

LAUREL ESTATES SOCIAL CLUB

Visit us at www.laurelestates.com

DECEMBER 2008

FROM YOUR PRESIDENT It is November 17 in the year of our Lord 2008, and if I were an artist, I would now paint you a picture: of beautiful pure white snow lightly covering the tops of the bushes and housetops, of the lake water literally dancing its way down to the spillway, a gray dawn breaking day, a few Christmas decorations have been hung and Christmas lights are twinkling with joy here and there in the neighborhood. All is silent.....the ducks are gently coasting to and fro in front of my window.....and snowflakes the size of quarters are falling softly to the ground. So beautiful . So peaceful, so restful. My busy mind says: slow down. Take time to smell the roses (no-o-o-o they're all gone....taste the snow!!)

Enough..... it's time to get out of here! About a week ago, your Newsletter Typist realized that Thanksgiving was coming a week later this year and if we were to copy and distribute the December newsletter by the deadline, we better re-arrange our schedule. So, we managed Thanksgiving and Christmas with our kids in the space of a few days, took care of shutdowns and startups, packed some clothes and a few other odds and ends and we will be heading to Laurel Estates this coming weekend. If you are reading this newsletter—you know we've arrived!!

We're looking forward to another busy, fun-filled year at Laurel Estates. I want to encourage everyone to participate in the activities of the park. We like to think of our friends and neighbors as one big happy family. We have a lot of new residents in the park this year and we WELCOME you! We are eager to get acquainted with you and look forward to your input and participation in the park activities. We need you!! Get involved! Chair a committee! Be a volunteer!

My Christmas thought to you: Let's not "spend" Christmas, nor "observe" Christmas, but let's "KEEP" Christmas. Let's keep it in our hearts all year...its meanings and traditions...that we may be kept in its hope—the Hope of the Christ Child. MERRY CHRISTMAS!

BOB L ☺

NEWSPAPER ARTICLES should be hard copy or hand written and in my possession by the 20th of the month..

The copy machine will be available for personal copies at 2723 Breezewood Drive. Please call ahead for an appointment. Thanks.

WELCOME — TO OUR NEW LAUREL ESTATE RENTER

Watkins, Gloria

PHONE DIRECTORY: Please make the following additions/changes to your directory:

(See the printed newsletter for addresses and phone numbers.)

Change

Brink, Bob & Joan

Correction:

Smith, Thomas & Ande

Delete:

Fisher, Vi — 2784 Breezewood Dr.....No Phone

Please notify Jan Ignatowski of all directory changes. Thanks!

DUES NOTICE:

The LAUREL ESTATES LOT OWNERS DUES are due by December 31, 2008 to be eligible to vote at the January Annual Meeting. Please pay the Treasurer: Gail Goad.

REMINDER: Judy Schlundt has accepted the duties of block captain for Block 2. If you are in block 2, please feel free to contact Judy with questions or comments and remember to keep her advised of hospitalizations or deaths in your block so that she may advise our Sunshine Lady.

IT'S CHRISTMAS



It is Christmas in the mansion,
Yule-log fires and silken frocks,
It is Christmas in the cottage,
Mother's filling little socks.
It is Christmas on the highway
In the thronging, busy mart;
But the dearest, truest Christmas
Is the Christmas in the Heart.

Author unknown

SUNSHINE REPORT:

Please notify your block captain of hospitalizations or deaths in your neighborhood so they can notify the Sunshine Lady.

HOSPITALIZED:

11/04 Morrison, Jim—Mass Hospital

DECEASED:

11/11 Shellenberger, Willis

NOTE: Please do NOT remove cards and obituary notices from the bulletin board. This is the responsibility of the Sunshine Lady, Mary Louise Filer. Thanks.

