

Volume 3, Issue 6

December 2021

LAUREL ESTATES 55+ COMMUNITY, N FORT MYERS, FL

# The Laurel Ledger

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING

Unless otherwise notified, the monthly Board of Directors meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month at 7:00 PM in the clubhouse from November through April.

Everyone is welcome. Attendance is the best way to find out what is going on and to express your concerns and recommendation for our community. There will be a time toward the end of the meeting for questions and comments.

## A note from your Editor...

*I sat here at the computer a long time trying to decide what to write. I have always found it difficult to leave a job, even if I hated it (except when I retired). Weird, huh? I actually liked doing the newsletter. It is somewhat therapeutic. It is, however, very frustrating, when you cannot get cooperation. It wasn't like that when I first started. Everyone was so helpful and willing to get their info to me without me having to contact them. Everything is last minute, or needs multiple revisions, or when I do contact people I get no response of any kind.*

*I also found it very sad that only three people in the park had any fond memories of their holidays. What is up with that? I hear people complain that no one wants to help with things. I wasn't asking for a dissertation... just a short little story. It would have been fun to hear the holiday tales.*

*I hope the board soon finds someone who is willing to take over this job.*

*Sherry Stover*

## From the President's Desk.....

Representatives of Storm Ready Services, the company enhancing tie-downs in the Park for those who request inspection of their tie-downs, will attend our Board meeting Thursday, January 6, 2022 at 7 pm. All property owners who are here are encouraged to attend. They will once again present the program and interested owners may sign up to have their home tie-downs inspected.

Our annual meeting is coming up January 20. We will be electing Officers and Directors for 2022. Anyone willing to serve this Community, please get in touch with any Board member. Whether for the Board, for a committee or other position, volunteers are needed. This Community is what we all make of it.

Looking forward to seeing everyone soon.

*Reggie Blough*



IMPORTANT INFORMATION - If you have an activity and/or event that you would like included in the newsletter, please be aware that any contact information you furnish will be included both in the printed document as well as any digitized (online) copies of the newsletter. Your

submission indicates your acceptance of the above.

Thank You.

# Pot Luck Dinner

December 2nd

5:00 pm

Please bring a dish to share (desserts are welcome too) and your own place settings. Don't forget your appetite.



Though we had a nice time, let's try to get a bigger crowd than in November.

**PLEASE WEAR YOUR NAME TAG.**

**Stay for the Board Meeting at 7:00**

# Memorial Ride

December 3rd

4:00 pm

We will be having a memorial ride in honor of residents and previous residents who passed away during 2021.

Ride your bicycles, trikes and golf carts to the clubhouse to meet. Hey, if you have a Segway...why not?



## Christmas Card Drop Box



Due to the great response last year, we will supply a Christmas card drop box for the 2021 Holiday Season. The box will be labeled and located in our clubhouse. Feel free to drop off your holiday cards that are addressed to residents that live in the park (Name and Street address). No stamp is needed, these cards will be hand delivered. The box will be available from **November 14th through December 21st**. Please do not leave cards on the tables after the 21st. They will not be delivered.

## It's Cookie Time

Please consider donating baked cookies or squares to Laurel Estates shut-ins, sick/recovering & 90+ seniors.

**December 17th, Friday, 9:00 am**  
**Laurel Estates Clubhouse**

Bring your baked goods to the clubhouse Dec. 18, 10 am

We will package and deliver shortly thereafter.

If you know anyone that is shut-in, sick/recovering or 90+ please let me know. Cheryl – 780-952-0638 or 2789 Teakwood Dr.

**Thank you for your support**

*Please sign up in clubhouse if you are willing to participate in baking items!*  
*Bakers will also be able to take a variety plate of baked items home!*

# Busy Elves Christmas Bazaar



## Craft and Food Sale

**Sunday-December 5**

**11:00am to 4:00pm**



Tables will be reserved for you at the **cost of 5%** of your sales. This will be for the benefit of our park. Non-residents will be charged \$20 per table. Thank you.

**CONTENT** - HOMEMADE ITEMS AND FOOD FROM SCRATCH ONLY, PLEASE. NO RESALE MERCHANDISE.

**RESERVE** - Call me and I will reserve a table for YOU. Sylvia Verrill-207-739-9942

**SET-UP** - Starts at 10:00.

**CANCEL** - Please let me know if something comes up and you can't join us.

Plans are already set for refreshments to be sold from our kitchen

We hope to make this an annual event!

# Luminaria

We are looking for people to help assemble and distribute the luminaria to the residents in the park. We will be meeting at our home on December 24th at 4:00 pm to fill the bags and then take them around the park. If you could help, let us know.



