



# Whispering Pines

www.ourpinelakes.com  
The Newsletter of Pine Lakes • North Fort Myers, FL  
Sponsored by The Homeowners Associations HOA II & PLEHOA  
JANUARY 2025

## CHRISTMAS CART PARADE



# 2025

HAPPY NEW YEAR



## CHRISTMAS TWILIGHT HOME TOUR

more pictures pg 16 & 17...

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**PINE LAKES ESTATES HOA**

Matt Heier, President

**W**ishing everyone a Happy and Healthy New Year to all from Pine Lakes Estates HOA.

We hope everyone had a great Holiday season and are ready to have a great 2025.

The next PLEHOA board meeting will be held on January 13 in the clubhouse ballroom at 7pm. The agenda for the meeting will be posted on the official bulletin board (across from the exercise room) 3 days prior to the meeting.

Please support your Board members and attend the monthly Board meetings.

At these meetings the Board shares information from new projects to financial updates, to the Liaison meetings with ELS – all great information.

Remember our PLEHOA annual member meeting will be held on February 10 in the clubhouse ballroom at 7 PM. Please make plans to attend this important annual meeting that includes voting for 2 open director positions.

The Annual Member Meeting material and election documents will be mailed to members in January 2025. We plan to ask for volunteers again to help with delivery of the mail packets because it worked smoothly last year. Many thanks to Dede LaBelle and Donna Folsom for handling the nominations and election process.

Also, the PLEHOA board will be conducting 360 home inspections in January 2025.

If you receive notice for pressure washing, weed control, tree trimming, etc., please do not be offended. We just need to make sure the estates properties are looking good for all to appreciate as we all agreed to keep up the maintenance of our homes when we purchased them.

**HOAII and PLEHOA Minutes and Liaison Meeting notes can be found on the web [www.ourpinelakes.com](http://www.ourpinelakes.com).**

**WHISPERING PINES NEWSLETTER**  
**NEXT ISSUE    ARTICLE DEADLINE**  
**February 2025      January 15, 2025**  
 Please e-mail your articles/submissions to  
[yecklund10@yahoo.com](mailto:yecklund10@yahoo.com)



**SPEEDING on our Pines Lakes roads is increasing. Why are you in such a hurry? PLEASE slow down to our 20mph limit so we can all stay safe. THANK YOU!**

## HOA II BOARD

Gary Nicolini, President

Good day everyone. It's that time of year again for Holiday parties and celebrations. This Whispering Pines will be coming out after the Holidays, so I hope everyone had a great time. Your HOAII has some great plans for the new year. Our liaison officer Mark Sherman will be in our community with great lectures and demonstrations for us so please pay attention to any info that is put on the web site and on social media.

Please remember to go to your HOA meeting to find out what is happening in our community. Remember, we need your support. As for the new year, we will have one of our Directors designated for memberships, so look for info about that and new resident get together.

Please remember to SLOW DOWN when driving through our community. Be aware of the early morning sun in your eyes as folks are out and walking or riding their bikes in our community.

Stay safe and remember...you could be the one to make a difference.



**Please be sure house numbers are properly placed on front of home. This is essential for emergency services, visitors & package deliveries.**



**With the exception of Fed-Ex, Amazon, UPS, and USPS, residents must call the gate to inform them of all visitors, and contractors coming to their home.**

## A DAY OF CARING IS A DAY OF SHARING

Judy DeLonge

This year's campaign is over for the year. We have done well! Folks in Pine Lakes, Lake Fairways and Tara Woods were most generous. In November we distributed \$4,000 to each charity and then another smaller one in December. The money we have distributed goes to Holidays 4 Heroes, The Rescue Mission and The Elizabeth Galeana Center a part of the Catholic Charities. They in turn distribute these funds to people that need it.

We are truly **BLESSED** to live in such a **CARING COMMUNITY**, and we **APPRECIATE** all you do.

