

Oktoberfest x Two!

The warmup festival began on a Friday afternoon with a crowd in the Oak Room. Beer and snacks were on each table, ready for all. The Rockers—Al Goebel, Keith Berg and Ron Hoopes—entertained with a wonderful German musical program. The guitarist, Hank Pennypacker, was missing because of recent surgery.

The audience enjoyed an afternoon of German songs—listening, singing, swaying and even dancing to some of the music. Ron Burrichter and his wife, Brenda Smith, leaders of the Oak Hammock Singers, then each sang some German solos. It was a very festive way to warm up to the Oktoberfest that was presented the following Tuesday at Oak Hammock.
 - *Bev Cone, content; Bill Castine, Bev Cone, photos*



2022 Oktoberfest

The Sonnenschein Duo, accordion player, Willy Page, and singer, Martin Gross, who also played a trumpet, a guitar, and instruments like bells, saws, whistles, and an alpenhorn—once again provided Oktoberfest at Oak Hammock. There was much laughing, singing, and swaying to the fun music.

Lots of pitchers of beer and a delicious German buffet were enjoyed by all of us—kielbasa, bratwurst, Italian sausage, sauerkraut, and exciting desserts. The staff wore German outfits, and were recognized and appreciated. Many people in the audience were dressed up also. It was indeed another very festive party in the Oak Room at Oak Hammock.

- *Bev Cone, content; Bill Castine, Joe Gilkey, Margarete Ruth, photos*



A New Oak Tree on the Upper Level

Ian Hood knew wood. He enjoyed making beautiful items from the variety of wood that his daughter, Sarah, would bring each visit. Ian's pens and pencils were popular gift items, especially at Christmas time. The talents of John Moran's camera—capturing the beauty of trees and nature—were admired by Ian. A new oak tree photo graces the Upper Commons wall at elevator number 1, as gifted by Ian's daughter. The signed John Moran photograph "After the Rains" (hurricane season, 2004) is almost a paradoxical gift, as Floridians deal with the fickle nature of Hurricane Ian. *Thank you, Ian Hood. You will not be forgotten.*

- Barbara Dockery



Sandy and John Furches

This photo of John and Sandy Furches at the Oak Hammock new resident welcome Luau depicts a lot about them and their impression of their new home at Oak Hammock.

Sandy and John Furches are future planners. They wanted to relocate while they were still active and able to benefit from the activities and ILR programs. Sandy related, "Oak Hammock is the best of the best. We talked with others who did extensive research and Oak Hammock was at the top of their list. No need to recreate the wheel!"

John said, "We knew we couldn't count on the kids." Sandy added, "Since we have no children."

The move to Oak Hammock placed them back in the community they called home when they first married in 1972. In 1984, they moved to Lake City, FL to be closer to Sandy's job with CARC-Advocates for Citizens with Disabilities. John was with the FL Department of Corrections for his 36-year career.

The Furcheses moved into Apartment 2203 on August 3rd, two days before their 50th anniversary. Two nieces from Port Orange drove up on their anniversary to help unpack moving boxes. One had been their flower girl and her big sister had been their junior bridesmaid.

John ('70) and Sandy ('72) met at Stetson University. John grew up in Miami and Sandy in New-



port News, VA. They were married at Sandy's home church the summer following Sandy's graduation and honeymooned along the Skyline Drive and Blue Ridge Parkway. They return to the Great Smokies several times a year. They served together as Co-Presidents of the Stetson Alumni Association and were both awarded Distinguished Service Awards from Stetson for their work in their respective fields.

Sandy's 32-year career was in social work beginning at Sunland Center Gainesville (now Tacachale) and the last 20 years before early retirement, she was Executive Director of CARC-Advocates for Citizens with Disabilities in Lake City. Before leaving Gainesville, she was Program Coordinator for ARC Alachua's Exceptional Industries. Sandy has been in leadership with Altrusa International of Lake City and focused most of her volunteer energy through that organization and her church. She remains actively involved with a missions partnership in Jamaica and hopes to return there in July 2023.

John worked in prison education starting as a classroom teacher at Florida State Prison and fulfilled other roles administratively including setting up and overseeing the education program at Baker Correctional Institution when it first opened, then being a Regional Program Manager for Northeast Florida.

When asked if Oak Hammock had met their expectations, Sandy replied, "Oak Hammock has exceeded our expectations. We love our apartment, the people, the food, and the thoughtful way this community was developed and is sustained."

John is in the Mac User Group and enjoys all Apple products making use of their newest upgrades. Sandy is in the Women's Bible Study, Oak Hammock Singers, and enjoys the Fitness Center.

Please welcome Sandy and John when you see them. They love to engage others in conversation!

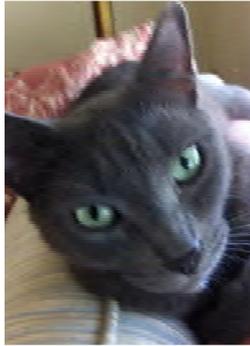
- Carole Zegel

The Cats of Oak Hammock

Since seeing the photos on the dogs of Oak Hammock in our last issue, the cats of Oak Hammock have indicated that they would like to be featured. Who are we to deny a request from these cool cats?