NOTICE

All residents should be aware of the bookshelves located on the west wall of the clubhouse. Many items may be found on these bookshelves:

1. **Pop tabs—for the Ronald McDonald house.**
Why not save your tabs and drop them in the container on the shelves to help benefit this worthy cause.
2. **Campbell labels for the Shriners.** Again, take a moment to save Campbell soup labels and place them in the appropriate container.
3. **Eye glasses** — donate old eye glasses/sun glasses to the Lions Club for their eye care programs.
4. **Neighbor** — a weekly North Fort Myers publication full of information, advertisements, and upcoming events. A must for all the T&T addicts in the park.
5. **Periodicals** — a variety of periodicals with helpful information for Seniors.
6. **Lost and Found** — various items that have been lost or misplaced.
- 7.

ALSO, CHECK OUT OUR LIBRARY

Check out the books in our library, which is located in the Pool/Card Room. You will find a large variety of books for your reading pleasure. We do not check books out or in....simply take the book of your choice home with you, read it, and return it to the library. You may also donate books to the library if you wish to do so.

REMINDERS:

Computer Classes— First class Tuesday, Dec 9, at 10 AM in the club house. Please watch the bulletin board for additional information.

Saturday Morning Café — Don & Helene are hosting an “eye opener” at the club house every Saturday morning from 7:30 AM to 9 AM. Come in for a breakfast roll and wake up with a fresh cup of coffee!

Craft Club—The craft club meets every Wednesday morning from 9 to 11:30 am at the social club house. The second Wednesday of the month is a carry-in luncheon at 11:30 am. Bring your own table service and a passing dish and join us.

Potluck Supper — No potluck scheduled for December due to our Christmas Dinner at the Club House on Christmas Day. (see page 3)

Laurel Book Club — At our last book club meeting, we decided to read “Can’t Wait to Get to Heaven” by Fanny Flagg during the summer months (if possible). Plan to join us December 15 at 10 AM when we will review and discuss this book.

Pancake Breakfast December 6—If you have not yet purchased your tickets for a great breakfast—then you need to see Don Lizzotte.

AARP Safe Driving—Courses will again be available for the small charge of \$10 and checks should be made out to: AARP. Classes will be December 11 and 12 (Thursday & Friday) from 12:30 to 4:30 pm There is a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board of the Club House. Please sign up if you are interested in attending this class.

Mah Jongg—Come join us for Mah Jongg. If you don’t know how to play, we will teach you. For more information call Janice Ignatowski, or Sylvia Wojcik. It’s a lot of fun and a great way to make new friends. Hope you will join us.

NEW YEAR’S EVE DANCE**DECEMBER 31, 2008****LAUREL ESTATES CLUBHOUSE****8:30 PM TO 12:30 AM****MUSIC BY: DENNIS LOVE****BYOB & MIX & FINGER FOODS
FOR OUR CONTINUOUS BUFFET****\$5****FOR TICKET INFORMATION CALL: 995-0903**

ATTENTION

There have been some problems in the park when new A/C units have been purchased larger than necessary due to poor marketing tactics. If you plan to purchase new this year, you might want to check the bulletin board for recommendations or call **Ed Weinmann** at 656-3086.

WE NEED YOU

Do you have a hobby, a talent, or a gift to share? How about a decoration, an ornament, something unique to wear? Bring your projects and ideas to "Friends and Fellowship" on Wednesday morning at the Social Hall. All park residents are welcome. Pot luck luncheon on December 10 at 11:30 am. Bring a dish to pass. Table service and beverage will be furnished. Looking forward to seeing you on Wednesday mornings at the Social Hall.

BethThompson

CERT (Community Emergency Response Team) - We are thankful again for another quiet hurricane/storm season. The only message to pass on to the community is: whereas the Academy of the Arts was our designated shelter in the past, this will no longer be the case. The county has a list of possible shelters and will televise their decision on which ones to open in the event of an evacuation. For us, that simply means that the TV will be our guide as to which shelter will be open if needed. **KEEP YOUR NEWS STATION ON IF A STORM IS IMMINENT.**

One note regarding our park CERT team. Bruce and I are looking for someone who would be willing to take over as leader(s) for our team.. This would entail two monthly meetings and keeping the team informed of trainings for our area. Please call 656-6625 if you are interested. New leaders may come from the existing team or someone who is interested in taking the basic training course this winter. **THANK YOU FOR YOUR CONSIDERATION.**

Jan Zylstra, Team Leader

CHRISTMAS DINNER

The Laurel Estates Christmas Dinner will be served at 1:00 PM Thursday, December 25 at the Social Hall. Meat, Potatoes and beverage will be furnished by the Social Club. Please bring a dish to pass and your table service. There will be a sign-up sheet on the bulletin board December 1. If you plan to join the Laurel Estates Family Christmas dinner, please sign up by Monday, December 22, so preparations can be made for your enjoyment.