*Thank You, from the Day of Caring Committee  
Gail Barry, Pat Dieringer and Judy DeLonge*

## OHIO NIGHT

Mike Gloss

Mark your calendar **Saturday March 1, 2025**, for the **Ohio Night Bash!** This year The Gatlin's are back. This is a great evening of food, music and dancing. Still only \$15 - we provide chicken and dessert; attendees bring salads and sides. So, Hang On (Sloopy ) until January 18th when tickets go on sale at Saturday morning coffee socials and Pancake Breakfast or call Tim Mercurio 513-300-7877.



## CERAMICS

Virginia Davis

Ceramics Pieces have been left in craft room for years. Please come claim your pieces on any Tuesday from 1-3. If not picked up by February they will be donated to Trash to Treasure sale.



## BEAUTIFICATION

Becky Gloss

**B**eautification has had a December to Remember!

The Twilight Holiday Home Tour on Dec 8th put smiles on the faces of our hosts & hostesses and their guests. We enjoyed perfect weather and the loveliest and liveliest of evenings. A heartfelt 'Thank You' to Linda Baker, DeeAnn and Bob Blanton, Yvonne and Kent Ecklund, Linda LaMonica, & Pat and John Stanley for creating and sharing such a special evening with our Pine Lakes community.

On Dec 14th, we hosted an Ugly Sweater Dance - and a snowball fight broke out!! I guess you had to be there! Make plans to join us next year....*see pictures back cover.*

We have started receiving donations for this year's Holiday Sale that happens the first Saturday in November. We accept unwanted but still usable Christmas decorations - Call any committee member and we will schedule a pickup.

Please put a circle on the date of January 7. Your help is needed to take down the holiday decorations so they can be tucked away for their eleven months of rest. We hope to see a lot of volunteers that day, please join us.

**Pine Lakes Beautification:** Debbie Bruns, Yvonne Ecklund, Donna Folsom, Phyllis Fulwider, Becky Gloss, Dottie Godek, Sherry Holtz, Joy Houser, Chris Hovet, Linda Kerns, Lora Liptak, Susan Miner, Jo Orvik, Patty Schofield.

## LUNCH FOR THOSE WHO HAVE REACHED –

Judy DeLonge

**T**HE BIG 90

January's lunch will be on the 8th in Lake Fairways Club House 12:00 noon - Cost \$5.00

Come have some good food, some good company and some fun!!!!

Call Judy DeLonge in Pine Lakes or John Donahue in Lake Fairways if you need assistance or have questions.

## CERT

Mike Gloss

**T**hree CERT members attended the December CERT leaders meeting at the Fire Department. We received an update of the upcoming community CERT events plus the Sheriff's Department had two officers that went over the available programs that can be presented to our communities. Christi Fulton from the NFMFD will be conducting a one-hour Safety Seminar following the February pancake breakfast. Please plan to attend. Your Pine Lakes CERT team provided traffic control, medical and safely monitoring at the Friday evening Christmas cart parade and at the 1st weekly Saturday morning bike ride.

CERT Basic classes will be held January 27th to the 31st. Interested? Call Mike Gloss 330-524-1292

## QUILTS OF VALOR

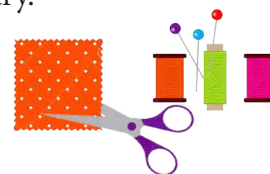
Michelle Gregg

**Q**uilts of Valor is a national endeavor begun in 2003 to honor veterans who have served our country. Quilts are made and given to veterans to honor their service and sacrifices. No posthumous awards are given.

Lake Fairways Quilters and Crafters will host such a ceremony in our clubhouse on January 14, 2025 at 1 pm. **The honorees are Rawson Beals, George Donnelly, Bill Fleckenstein, Lowell Grant, Carl Gregg, John Haggerty, Joseph Landry, Dave Leonard, Collette Niermann, John Stewart, and Gerald Suhr.**

Robin Harris, the director of Stars and Stripes of Southwest Florida, will be our speaker.

We invite all residents, friends, and family to this event. We can never stop showing our gratitude to those who served our country.