Aggie
(Kenny and Penny Whitley)



Alfie
(Diane Haines)



Bootsie and Charlotte (Char Char)
(Anne Margoluis)



Lucy
(Laura and Ken Berns)



Dagny (Served by Dick
and Margaret Cofer)



Dale
(Paulette Gird)



Ginger
(Jan and Larry Lowenthal)



Little Buddy
(Staff Danelle Nix)



Henri (Jane and
Michael Levy)



Jasmine and Simba
(Eve and Joe Berkow)



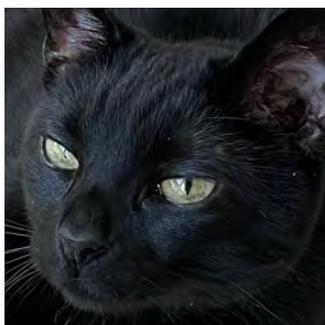
Midnight
(Marcia and Bill Brant)



Ziva
(Ellyn Ahlstrom)



Moochie
(Walter Wynn)



Neferkitty
(Hutchinson and Kilgour)



Ollie (New Residents
Barbara and Paul Walker)



Wheezer (Grandcat of
Margarete Ruth)



Spike, a rescue cat
(Doris Greene)

After the Storm Sing-Along

We celebrated the end of the hurricane threat in Gainesville on Thursday afternoon, 9/29, at our sing-along with guest participants from another CCRC who had escaped the storm in their area and were staying at Oak Hammock—and with lots of children participating, too. I assume they are staff family members out of school because of the weather threat! We sang lots of fun songs with drum and piano accompaniment with great enthusiasm, as Ian moved out of the Gainesville area. Thank you to all the staff who have enabled us to be safe during this difficult time. It was an especially joyful sing-along, here at Oak Hammock.

- Bev Cone, content;
Keith Berg, photos



Employee Appreciation Fund

I don't want to take much of your time to remind you once again that this is our one shot to "tip" (reward) our staff for all the services that they provide all year long. It's understandable that inflation and higher rents next year cause us to worry. (Our staff has experienced higher prices as well.) Hopefully the large increase in our Social Security benefits next year will relieve some of our fears---great timing!

Last week Kelly George, HR Director, asked some of our staff how they used their EAF checks last year. They said: to pay bills, to pay taxes, to buy Christmas gifts for my kids, to send money home for my family in another country. Everything we give is going to help them and their families.

Having said all that, I'm asking everyone to be as generous as possible to show our staff how grateful we are for all that they've done for us all year long. There's no doubt about it; we are all so fortunate to be able to live here at Oak Hammock. Let's thank those who make our days comfortable, safe, nourished, and fun!

And one more thing: please put the Employee Appreciation Fund Reception on your calendar.

Wednesday, Nov. 16 from 3:00-5:00 pm

Let's celebrate our staff!!!

- Marcia Brant

Thanks to our great Oak Hammock staff for your terrific hurricane response!

New Look for the Private Dining Room

The old tale of making lemonade from lemons proved to be true in the Private Dining Room when mold was discovered in the walls. That discovery necessitated repainting the walls after eliminating the mold and ended with a "New Look" for that room.

Fortuitously, the time of the repainting coincided with a visit from representatives of Studio 1.2.1, the professional interior design company that will be in charge of the future refreshing of the common areas. Their expertise was used in selecting the paint colors and new lighting fixtures. The rest of the new look, which has garnered many compliments, was a result of a successful cooperative venture between Management and the Residents' Interior Design Committee. Sixteen unused chairs were repositioned and four square tables were purchased, which can separately seat 16, or seat 12 when used as one. The artwork was carefully chosen from works previously donated to Oak Hammock by residents and resident artists.

With its new configuration, the room will be available for a wider variety of usage. It will still accommodate all of its previous activities and adds additional seating for the Dining Rooms when needed. It will also be available for additional daytime or evening activities.

- Nita Beckman

Residents' Council Elections

Congratulations to the following residents who recently were elected to serve a two-year term on the Residents' Council beginning January 1, 2023:



Ellyn Ahlstrom



Bob Brown



Marilyn Crosby



Pat Kelley



Martha Rader



Bill Zegel

- Bill Castine, content; Michael Levy, photos

Political Hot Line

The 2022 election is here and to aid you in going through your ballot, there is a most helpful site brought to you by the League of Women Voters. Just enter "Vote411.org" in your browser and you can get started by entering your address. Since we all live at the same address, I'll share mine.

The guide notes that there will be 21 races to consider. Actually, it's quite a bit more as we shall see. First, there are political races. They include 9 candidates for United States Senator, 4 candidates for Governor, and 2 each for the following offices: Attorney General, Commissioner of Agriculture, Chief Financial Officer, State Senator District 9, and State Representative District 21. There are three County Commission seats open and two City of Gainesville Runoff Elections, one for Mayor of Gainesville and one for Gainesville City Commission, District 3. There are 5 Soil and Water Commissioners to select. There are Florida Supreme Court Justices up for Merit Retention and 1st District Court of Appeal Judges up for Retention. Finally, there are 3 Florida Constitutional Amendments to vote on as well as an Alachua County Referendum and a County Ballot Initiative to consider.