Al and Sharon Babcock  
2735 Indianwood Dr  
315-681-1782

## Two Musical Events for December

**December 16 at 6:00 pm at the Clubhouse**



LET'S GET TOGETHER AND SING OUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS SONGS!

LET ME KNOW IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO LEAD SOME SONGS. PERHAPS YOU PLAY GUITAR AND COULD LEAD. THAT'S WHAT I PLAN TO DO. PERHAPS YOU WOULD LIKE TO DO SOMETHING WITH OUR PIANO OR KEYBOARD.

SIGN UP IF YOU HAVE SOME SPECIAL MUSIC YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE OR LEAD.



## CAROLING

**December 23 at 6:30 pm**

**Meet at the Clubhouse**

JOIN US OUT FRONT OF THE CLUBHOUSE FOR CAROLING,

BRING A FLASHLIGHT TO HELP READ THE WORDS OF THE CAROLS WE WILL HAVE PRINTED FOR YOU

Contact Sylvia Verrill  
207-739-9942



The Christmas Decoration Contest will be judged on December 23 between 6pm and 8pm. 1st, 2nd, 3rd place winners list will be on the bulletin board in the clubhouse on December 24th by Noon. The winners will also have a sign posted in their front yards. Look forward to seeing some beautiful displays.

## Homemade Baked Goods for the Bazaar

Sandy Ralya is in charge of the Bake Sale table for the Bazaar on **December 5**. She is looking for contributions of **homemade** baked goods for the occasion. If you would like to help out, you can give Sandy a call at **616-566-0854**.



**SHUFFLE-  
BOARD  
is a  
go!**



It has been decided that we **will be getting the travel team together and have league play beginning January 5th.**

**We are short on team players. 10 players are needed each week. If you would be interested in playing, please contact -**

**Phill Chilson**

**608-449-3603**

Practices will still be held on Mondays at 2:00 pm and Tuesdays at 9:30 am.

## December Birthdays

Hintz	DAVID	1
Tschirhart	MICHAEL	1
Swick	JANICE	1
Spoth	RON	2
Holman	WALENA	4
Braaten	CHRIS	9
Hallas	RAYMOND	12
Woods	Leon (HEWEY)	13
Mooses	JOHN	14
Motyl	CATHERINE	17
Raetz	EDWARD	17
Senecal	GENE	18
Rudolph	JIM	21
Burns	LOUISE	21
Frank	PAT	22
Sadler	CAROLYN	23
Cushman	BARBARA	24
Holman	RAY	26
Samson	RAY	26
Powers	THERESE	27
Verrill	SYLVIA	29
Calvin	TODD	31
Collins	CYNTHIA	31
Swick	GREGORY	31

## Can You Help?

### Manufacturers Coupons for Overseas Military

Welcome back everyone. It has been a tuff year for so many of us. I want to sincerely thank everyone that were able to still leave coupon books in the Club House.

The amount of coupons I am cutting now has gone from 10-12,000 a month down to about 3-5,000 or less. This is mainly due to the fact that our Neighborhood Weekly papers that we get in the club house and so many other places around have stopped putting coupons in them. The only source I really have now is with the Sunday paper and they have also cut way back.

Please, if you can still support the VFW Auxiliary take what you want and leave the rest uncut in booklet in the box for COUPONS at the Club House.

### Pop Top Tabs for Ronald McDonald House

I am still collecting the pull top rings from pop cans, beer cans, and some food with pull tabs for the VFW Auxiliary. Please leave in the plastic box provided in the Club House. Thank for continued support.

Don't forget I live here year round. If I can help anyone, please don't hesitate to call me at 239-656-2821. Leave your name, phone and a message.

Thank you so much. **Andie Smith**

# Holiday Memories

Our hearts grow tender with childhood memories and love of kindred, and we are better throughout the year for having, in spirit, become a child again at Christmastime.  
~ Laura Ingalls Wilder (1867-1957)

I don't know if I have a "most memorable" Christmas because every Christmas was memorable....my favorite time of the year. I love traditions.

I grew up in the Moravian Church in Emmaus, PA. They, themselves, have many wonderful traditions. There were three Christmas Eve services - a Children's Lovefeast and 2 candlelight services with lots of music. I sang in the choirs throughout the years. People came from all over town, whether they were members or not.

We would get up early Christmas morning, open our gifts and eat breakfast and then load up the car to go to my grandparent's in Mifflinville, PA, to celebrate there.

Now I must go back many years....

My grandmother had several jewelry boxes that my little sister and I liked to play "Jewelry Store" with their contents, and Gram didn't mind.