## QUILTERS, KNITTERS –

Pam Wagner

**Q**uilts, knitters, crocheting or any kind of sewing - please join a great group of ladies at Lake Fairways year-round on Tuesdays at 12:30 pm. We are working on three-yard quilts and just finished Quilts of Valors. Come join us!

## POOL PARTY

Jo Orvik

Let's ring in the year of 2025 with a great pool party on **January 5th from Noon to 3**. Brian Willis will be our DJ so come party with him. There will be hamburgers, cheeseburgers, hot dogs, brats, pop, chips, and ice cream for purchase but remember the cooking stops at 2 pm. Come prepared to have a fun afternoon.



## PINE LAKES THURSDAY POOL PARTY

Jo Orvik

*"Quench Your Thirst"* for drinks, food, and fun at a Thirsty Thursday pool party on **Thursday, January 16**. **Note the NEW TIME- 6-9 pm.**

Gates will open at 5 pm. You may want to bring a chair as seating is limited.

**Bring your snacks and BYOB with NO GLASS BOTTLES allowed!**

Added fun- Split the Pot tickets will be sold.

We will be entertained by the charismatic and talented Cayman who came through hard times and homelessness to follow his dream and prove that dreams do come true.

Tickets are \$10.00 and can be purchased from Lora Liptak- 724-984-6029, Sherry Holtz- 716-866-2874 or Jo Orvik- 218-342-2086

*Come join us for a great time!*



## HAND & FOOT

Sharon Rondeau

Come play Hand and Foot every Tuesday at 6:15 pm in the card room. If you have never played, it is very similar to Canasta. You don't need to come with a partner, just show up! We play two games a night at \$0.25 per game. **Any questions please call Bill Roberts at 239-898-6308.**



## CORNHOLE / BEAN BAG TOSS

Sharon Rondeau

We will now be playing corn hole on **TUESDAYS FROM OCTOBER 1ST THRU APRIL!**

We play corn hole every Tuesday at 3:00 in the clubhouse ballroom. You don't need a team, just show up. We randomly draw numbers for teams each week. We play best 2 out of 3 and that team moves on to play the other winners of 2 out of 3. If you don't have the stamina to play all games, someone else will play and you can rest. It's all about having fun and getting a little exercise. The men play from 27' and the women play from 23'. It usually takes about one hour to play depending on how many there are. *We hope to see some new faces.*



## LEISURELY BIKE RIDE

Dennis Miner

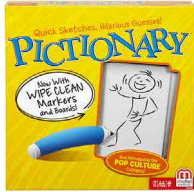
Tom Clark and Dennis Miner have started a leisurely bike ride every Saturday morning from 9:30 to 10:30. A leisurely 5-mile ride around the Community. We will assemble at the Club House circle at 9:00 a.m. and depart at 9:30 a.m. Bikes, Trikes or Electric – doesn't matter – **Come and join us...**



## PICTIONARY

Kathie Needham

We play Pictionary every Thursday night at 6:30 in the card room. It costs \$1.00 to play. We draw numbers for teams. Each team member randomly picks a card with a subject to draw and their team tries to guess what they are drawing. We have a lot of laughs over some of the drawings! We are all laughing with you, not at you! You don't have to be an artist, none of us are, just come and have some fun.



## ENTERTAINMENT COMMITTEE

Linda LeClaire

**M**ardi Gras 'Jammin Jambalaya Band' –  
January 25th

The Pine Lakes Entertainment Committee is excited to bring back the 'Z Street Speakeasy Band.' (They were here in 2023 for the Roaring 20s Speakeasy dance). This time, they will be returning as the 'Jammin Jambalaya Band' **Mardi Gras-themed event.** They are preferred vendors at Disneyworld and Universal. **They have opened for Taylor Swift, Sting, Matteo Bocelli, Howie Mandell, and performed for Fortune 500 Corporations, including McDonalds, HGTV, Macy's, Cisco, and the prestigious Inc. 5000 Gala Awards.** They have performed at events with celebrity attendees including John Travolta, Guy Fieri and Joey Fatone.