The good news is that there are no elections in 2023. Perhaps this is just a respite before 2024. Happy Voting!

- Barbara Herbstman

September Genealogy Field Trip to ACLD Headquarters

On September 16th, the Genealogy Interest Group traveled to the Alachua County District Library Headquarters for a presentation from the Genealogy Librarian, Caroline Huguet. Her topics were resources for genealogy work and local history in this library.

She began with print resources, highlighting newer titles to the collection, including information on the Harn family and Dudley Farm. Recent acquisitions are Florida Voter Registration Lists from 1867-68 and updates to collections of genealogical journals. Other print titles cover passenger lists, other standard reference sources, and American and international genealogy.

Ms. Huguet announced a recent expansion of convenient 24/7 digital access to *The Gainesville Sun*, a major source of genealogical information for this area of North Florida for many years. *The Gainesville Sun Collection* by Newsbank has expanded digital access for most years from 1911 to present. For genealogy work, obituaries and death notices are important sources of information, providing not only location of burials, but birth dates, relatives, occupations, and more. Older years of *The Gainesville Sun* and other Florida newspapers are available on microfilm.

The library staff will assist patrons with location of information in all formats. For the best results, patrons are encouraged to bring in as many details as possible on a person, including the full name, years of birth and death if available, and any other details known including cities or towns and positions held, etc.

- Sybil Farwell

Artists Depict the REAL Florida

Today's Florida takes the brunt of "old age jokes and fast-talking land salesmen". A recent ILR class—Fall "One"ders—revealed the works of artists combating the myths! These artists reveal instead a world of exotic and majestic beauty. From the middle of the nineteenth century onward, artists have found this genre of Florida interesting to explore. Dulce Roman, Chief Curator and Curator of Modern Art at the UF Harn Museum of Art, discussed some of these works of art. This art is drawn from the donation of over 1,200 pieces to the Harn made by Samuel and Roberta Vickers. Dulce also shared plans for the anticipated expansion of the Harn to house this large collection.

This ILR course will continue with a wide variety of interesting, related topics, from Thomas Jefferson's architecture to ancient Roman Beauty Secrets to Bronx Hip-Hop. Two additional Harn speakers round out the series. It's not too late to join the fun on Mondays, 10:00 a.m., in the Oak Room or by Zoom. The UF Harn Museum of Art is open Tuesday – Saturday (10-5) and Sunday (1-5). It's a perfect place to visit on a fall day. And it's admission free!

- Barbara Dockery



Art League

Another opening, another show! Yes, it is time for the 2022 Gainesville Fine Art Association's 2022 show. With all the awards from both GFAA and generous Oak Hammock residents, there is a plethora of excellent creations. Our judge will really have to put on his/her artistic thinking cap when making decisions as to who will be the fortunate award winners. The show runs from Monday, October 17 - January 7. The opening reception is on Sunday, November 6, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the Upper Commons and the awards will be announced at that time. Come one, come all; it is a joy to be able to celebrate openly again and honor our artists in person.

Many thanks to the Oak Hammock residents and staff who allowed us to enjoy their artworks in our 2022 summer show, for the past 3 months. Ginny Schrader invites you to a reception in the art studio on Sunday October 23, 3-5 p.m., where you can bask in the colorful, good humored, and above all excellent paintings created by Ginny, and discuss them with the artist and your Oak Hammock friends. These little Sunday afternoon receptions are always an uplifting way to start a week. See you there!



Bottle by Ruth Henderson

Then we will see you in the Oak Room on Tuesday, October 25, at 4 p.m. because Susan Bankston has arranged for the showing of Part 2 of the Salvador Dali documentary (The Secret Life of Portlligat, 1929-1982). Susan also has arranged for the return of the very talented artist and teacher, Lynn Ferris, for an all day watercolor workshop, from 10 to 4 p.m., in the Art Studio. Look for more information outside the studio door.

Ongoing there is the wonderful mini Gallery show by wildlife photographer Patricia Weingart, featuring awesome photos of fearsome critters. Makes one wonder how, where, and when, the photographer so successfully captured these pictures, doesn't it? Drop by there anytime; it is a refreshing experience each time. Thank you, Midge Smith, for arranging for this amazing display. Salvador Dali said, "Have no fear of perfection, you will never reach it...." I say "amen".

- Marion Siegel, content; Judi Cain, Ruth Henderson, Mary Sue Koepfel, photos



Butterfly Effect by Judi Cain



Red, White, and Blue

He's Back in the Oak Room!

The legendary trumpet player–comic has returned. Gary Langford continues to delight ILR classes with “The Walter Kalaf Jazz Series Presents: Jazz 2.0”. Walter planted the jazz seed, and who better to develop and grow the history of jazz than Gary Langford—UF and Gainesville’s Mr. Music. The series of six classes meets Thursday, 10 a.m. (in-person only). Come meet the Duke, the Count, and long-loved jazz artists. Enjoy a few old laughs à la Gary. He confesses, “It’s the cookies and petite steak lunches that keep me coming back to Oak Hammock.”

