

Casa Del Sol ***** What's Up? ***** March 2020

Why does winter in the north last so long and the winter months here fly by? Maybe it's the friends and the fun! Next thing you know, February is DONE.

And I can hardly keep up with the eating! It's the currency exchange part that I'm not so thrilled about. I'm exchanging Canadian dollars for US pounds and the growing "money belt" around my middle is getting worth more each week. Pancakes, baked potatoes and snacks at Super Bowl, socials and dances are so calorie-wise. The golf scramble was such fun but riding in a cart is hardly exercise. Rockin'Ron and square dance lessons shook a bit of fat but it hung on for dear life and is still with me. Weight training by holding down a pool lounge chair doesn't work. Extreme Shuffleboard's my only hope.

February fattened our coffers too. Thank you to the donors and organizers who made our Survivor Draw, Baked Potato Bar, the dance and the patio sale so successful. Working and playing together makes our community stronger. Now it's time to enjoy the benefits of our fundraising. We'll treat ourselves to a cookout, luncheons and strawberries in March. Decisions will be made to spend more funds at the Activities Meeting, so you earned them – come to decide how we will spend some funds.

Speaking of meetings, your new HOA Board is Pres. Jim Johnson, Sec. Cindy Holt, Treas. Pat Bateman, 1st VP. Jim Baker, and 2nd VP George Gridley. Our thanks to the 3 others who ran for office. A sign of our strength is the willingness of people to serve and lead. A sincere *Thank You* to Bob Clontz, Jean Lane and Joyce Fitzpatrick for their service to us for the past 3 years. Let us give our new board our full support and thanks. Don't take their commitment and hours of work for granted. 2020/21 dues of \$390 are due now and can be deposited in the black mailbox inside the clubhouse between the HOA bulletin board and the north door.

March Movies 6:30 pm \$2.00 includes popcorn and a drink

March 4 *Welcome to my Neighborhood* with Tom Hanks

March 18 *Midway* with Dennis Quaid, Woody Harrelson and a huge cast

Park Ladies 1:00 pm

March 2 - 10 cent bingo Bring \$2 in dimes plus a quarter

March 9 - Tea and Baby Shower to benefit the Zephyrhills Pregnancy Care Center Bring a tea cup.

March 16 – Lunch out at BJ's Restaurant & Brew House, Sign up asap.

March 23 – Movie *Because I Said So* with Diane Keaton & Mandy Moore

March 30 – Guest Speaker Madonna Wise, Historian from Wesley Chapel. Men invited to attend.

The Quilting Ladies will deliver 75 more quilts Monday, March 2 (leave 10 am).and they will donate 25 more to the Pregnancy Center at the Ladies' Tea. They have delivered 248 soft flannel blankets this winter. The \$500 donation received from Activities paid for 57 of those quilts – each one takes 2 yd.of fabric. Judy Lamb watches for sales and shops wisely.

Dark House will be available again this summer to check the exterior of vacant homes in our park. If you wish to enrol in this free Pasco County Sheriff's Dept. program, fill out the form (available in clubhouse) and give it to Chuck Schendler before April 1.

Monday, March 16 12:30pm will be when the ladies officially show our appreciation to the men in our park with the **Men's Luncheon.** While we go for lunch, we'll treat them to a pint, pulled pork on a bun and yummy desserts. There will be 2 sign-up sheets – 1 for the guys who'll attend and 1 for ladies to make donations of salads, chips, desserts or cash. All men are welcome.

For the past 15 years or so, Casa del Sol residents have **Caribbean cruised** together every other year. For a 2021 cruise, arrangements would have to be made this March with a travel agency to present to the residents before we disperse for the summer. If you'd like to take your turn at selecting a trip for us, and have questions, contact Alice Brandel or Gail Kerry and we'll hold your hand. It's easy!

There will be a **deep sea fishing trip** in late March or early April for men and ladies interested. Chuck X2 (Nixon & Schendler) will put up a notice and sign-up sheet so watch for it. Great time last year!

March is your last chance to enjoy the **Phenomenal Pancake Breakfasts** 7:00 – 8:30 March 6 & 20. Thanks to the men who leave their warm beds in the darkness to cook this treat for us all winter. \$4:00 all you can eat and the special time visiting with our neighbors is free. Bring your friends.

Because of the patio sale, the **Western Square Dance** was re-scheduled for Wed. March 11. 7-9 pm. Dig out your western duds, grab your gal or guy (Well – maybe not *grab* – in today's world you could end up in court!) or come solo. Get ready for some real fun and laughter. Bring \$1.00, your drinks and snacks. 50/50 draw. Donations of door prizes appreciated.

Then, Wed. March 25 7-9 pm is **Graduation Night for the square dancing students** of Walter Lougee, Casa's resident caller. Last year's event was not to be forgotten – just ask anyone who was there. Come ready to laugh your sides off! This is no traditional graduation.

There's more dancing Sat. March 14 7-10 pm when **Gears 1-Gary of New Years Party fame** returns to Casa. Thanks to the Clontzs and their team who have given us evenings of great entertainment again this year. \$5.00 admission, door prizes (donate one if you can), Byob & snacks. 50/50 draw

The **Silverado Golf Dinner** will be March 13. Bar opens 4:30, dinner 5:30. \$5.00 each. Golfers, watch for the sign-up sheet and get your names down early to help organizers.

Our last social will be a **Strawberry Social** (bring finger foods) scheduled Friday, March 27. 4-6 pm. We'll ask you to sign up so we know how many berries to prepare.

See you around, Gail