RED HAT JEWELSfrom Queen Helene

Our first meeting of the season was Thursday, November 6 and there were six Red Hat Jewels in attendance. We made plans to have brunch at Perkins Restaurant on November 14, and then see a movie. Pat Goodwin will be our hostess. The Classy Ladies of Arrowhead have been invited to join us.

Our next outing will be Sunday, December 21 at 7PM at Mary Miller's home and Judy Cook will be co-hostess.

January

January 12 is our trip to Cypress Gardens. There will be five going on this trip.

We will be hosting an event for ladies only. It is **not** a red hat event. We have scheduled a Humorous Monologue by Maragaret Roche to be at the Club House on Thursday, January 15 at 1 PM. We have invited ladies from our area to join us and request they bring a donation of canned goods or non-perishable item(s) as their entrance fee. All donations will be given to Earl Harvey for distribution to Suncoast families. Remember it is for **LADIES ONLY!!** More about this event later. Remember to attend our monthly meetings always held on the first Thursday of the month from 1 pm to 3 pm at the Club House.

Happy Red Hatting and a very Merry Christmas to you and yours. May God richly bless you in the coming new year.



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Queen Mum Helene of the Red Hat Jewels

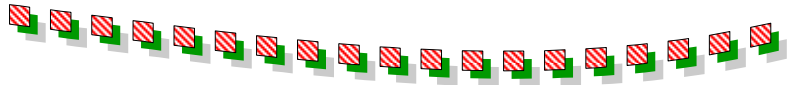
COMBINATION CHRISTMAS BIRTHDAY PARTY

This year, you will notice on your December calendars, we are combining our December birthday party with our sing-along Christmas program on Friday, December 19, at 7:30 PM. We trust that many of you will join in for some great singing accompanied by Dennis Love at the piano. **COME CELEBRATE !!!!!**

LIGHTING THE LUMINARIES & SINGING CAROLS

We will light the luminaries at 6 pm on Christmas Eve. Earl Harvey will advise when the bags and sand will be available. After the luminaries are lit, we will stroll the park, singing Christmas Carols in glorious harmony.....well at least we can make a **joyful noise!!** Don & Helene will have large print booklets for distribution. Please return to Don or Helene after we have finished caroling.. Everyone is invited to join us..... Please do!!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO YOU



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

- 1 Janice Swick
- 6 Mary McElroy
- 8 Starr Gordon
- 9 Irene Jones
- 12 Marcia Parsons
- 13 Mary Engle
- 15 Joanne Maul
- 17 John Fink
- 20 Betty Groves
- 20 Dick Samuelson
- 21 Louise Burns
- 21 Jim Rudolph
- 22 Hilda Miller
- 23 Carl Leonard
- 24 Dora Angert
- 24 Jane Bacon
- 25 Suzanne Hannafius
- 27 Therese Powers
- 28 JoAnn Goldschmidt
- 31 Carleen Staup

JUNE BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Mary Ellen Utter
- 4 Pat Goodwin
- 8 Nelita Trahan
- 9 Ken Clark
- 9 Leighton Fritz
- 9 Dominic Piscopo
- 11 Katharine Morrison
- 11 Martha Warneke
- 11 Bruce Zylstra
- 12 Del Miller
- 13 Mary Louise Filer
- 17 Phyllis Cross
- 20 Sondra Clark
- 23 Walter Hampson
- 23 Lou Purnell
- 25 Sonny Femino
- 27 Chuck Lorenz
- 27 Jerry Raatz
- 29 Shirley Weinmann
- 30 John Dettrey