- Barbara Dockery



Exploring the Art of Bonsai

Bonsai are ornamental trees, grown in pots to mimic the full-size specimen in nature, and restricted in size through human intervention. The Oak Hammock Bonsai Club recently hosted a live demonstration in the Oak Room of ways in which bonsai may be created. Charlie Santostefano, President of the Gainesville Bonsai Society, spoke about the process of transforming raw materials such as buying small trees from nurseries or digging plants found growing in nature (with owner permission, of course.)

Bonsai might be thought of as melding nature with art, with the individual developing that bonsai as the artist. People who have created many bonsai develop a vision of what the raw material can become. The vision guides them during the design process. A starter tree becomes a bonsai over an extended period where limbs may be removed or wrapped with wire to force a bend and direction different from the existing shape.

Bonsai aren’t static. They constantly grow, regrow where branches have been removed, and change themselves. Working with bonsai continually asks the artist to think down the line for what the raw material is to become over time. During this period, the tree is shaped by removal of unwanted characteristics such as crossing branches, overly dense areas of foliage, structural defects, or anything else that detracts from the vision.

Upon entering the room, guests saw two trees that looked like what we generally think of as bonsai. There was a third tree/bush that looked a bit like something from which to make a natural feather duster for a giant’s cave. Through demonstrations on smaller bonsai, we saw part of the transformation process trees go through on their way to becoming bonsai.

Bonsai aren’t always small and delicate. Sometimes they are large and magnificent and may come from cast aside material like an awkward juniper found growing in the back lot of a nursery. Most people don’t think of larger pieces of material as having potential and this one was definitely a long way from being a bonsai. Charlie encouraged the participants to think of what is already there and what can be regrown.

He began the transformation by removing all extraneous small branches to expose the general tree structure. Since it would take at least six hours to do the wire wrapping for a tree of this size, Charlie completed that step prior to the demonstration so we were able to move right along in the transformation stage. Branches that Charlie, the artist in this case, knew weren’t part of his final plan were quickly removed and the start of his vision was revealed. Charlie explained at a high level, the tree basically determines what is going to be able to be done with it. The bonsai artist can do only what the tree structure will allow.

A few more deft cuts, shaping and the beginning of a large bonsai began to appear. The participants were amazed at what had been done through transformation in a truly brief time. Of course, there will be many more iterations of the transformation process before this tree becomes Charlie’s final vision for this bonsai.

For information about our Bonsai Club, please contact Nelson Logan at nelson.logan@icloud.com

- Donna Johnson



Room 101: The Music of Astor Piazzolla

Infectious! Astonishing! Amazing! Words we heard leaving the concert hall at UF on September 22! The Oak Hammock bus had taken us, once again, to Room 101 to hear a concert with a saxophonist, a cellist, and a pianist, to celebrate the 100th birthday of Argentinian composer and Tango master Astor Piazzolla.

Each musician is esteemed in his field. The cellist, Steven Thomas, whom we've previously heard, was appointed to UF's School of Music in 2007. He is a top prizewinner in many International Cello competitions. The saxophonist, Jonathan Helton, is also on the UF faculty where he teaches saxophone and chamber music. The pianist, Mariano Manzanelli, is an award-winning Argentinian pianist.

This was one of the largest crowds we've seen at a School of Music event. As we left the concert hall,

we felt fortunate that Oak Hammock is affiliated with UF, and enables us to have the bus waiting to bring us home after such a breathtaking evening.

If you are interested in participating in other musical events, please contact Walter Wynn, to be included in upcoming emails!
- Bev Cone



Music at Holy Trinity: An Anniversary Concert



A beautiful orchestra was celebrating 15 years of the *Music at Holy Trinity* series, on a Sunday afternoon concert at the Episcopal Church. The orchestra played familiar pieces from the 1600's-1900's—a Pachelbel Canon, music by Handel and Mozart and Haydn, and later pieces by John Philip Sousa and Puccini. There were many more exciting pieces, with Dr. John T. Lowe conducting, and solo singers accompanying.

Several other concerts will be offered at Holy Trinity this season. Sign up to join us to hear these outstanding musicians perform. What a wonderful musical treat!

- Bev Cone

More Than a Place to Meet

Looking for a central location to meet friends? How about the *Fireplace Lounge*? Maybe not everyone knows the "official" name of the cozy room, just across from the dining room host/hostess stand. The fireplace may not be lit, but comfortable chairs—as well as an area to park assistive devices—welcome visitors. And it's a treasure trove of art! Check out the two framed prints on either side of the street facing doors. "Fourth of July" features three vintage ladies at the parade. It's paired with "Way of Knowing", portraying three seasoned country gents. Additional art is attractively displayed. Not to be missed—the transom glass above each door, into the adjoining room. Resident glass artist Keith Berg shared their history. "A former Oak Hammock resident, Betty Flanders, designed and crafted the pieces. They're not leaded, she used the foil method, which almost all stained-glass workers use today."

