 1 pm and 2 pm. Each surray holds 6 people, including two operators. The surreys are accessible to all. Happy Trails!



Connie Garrison



Message from the Manager



Jason Rosenberg
Park Mgr.

Capital Improvement Plan has been approved and I am awaiting the final allocation of funds. Once received, I can start the contract process and begin to schedule the job(s). At that time, I will submit a modification request to exchange the tractor for pool resurfacing. That process tends to be a bit cumbersome, but the outlook appears to favor us. That said, nothing is official/final until I get the approval from Chicago.

Also, Private Sales cannot be finalized until a Background Check has been performed on the prospective new residents. This is a Corporate Policy and we must adhere to it. Again, this protects you and your property and is necessary.

Please obey the park speed limit. I have seen far too many residents speeding through the gate, around corners or on straight-aways throughout the resort and it is both dangerous and unacceptable.

I want to remind everyone that all renters must continue to sign in at the desk in the front office. It is critical that we are aware, especially during the summer, of any new residents/tenants. Also, if you rent your unit for 30-days or more, a criminal background check is required. This is for your safety and security. It is also very important for you to make sure that your unit is clean and in good working order before you turn it over to a renter. I have had numerous conversations with unhappy guests who rented a unit either sight unseen, or after viewing pictures via email or snail mail. Please take care of your unit.



Residents Association News

I hope all of you both survived and enjoyed the busy month of February. Of course, the Senior Games were a large part of the month; but, there were many other things to keep us busy. The Anglers Club completed some successful charter trips and has enough fish for their Annual Fish Fry. Rehearsals have been taking place for the Variety Show and Choral Concert. Craft projects are being completed to be shown at the end of season Craft Show. And so much more.

Your Association Board now has two new members; Bill Rudy and Judy Spiller. We have met and reorganized with officers remaining the same except Ed Fisher is now Vice President. We will be meeting again in

March. Currently we have no major issues to contend with but we continue to work with Jason for the betterment of all.

We continue to receive complaints from the residents about speeding in the park. Please watch your speed and stay off your phone while driving. Speed limits apply to bikes and golf carts also. Bicyclists need to warn pedestrians as they pass them. Pedestrians need to be aware of their surroundings, also. We all need to pull together, be alert, and keep this park safe.



Kerry Gonnam
Bd. President

Don't Miss These Dates!

March 10 & 11 in the Rec Hall. RCR cordially invites you to VEGAS! International (U.S. & Canada) talent, headliner acts, showstoppers, casino games and more. \$3.00 plus non-perishable food items.

March 24 in the Rec Hall. Come hear your neighbors and friends perform in the Annual RCR Choral Concert. No admission charge. Good-will offering



Meet the Real Macaw. What is it and who does it?

The Real Macaw is a newsletter published by residents of our resort for the residents of our resort. It serves as a means to keep residents informed about activities in the park and also allows them to learn about other residents. We all blend together in this park, but we all have varied and interesting backgrounds to share. The Macaw helps us do that.

Ask about the origins of the Macaw and you will get different answers. The earliest issue we have (thanks to Bev Gatten) is from Feb/Mar 1990 and was edited by Bob and Marjorie Hirshan. Bev was on that staff. Regina Kelley has assembled a Macaw Archives book of issues that is in the lounge that provides a history of the resort. Although the idea probably started with park management, over the years the work has been handled by many different volunteers. Following is some information about our current staff.

Since 1999 our editors have been Ralph and Marion Barnes. Back in the real world Ralph was a radio newsman, a reporter for UPI, an administrative assistant to a congressman, and had his own PR company. Marion worked for radio and TV in Portland, Me. and then worked for a publishing company in Massachusetts. They are also active in community theater; currently serving as directors at Lemon Bay Playhouse.

Our two layout specialists came on board during the last decade. Ray Schilling began working with the Macaw around 2005. His background is very strong in computer science with degrees and work experience at the University of Akron followed by a position at Starke State College of Technology as Department Head of Computer Technology and then became Vice President of Administration. When he and Kaye retired in 2000 they looked for a winter home and ended up at RCR. In 2004 they restarted their musical careers and now play with four different community bands.

Kerry Gonnam arrived in RCR with his wife Donna in January 2005 and by 2007 had begun contributing articles and photos to the Macaw. Before long he pitched in to help Ray with the layout duties and now they alternate issues. Kerry began working with computers in the US Army in 1969 and has been involved with them off and on ever since. After 20 years in retail management, in 1994 he began working at a local marina in Pa. and computerized the business by developing a newsletter, a web page, an internet sales business, and automating accounts receivable.

One of our most experienced feature writers is Mary Jane Franklin from Michigan. "MJ" is a retired elementary teacher and credits thirty years of writing lesson plans with giving her the discipline to write interesting and readable stories. One of her fondest memories is doing an RCR version of Tom Brokaw's "The Greatest Generation". She interviewed and wrote about the WWII veterans living here at RCR.

Our most recent addition has been Connie Garrison. You may remember the biography of Connie and her husband Christian in last year's Macaw. Connie's background as a law enforcement officer and a prosecuting attorney has given her a solid background in writing. We look forward to publishing more of her work.

There have been many other contributors to our humble publication over the years. Many have donated their time to photograph events for the Macaw and our new website. Dolores Samulski, Bob Townsend, Dick Waughtal, Kerry Gonnam, Ray Schilling, and others have all been behind the viewfinder in recent issues.

Currently we publish four issues a year: Jan, Feb, Mar, and Apr. The staff of the Macaw hopes you enjoy our efforts. We also invite others to jump in and join the fun. We are always looking for new contributors.



Standing: Ray Schilling, Dolores Samulski, Kerry Gonnam
Seated: Ralph & Marion Barnes, Mary Jane Franklin, Connie Garrison

The Real Macaw Sponsored by Encore Royal Coachman Resort Manager: Jason Rosenberg
Editors: Ralph & Marion Barnes Layout: Ray Schilling & Kerry Gonnam Contributors: Marion Barnes Mary Jane Franklin Kerry Gonnam
Dolores Samulski Regina Kelley, Connie Garrison, Peter Crich, Maureen Norton, Al Chabot
Photos by: Kerry Gonnam, Mary Jane Franklin, Connie Garrison, Dolores Samulski, Regina Kelley