Come in your Mardi Gras attire (or not). **Don't forget to BYOB, snacks and mixers.**

Tickets are only \$20 and can be purchased at the January 4th Men's Club Pancake Breakfast, the January 18th coffee social, or by calling Linda LeClaire at 239-849-0459 (after 9 a.m. and before 10 p.m.).

Dance, take your photo against the Mardi Gras backdrop, and celebrate the evening.



## LOOKING FOR HANDYMAN JOBS

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## LINE DANCING CLASSES

Linda LeClaire

Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 – 1 in the Pine Lakes clubhouse. Beginner class is from 11 – 12, and intermediate class is from 12 – 1.



If your New Year's resolution is to get more exercise or to make new friends, then try line dancing. Line dancing is a fantastic addition to your fitness routine, which not only benefits your cardiovascular health, but also your mental health. (A Stanford University study showed that patterned dancing is the best physical exercise you can do to avoid dementia). Make new friends while socializing with other dancers during break. When you learn line dancing, you will learn basic steps for many dances, including Lindy, Cha Cha, Rumba, Mambo, Charleston, Samba, Waltz, and even basic steps for free-style dancing. We dance to all genres of music. Remember to wear proper footwear; **no flip flops or open-backed shoes.** Just show up to attend classes, or, if you have any questions, you can contact me, Linda LeClaire, at 239-849-0459.

## WOMEN'S CLUB NEWS

Bridget Heier

**P**ine Lakes Women's Club mission is to raise money via our events to donate to local charities. Pine Lakes owners and renters are welcome to join the women's club for a \$5.00 lifetime membership fee. Meetings are the first Thursday of every month Sept – April with most having doors open at 6:00 PM and meeting starting at 6:30 PM.

**ATTENTION - January 2nd meeting will have doors opening at 5:00 PM.**

We have left over sloppy joe from Sloppy Joe night so at the January meeting we'll open the doors at 5:00 PM and serve sloppy joes, chips a drink and dessert at 5:30 PM. We'll start the meeting between 6:15 and 6:30 PM. We'll finish up the meeting with 15 minutes of Chair Yoga (wear comfortable clothes).

Thank you to everyone who came to our Christmas Dinner Party. It was a great night. A big thank you to all the women who brought toys for the ACT shelter. They are very appreciative of our donations each year.

The Christmas High Tea was a great afternoon shared with friends.

We had another great year of Ringing the Kettle Bell for Salvation Army. Thanks to all the women that volunteered (and some husbands too). It is really a good time, and the Salvation Army is grateful for our support. Tickets are now on sale to the Sock Hop on January 11th for \$10.00 pp. There will be a stroll, so view those U-tube videos so you can brush up.

Tickets are now on sale for our community Soup Night on Sunday January 19th for \$10.00. You'll get soup, rolls/butter, crackers, dessert and drink. Soup will be in a 6-slot muffin pan so you can select 6 different soups, or 3 of 2 different soups or all 6 of 1 soup, etc.

Fashion on a Dime 'A night on the Town' will be a luncheon Feb 8, 11:30 – 2:30 and will be catered by Haney's with tickets going on sale at the January Women's club meeting as well as Saturday pancake breakfast.



February 28th we'll have our Treasure Sale.



March 29th we'll have Singo Bingo, which is always a great time.

So, if you are not a member already, please join the women's club so you don't miss any fun. See you all at the January 2nd meeting.

## PINE LAKES GARDEN CLUB

Linda Langheld

**D**o you know Pine Lakes has a Garden Club? It has been circling around on Community Facebook groups. We meet in the craft room of the clubhouse on **Tuesday afternoons at 4 PM.**

By participating in this group, you can expect-

- Knowing the difference between a weed and a plant
- Learning how to identify plant species
- How to amend our soil
- Weed prevention and plant fertilization
- How to cultivate new growth through proper pruning
- Established garden bed maintenance schedule
- Propagating plants to share with your friends and neighbors
- Tours of each other's gardens
- Where to buy quality plants
- Gardening tips and tricks
- Offsite trips to garden centers and plant sales.

We will add you to our email thread to stay in contact with the happenings of the group and other scheduled events. We hope you will take advantage of the wealth of knowledge this group can provide by joining us at our 4 pm Tuesday get together's.