Enjoy a visit to *Fireplace Lounge*. And what about those vintage ladies and country gents? Hmmmmm. Wonder if they ever got together after the parade?
- Barbara Dockery



To BEE or not to BEE

Honey lovers and curious folks filled the Oak Room, eager to learn about honeybees. The University of Florida's Honey Bee Research and Extension Laboratory is dedicated to research, instruction, and extension outreach. Ms. Amy Vu, who has studied honeybees worldwide for the past seven years, presented a concise introduction to the honeybee keeper's success in Florida and the world. There is even an available podcast, "Two Bees in a Podcast."

Honey production is a big business. Often, nature is not in control. Weather conditions are challenged by transporting (shipping) entire colonies of hives from one site to another area. Controlling mites, proper nutrition, and use of pesticides determine the number of jars of honey produced. Ms. Vu, who is with the Dept of Entomology and Nematology, recognized Oak Hammock's Ray Goldwire for his contributions to honeybees: "He can answer any questions you have!" Ray frequently is out back with the four Oak Hammock honeybee hives (or maybe the golf course). The Natural History Society and Pat Harden arranged this popular program.

- Barbara Dockery

Bee Field Trip

On September 22, a dozen residents boarded a bus for a tour of the UF Honey Bee Research and Extension Lab. The tour was led by Christopher Oster, Lab Manager. The tour was informative, and eye-opening regarding the programs offered by the lab. He told us that UF had requested a honey bee research facility for years, but the legislature always cut it from the budget. Finally, some beekeepers offered to put up money for the facility. Long story short, the legislature said if you can raise \$200,000, we will move forward; that day, one beekeeper wrote a check for the full amount. The lab is now considered one of the best bee research facilities in the world and, though perhaps not officially, we say the best in the US!

If you want to learn how to become a beekeeper, how to be a better beekeeper, or are just interested in honey bees, this is the place to go. The lab offers the Bee College, Online Courses for Beekeepers, Beekeeper Resources and other programs. They are also open to the public for individual or group tours; the next tour is November 2. You can support the lab through the "Adopt a Bee" program and/or by buying a newly approved Honey Bee license plate. As always, we appreciate the willingness of the IFAS staff to share their knowledge with us.

- Pat Harden, content; John Furches, photos



All the World's a Stage

William Shakespeare said it, so it must be true! He'd be impressed to visit the University of Florida School of Theatre & Dance. Recently, Don McGlothlin (former UF College of the Arts Dean) presented a pictorial history of the college in the Oak Room. The School of Theatre & Dance began in 1929. Faye Dunaway, Buddy Epstein, and Malcolm Gets are among former students. Dr. Peter Carpenter, The School of Theatre & Dance Director, shared the broad range of study for students today. In addition to acting and dancing, they can study lighting, stage construction, costume designing—plus documentary and narrative film and dance practices from Africa, Latin American, and South Asia. They even contribute to script selections and join other theatres, such as the Gainesville's Hippodrome and Sarasota's Asolo for each production season.

The UF School of Theatre & Dance will be welcoming Oak Hammock residents for Sunday matinee (2:00) performances: October 23 – Cabaret; December 4 – Agbedidi; March 5 – Dance 2023; April 18 – Blood at the Root. Bus transportation will be provided (max. 19 people). Tickets are \$16 each. The signup sheet may be found in the Transportation Notebook. Ticket request forms will be available at the main desk one month before each performance. Shakespeare concluded: "and all the men and women shall be players." Sign up to applaud the players—*future stars*.

- Barbara Dockery

Oak Hammock Brushes With Royalty

Long reigning Queen Elizabeth has passed away and King Charles has ascended to the throne, but monarchies around the world are diminished. Most of these reigning monarchs simply carry out ceremonial functions as will King Charles in the UK and its 14 Commonwealth countries.

The extensive coverage for Queen Elizabeth's death prompted varied responses. TV shows were cancelled for the funeral as were multiple plans including sporting events, hospital procedures, and industry conferences. Schools, grocery stores, and restaurants closed as well. Depending on whom you asked, the coverage was overkill or too sparse.

Oak Hammock residents and their friends had their own opinions.

Marty Clendenin and Billie Fisher met the queen at an international meeting of physical therapists that was held in London in 1991. Marty was there to present a paper on her research on adult day care and met with the Duke of Edinburgh, husband of Queen Elizabeth (see photo).

Bob and Adele Graham were invited to join the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh on board the H.M. Yacht Britannia in Miami back in May of 1991. The Grahams attended a black-tie dinner with 27 other Americans, followed by a concert on the dock presented by a small orchestra from Great Britain.

Cindy, Don and Pat Collier's daughter, was in England competing as an aspirant for the National Equestrian Team in training for the Barcelona Olympics. On a cold and rainy day, Cindy was participating in a royal hunt, hoping to get her horse in shape for competition. The foxes were not obliging, however, and as the afternoon dragged on, the bulk of the riders had gotten discouraged and gone home. Suddenly, a fox was started, and obliged those remaining by leading them on a glorious long chase. When he finally disappeared, the hunt found itself very far from home.

Cindy was walking alone with her horse, when another rider came up beside her and engaged her in conversation. She recognized who he was, of course, but they spent an enjoyable half hour talking hunting and horses. When they arrived at their destination, he handed his mount over to a groom while Cindy took hers back to his stall, iced down his legs and made him comfortable for the night. She had just spent a pleasant afternoon chatting with Prince Charles, future King of England.