Christmas of 1967, when I was 16, I received my most memorable gift from my grandmother. It was a beautiful cameo which was a favorite of mine among her jewelry in those jewelry boxes. It could be worn as a pin or a pendant. It brought tears. I never wore it a lot because I didn't have the appropriate outfits for it. But it was an important part of my wedding attire when Chuck and I got married. I think Gram would have liked him.



Gram 

## Sherry Stover

My most memorable Christmas was 1955. My Mom, Dad, Sister and I had just moved back North from San Antonio Texas the month prior. We were living in State College PA at my Mom's parents' home. My Mom's Sisters and their families came for Christmas, and all the kids were excited about the Holiday.

Christmas Morning arrived, and all the cousins had to wait upstairs until my Grandfather lit the fire in the fireplace then we all came downstairs and tore into the presents under the tree. We ate breakfast and got dressed and my Mom, Dad, Sister and I went to my Grandparents' home in Bellefonte, ten miles down the road and had another Breakfast and opened more presents. Boy, it was exhausting.

Then we packed into a couple of cars (by this time, Dad's twin brother and his family had joined us) and headed back to State College. My dad and Grandfather then headed to Boalsburg to pick up some aunts, uncles and great aunts and great-great aunts to transport them.

That's not the most memorable part. Christmas Dinner was the memorable part.



33 people around the tables: One table in the dining room, one big table in the kitchen and a card table in the Center Hall for the really young kids. The menu? Turkey (it has huge), a whole ham, roast beef, mashed potatoes, scalloped potatoes, parsley potatoes and candied sweet potatoes, 4 kinds of gravy (had to have giblet gravy), dried, creamed, and sweet corn, a plethora of other veggies, 4 relish trays and other things like piccalilli and Chow-Chow. Then came the cakes and pies (my favorite was Shoo-Fly)

After Dinner, the men and male kids "retired" to the living room, the adults took naps and the kids proceeded to break the toys we so joyously opened earlier. The women retired to the kitchen to clean up after Dinner. It would have been around 7:00PM and a long day for everyone but all those people we picked up earlier had to be returned home which the men accomplished.

The house that provided those memories is still there but it's now student housing for Penn State Grad Students. The Grandparents, aunts and uncles are all gone and, even though I am the eldest of the cousins, we have lost some of them also. There are only a few of us left and, as I write this, I feel a certain sadness but, on the other hand, I would never consider trading the joy, happiness and memories of these family gatherings for anything.

Chuck Stover

## Holidays Memories (continued)

By Myrna Stroble

I remember going to my grandmother's (Georgia Shuler of Defiance, Ohio) for a Holiday Dinner many times. She always had three kinds of meat.....a good meal to please everyone.

Being a grandmother of 12 and a great grandmother of 15 (and counting), I DON'T COOK...PERIOD.

BUT I welcome them all anytime.



Even while we sing he smiles his last,  
And leaves our sphere behind.  
The good old year is with the past;  
Oh be the new as kind!  
~William Cullen Bryant (1794–1878), "A Song for New Year's Eve," 1857

# Holiday Tunes

Away in a Manger  
Choir of the Bells  
Dominick the Donkey  
Frosty the Snowman  
Holly Jolly Christmas  
Jingle Bell Rock  
Jingle Bells  
Let it Snow  
Little Drummer Boy  
Little St Nick  
O Holy Night  
Rudolph  
Santa Baby  
Silent Night  
Silver Bells  
The Christmas Song  
The First Noel  
Winter Wonderland

S	G	R	D	A	M	A	F	C	I	F	Z	Z	X	F	K	U	H	J	X
W	A	W	A	Y	O	B	R	E	M	M	U	R	D	E	L	T	T	I	L
C	K	M	B	H	P	L	O	D	U	R	J	T	G	J	I	H	Z	N	O
Z	D	W	T	Z	E	D	S	Y	E	L	C	B	Y	R	T	G	C	G	K
G	N	O	S	S	A	M	T	S	I	R	H	C	E	H	T	I	J	L	L
Q	A	N	K	O	I	D	Y	A	L	F	D	G	I	R	L	N	B	E	D
X	L	S	O	X	Q	R	T	B	T	I	N	W	X	N	E	T	O	B	J
D	R	T	J	T	I	R	H	V	A	A	H	X	I	P	S	N	A	E	W
F	E	I	F	W	V	T	E	C	M	B	E	U	U	B	T	E	S	L	S
N	D	T	U	C	C	H	S	A	Y	A	A	I	N	S	N	L	C	L	Q
B	N	E	V	X	E	G	N	X	I	L	M	T	R	I	I	I	Y	R	W
F	O	L	N	I	A	I	O	Z	T	K	L	I	N	X	C	S	J	O	U
B	W	V	E	S	Y	N	W	K	M	G	F	O	O	A	K	T	E	C	N
G	R	O	K	A	C	Y	M	V	Z	E	U	A	J	Y	S	L	D	K	U
M	E	Q	W	Q	O	L	A	O	H	K	P	I	T	Y	K	B	N	M	Q
G	T	A	P	U	I	O	N	T	S	L	L	E	B	E	L	G	N	I	J
L	N	F	G	C	Z	H	N	S	L	L	E	B	R	E	V	L	I	S	E
I	I	Y	E	K	N	O	D	E	H	T	K	C	I	N	I	M	O	D	S
L	W	B	T	K	S	L	L	E	B	E	H	T	F	O	R	I	O	H	C
U	I	M	U	Y	F	C	J	H	B	X	B	V	R	U	M	Q	C	Y	B