Cindy's success with all thing equestrian enabled her mom, Pat, to interact with royalty. Cindy was competing on Princess Ann's estate, Gatcombe, in the annual horse trials. Cindy had won a 2nd place ribbon in the first division but had to learn a new jump course for the second competition. She asked her mom to please get the ribbon for her. Pat approached Princess Ann with confused instructions as to the proper curtsy to royalty, so she eventually just held out her hand. Princess Ann, recognizing an American and the handshake graciously said, "You must be Cindy Collier's mother."

Alice Gridley became enchanted with the queen at a young age. Photographs of Elizabeth's wedding to Phillip were all over the front pages of US newspapers. Alice's Irish grandfather and his brother were active members of the IRA and wanted nothing to do with British rule, but that didn't dim her adoration for the monarchy.

Jean D'Costa shared this short nugget of colonial Jamaica, 1952-53: Jean and Madeleine Mitchell were pupils at a very British girls' school in the hills of Jamaica, and on a grey day in February 1952, the assembled school learned that George VI had died. She recalled the silence that fell, that lasted through the day. Whispers on that dark day were for the daughter who was far from home, who was not with her father when he died.

That silence contrasted with the heart-felt celebrations of Queen Elizabeth and Prince Philip's visit to Jamaica in November, 1953; she made her way across the mountains to the north coast, along roads lined with



Martha Clendenin, far right, chair of physical therapy, greets Queen Elizabeth at a recent conference in London.

(Continued from page 10)

Jamaicans of every age and kind who came away with a memory of a young person who—though shy and retiring—looked into our eyes as she passed. One’s politics finally didn’t matter; she impressed by simply being her plain self. Even anti-royalists were drawn to her and remember.

Beth Paul’s old neighbor had an interesting interaction with Queen Elizabeth. Alexander, their Corgi, and the Queen were pen pals. He wrote her, she answered, and they were impressed to see that she didn’t use stamps! In place of a stamp, it read, “Buckingham Palace” and on the second letter, it read “Balmoral Castle” her summer residence. The Queen thanked Alexander for the letters and told him to “Be a good citizen.”

- Beth Paul

Benevolent Fund

Since we last reported, \$2,590 was received in memory of Gary Olson, Robert Gentry, Richard Robinson, John “Wilt” Wanger, Paul Robell’s dog, and in honor of Pat Liston.

- Jonathon Mann



The Bookends Perform in the Oak Room.

Another Gainesville Jewel!

In 1966, a new dance studio opened in Gainesville. It was destined to become the exciting Dance Alive National Ballet, adding another jewel to a small college town. The company features an international roster of award-winning dancers that perform from classic to contemporary ballet. These professionals have danced around the globe—and even in the Oak Room! Recently, they arrived early to cover the floor area with special non-slipping plastic (and afterwards to remove). Twenty dancers delighted an appreciative audience. An outburst of applause and a standing ovation ended a perfect afternoon of enjoyment.

Dance Alive will perform *Dracula* on October 22 at the Phillips Center for the Performing Arts. It’s also not too early to mark your calendars for *The Nutcracker* (December 17 & 18) at the Phillips. The Dance Alive cast uses their final rehearsal as a private show for children with special needs. Truly, they are dancers with heart

- Barbara Dockery

Dance Alive will be holding a reception for Oak Hammock prior to the showing of Dracula on Saturday, October 22. The bus will therefore leave earlier than posted, at 6:45 instead of 7:00.



The Florida Constitutional Amendments

The Oak Hammock unit of the League of Women Voters presented a discussion of the three Florida Constitutional Amendments to be voted on. Professor Joe Little of the College of Law, University of Florida, once again returned to discuss the pros and cons of each amendment. He gave a brief background of the Florida Constitution and of the amendments proposed. His presentation was recorded by Dick Martin and is available online for viewing at <https://youtu.be/knBf8vs8lQ8>.

- Barbara Herbstman



Animals and Guides at Santa Fe Zoo Welcome Oak Hammock Visitors

On a beautiful autumn day, sixteen Oak Hammock residents enjoyed a visit to the Santa Fe Teaching Zoo sponsored by the Active Lifestyle Committee of the Oak Hammock Residents' Council. We were welcomed by two gracious tour guides and 70 different species of friendly animals housed there. Santa Fe College in Gainesville has one of the very few zookeeper training programs in the country and the only one certified by the Association of Zoos and Aquariums.

After being divided into two groups, two very knowledgeable zookeeping students, Maleka and Spring, guided us through the many, many carefully designed and spacious animal housing areas. There, we were warmly greeted by howling gibbon, lemur, squirrel, many types of monkeys, each as fascinated with us as we with them. There were also many types of exotic parrots, owls, cranes, spoonbills, as well as turtles, tortoises, and so much more. The ocelot and the tree kangaroo were both of special interest.

After the tour, we reboarded the bus and enjoyed lunch at the Pomodoro café, where we were able to enjoy a wealth of Italian dishes, and discuss and revel about our fascinating visit to Gainesville's own zoo!

- Keith Berg, content; Margarete Ruth, photos



Donation to Shands Labor and Delivery

Members of the Oak Hammock Needlers donated baby, infant, and preemie head coverings and blankets they hand knitted to the Labor and Delivery section at Shands Hospital. The traffic was so horrendous that the lady in charge came to our car, stuck in traffic, to pick up the items.
- *Margarete Ruth*



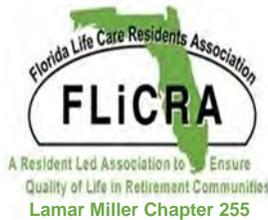
Recycled Riches

Recycled Riches is pleased to announce that we have increased our annual donations to the Oak Hammock Funds for 2022: \$5,500 to the Employee Appreciation Fund, \$3,500 to the Employee Scholarship Fund, and \$2,500 to the Benevolent Fund.

We held our annual sale of Christmas items in the Multi-Purpose Room on Friday, October 14. The Special Treasures Holiday Sale with great gifts for you and your families will be on Friday, November 18, in the Acorn Room. Mark your calendar—this will be a very special sale and we will need your help.

We are still discussing the purchase of additional AEDs for Oak Hammock. We did approve the purchase of additional hanging rods for the greenhouse, and 2 ballet barres for the fitness center.

Our next meeting is Monday, October 31, at 11 a.m. in the Acorn Room. Please join us and give us your support.
- *Valerie Griffith, Chairman, Recycled Riches*



The annual meeting of the Board of Directors of FLICRA will be held in November. David Rader is Director of Region 8, of which Oak Hammock is a member. Right now we have 399 residents who are members of our local chapter. Our goal is to have at least 400 members; with 400 members, we increase to 4 voting delegates. FLICRA works for all of us. It is in all of our interests to help out by being dues paying members. Thank you to all of you who are members. Cost of membership: Yearly - single \$22, couple \$37. Life Membership - single \$200, couple \$325.

- *Mary Sanford*

Appreciation Fund

My husband and I moved to Oak Hammock in October, 2020. Since then, Marketing has shown our apartment many times to prospective residents. Often these visitors have asked us, "Do you like living here?" Without fail, I have answered them with the same response, "There is nothing not to like about this place!" "I love the people--the staff and residents are wonderful. I love the activities and classes and, I love that I don't have to cook anymore!"

I'm guessing you might have different responses. I've heard residents say: "I'm so glad I don't do yard work or clean the gutters." "I feel safe." "I am grateful for the health pavilion in case I need it." "Transportation is great." "We appreciate all the behind the scenes folks, too, who make this place special." "I love living in this community that is like a family." "I was so grateful to be here when my husband needed skilled nursing." There are countless reasons

to appreciate living here. When you read those listed and consider your own, you realize that they're all provided by our staff. We are so fortunate that they choose to work here. They help to enrich our lives in so many ways and help make Oak Hammock the wonderful home that it is.

And so, as you can guess, I'm going to wrap this up by asking you to consider offering your gift of appreciation to our staff for the Employee Appreciation Fund before Sunday, November 13.

This is our opportunity to show our gratitude in a real and heartfelt way that can make a big difference in their and/or their families' lives. I thank you in advance for your generosity and I thank YOU for doing your part to make Oak Hammock such a wonderful place for all of us to live.

APPRECIATION FUND RECEPTION
Wednesday, November 16, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

- *Marcia Brant*

Restaurant Ramblers

Sixteen of us headed out on the bus to Butler Plaza on September 27 to have lunch at a choice of various restaurants. Some chose "The Cheesecake Factory" and enjoyed eating together outside, and then many took home delicious cheesecakes to enjoy later. And some of us chose "P.F. Chang's", where we were treated to Lettuce Wraps (their signature dish), and some veggie specials, which were yummy.

It was a delightful time to eat a special treat with Oak Hammock friends, and get to meet some new residents who were with us, and try some new foods, with excellent service. Plan to come with us next time, and ramble at different restaurants. It's fun!
- Bev Cone



Sunday Night Square Dancing Time

Smiling faces and happy feet filled the Fitness Center! Fifty excited folks arrived for this new activity being offered. Don Crosby, Oak Hammock resident and experienced square dance caller, quickly organized the group, explaining the basic calls that would be used. A promo had promised "if you can walk, you can dance!" And dance they did.

The group will continue to meet Sunday evenings at 7:30 in the Oak Room. Space is limited to dancers only. Comfortable attire is suggested. Plan to arrive early with a partner of your choice—or pick one of the singles waiting for you. (Real men are in high demand!) Visit the OH Squares website at www.ohsquares.com, for further information. Additional dancers will be welcomed until mid-October. This is definitely a swinging way to enjoy Sunday evenings.

- Barbara Dockery



"At Oak Hammock, we sing and share our music."

- Patsy Nelms

Oak Hammock by the Numbers, October 1 Independent Living

	Total	Occupied or Reserved	Available to Sell
Houses	57	56	0
Apartments	212	209	3

- Nickie Doria

Health Pavilion

	Total	Occupied	Available
Assisted	46	40	6
Memory*	24	9	3
Skilled**	73	57	16

* 12 units are set aside for quarantine

** fluctuates daily

- Mary Sabatella

Be the reason that
someone smiles today!