# Poker Run

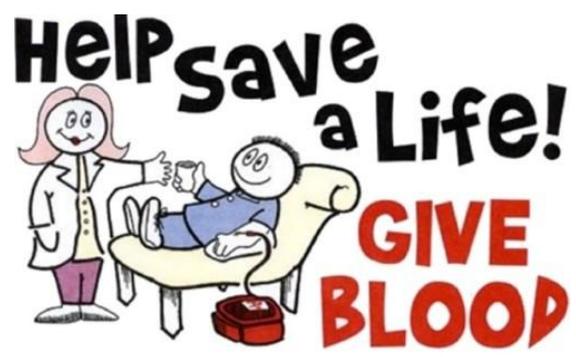
January 9 at 3:30 pm

Hot dogs, chips, and beverage \$5.00  
(covers prizes too)

Sign-up sheets WILL be at the clubhouse when we get back in town.

Have a fun afternoon!

Donna and  
Phill Chilson



**Bloodmobile at clubhouse**  
**There will be a sign-up sheet in the clubhouse.**

## Social Hour



Hosted by Todd & Cindy Calvin  
Thursday



December 9: 6:30 - 7:30 pm

And

January 27: 6:30 - 7:30 pm



Bring your own drinks and a snack to pass if you want.



January 13th

6:30 pm

Birthday Party

For January, April,  
July and October birthdays.

Cloggers from  
Bayshore Elementary School  
will be the entertainment.



# Thank You

The Association and Lot Owners would like to thank Andy and Betty, and Kim and Mark for donating the Christmas decorations that are up in our park. Everyone is enjoying the beauty of Christmas.

Thank you to Deb and Cecil Fugate for your time and talent making all the wooden holiday Decorations at the entrance of the park. They remind us every holiday how thankful we are to celebrate the holidays with our friends in Laurel Estates.





# Notes From Sherri Hinchman



A Chance Auction will be held on March 13<sup>th</sup>. Some refer to this as a Chinese Auction. I am looking for gently used items or new items you wish to donate. Items such as: dishes, pictures, yard ornaments, maybe a hand drill, chain saw, a bottle of wine, that gift card you will never use, just to name a few. No clothes, please. These items will be put up for chance.

You will purchase tickets, drop a ticket (or 5 if you really want the item) in a container of an item you want. A ticket will be drawn, if it's yours you win that item. If you have something you'd like to donate please see Sherri Hinchman at 2777 Deerfield after January 1, 2022, or call her at 856-776-9151

Calendar of events for November, December, January, and February have been emailed to those who have given their email address to the Secretary of the Board or the welcome chairperson. If you have not received a calendar, first check your junk mail or spam mail. If you haven't received an email at either of those places, please reach out to Secretary Sherri Hinchman at 2777 Deerfield after the first of the year, call 856-776-9151 or email [slhinchman@gmail.com](mailto:slhinchman@gmail.com).

The Social Committee is looking for chairperson for the following events: BOCCE, Speciality Breakfasts, and Horse Shoes. If interested please see Sherri Hinchman at 2777 Deerfield or call 856-776-9151

We are trying something new: Wednesday Night Meal. Each Wednesday Carol Todd prepares a light dinner meal beginning at 4pm with the last meal served at 6pm. Typically the cost is \$4 - \$6 depending on what's for dinner. Come join the family for a delicious meal and conversation.

Several residents in the park asked to reinstate Block Captains. We are please to share, that work has begun on this project. Thanks to Jon and Sylvia Verrill who volunteered to be Co-Chairs of this task. If you are interested in participating, or have any questions, please see Jon or Sylvia.