Hurricane Ian Relief Efforts

We've received so many donations and we thank you all. Here are the items that we could use to augment what we've already received. At this time, no more towels or sheets are needed, but these items are still in demand:

FOOD:

Non-expired, non-perishable food
Bottled water
Juices
Instant coffee

CHILDREN:

Diapers (all sizes)
Baby wipes
Baby bottles
Baby formula
Diaper cream
Sippy cups
Pacifiers

HOUSEHOLD:

Batteries
Cleaning supplies
Kitchen supplies
Dish soap
Bleach

Rope

Can openers
Paper towels
Disinfecting spray
Disinfecting wipes
Trash/contractor bags
Extension cords
Flashlights
Power strips
Power banks/chargers

HYGIENE:

First aid kits
Toiletries
Wet/dry shampoo
Toothbrushes
Toothpaste
Hand sanitizer/hand wipes
Bars of soaps
Body spray
Body wash

Another Success!

The Household Hazardous Waste Roundup held recently was deemed a huge success. The variety of items surpassed the usual electronics turned in. Now is the perfect time to start putting aside those old pills (prescription/OTC medications), cleaning chemicals, paint, insecticides, and unwanted items lurking in dark places. Watch for notices and be ready for the next Roundup!

- Barbara Dockery



First Federal Social

Our wonderful bank had a party for residents on September 16 in the Upper Commons. The food was delicious and the wine was plentiful! John Medina, the CEO, as well as Lara Wilson, the manager of our branch office here at Oak Hammock, spoke briefly. They donated \$2,000.00 to the Golf tournament that goes towards the benevolent fund. And \$1,250.00 was donated to the Gator Dugout Club. Each donation has a great benefit.

The party was well attended, with us feeling fortunate to have the First Federal Bank office open here regularly, to help each of us with financial concerns. Thanks for a wonderful party.

- Bev Cone, content; Patsy Nelms, photo





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Oak Hammock Alzheimer's Walk Moves Indoors!



-Kathy Cafazzo

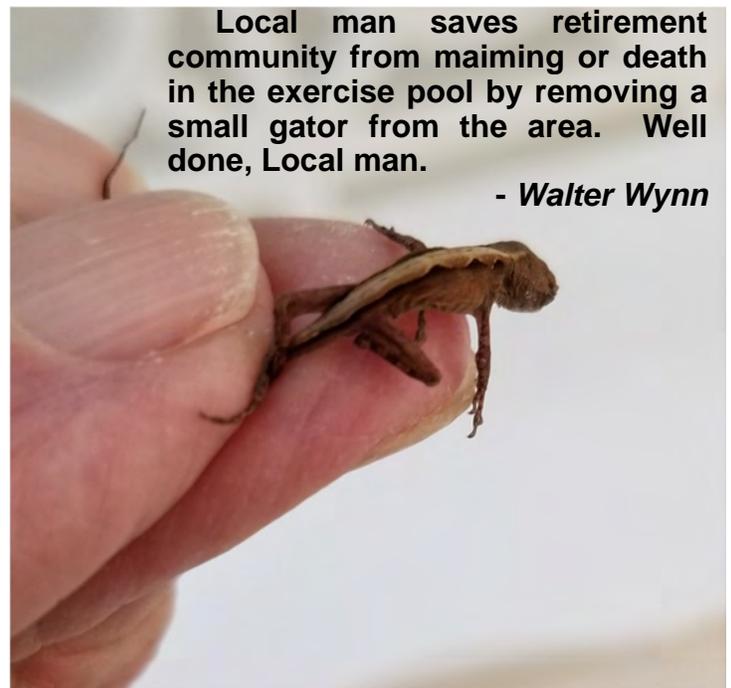
Local man saves retirement community from maiming or death in the exercise pool by removing a small gator from the area. Well done, Local man.

- Walter Wynn

Our Beautiful Pond



-Margarete Ruth



2022 Residents' Council

President	Martha Rader
Vice President	Norm Cooney
Secretary	Doug Merrey

The Council meets at 10:00 a.m. on the second Friday of each month in the Oak Room and via Zoom.

<u>Committee</u>	<u>Meeting Time</u>	<u>Chairperson</u>
Active Lifestyle	1st Monday, 11:00 AM	Keith Berg
Planning and Design	2nd Wednesday, 3:15 PM	Dick Suttor
Buildings and Grounds,	2nd Thursday, 10:00 AM	Jan Lowenthal
Communications and Marketing	4th Friday, 1:30 PM	Mary Kilgour
Community and University Partnerships	4th Wednesday, 3:00 PM	Michael Plaut
Dining Experience	1st Friday, 10:00 AM	Bruce Blackwell
Finance	3rd Thursday, 1:30 PM	Al O'Neill
Health and Well-being	1st Thursday, 3:30 PM	Henri Logan
Technology and Services Innovation	3rd Friday, 10:00 AM	Bill Zegel
Assisted Living Representative		Roger Curtis

**Committees are meeting using a variety of formats.
 Please contact the Committee chairs for specific information.**