# MEN'S CLUB NEWS

Rick Saniti

Every time I write one of these articles, I'm amazed at how quickly time has flown by. I hope everyone had a nice Christmas and are looking forward to a happy new year. 2025, wow!

Well, by the time this issue of the Whispering Pines arrives at your mailbox tube, the Men's Club will have already had our Pancake Breakfast, (1st Saturday of each month in season), and a performance by comedian George Casey on Saturday January 4th. Next up will be our members' meeting on Thursday January 9th, 6:00pm in the ballroom. Just a reminder, any male Pine Lakes homeowner is eligible to become a Men's Club member. \$5 gets you a lifetime membership. If you owned a home and became a Men's Club member, that membership is still valid.

The next event after the member meeting is the Pine Lakes Men's Club Home and Garden Show, on Friday, January 31st, 9:00 am to 3:00 pm. We'll have plenty of vendors displaying their products and offering their services. You might discover something you didn't even know you needed! Food and drinks will be available for purchase and drawings for vendor donated items will happen every hour. The big \$200 drawing will take place at 2:00 pm. Make sure you're there to have a chance to win. Please remember, these vendors are here till 3:00pm. There's no need to rush around in the morning trying to be there right at 9 am. Take care of your normal daily duties and then stop at the Home and Garden show. A Big, Big thank you to Ron Thoreson who always does a great job putting on this huge event!



NORTH LEE COUNTY  
NEXT TO  
US HWY 41!

Pine Lakes Men's Club Presents  
**HOME & GARDEN**  
11th ANNUAL Show

**Friday, January 31st 2025 9am-3pm**  
Pine Lakes Club House  
10200 Pine Lakes Blvd., N. Ft. Myers, 33903  
**LUNCH MENU WILL BE AVAILABLE**  
**EVERYONE WELCOME**

At the Pine Lakes Home Show, it's face-to-face with LOCAL Vendors, Customers and Specialists from every trade dealing with LIFE & HOMES. Whatever the project or need, from painting a room to just looking for home finishing, repair or upgrade ideas, all will find innovative solutions and answers to Home Need questions including EXPERT advice from the Insurance and Medical Fields, AND Plants & Landscaping. Plan today to be a part of our 11th Annual 2025 Pine Lakes Men's Club Home and Garden Show!

**FIND YOUR NEEDED HOME SOLUTIONS!**  
**FIND SPECIALISTS from MEDICAL and INSURANCE FIELDS!**  
**FIND ALL OF YOUR INTERESTS UNDER ONE ROOF!**

Invited gated type communities consist of the North Fort Myers area targeting over 10,000 homes within a 3-mile radius. They include Pine Lakes, Lake Fairways, Harons Glen, Tara Woods, Del Tira, Heritage, Buccaneer, Six Lakes, Tamiami Village, Arrowhead, Raintree, Windmill Village, Forest Park, Carriage Village, Horizon, Royal Coach and more! We also advertise to residents in the communities of Fort Myers, Cape Coral and Punta Gorda!

**SAVE THE DATE**

## CONFUSED ABOUT MEDICARE? New to Medicare? Had Medicare for a While?

The WRONG Plan can result in THOUSANDS of WASTED DOLLARS in MEDICAL EXPENSES.

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Certified Medicare Specialist



LAKE FAIRWAYS RESIDENT  
**239-599-4926**

We do not offer every plan available in your area. Any information we provide is limited to those plans we do offer in your area. Please contact medicare.gov or 1-800-medicare to get information on your options.

Our next show will be Saturday, February 1st. A Neil Diamond tribute show performed by a guy who sings, talks and looks exactly like Neil Diamond! This should be a good show. Tickets are \$20 per person and are on sale now at the Coffee Social and pancake breakfasts or by calling Gary Kleffner at 309-236-1957. Watch for signs displaying additional days when tickets will be sold in person at the clubhouse.

Bingo's back in action after taking a short break. Games resume Wednesday January 8th with the doors opening at 5pm.

The Secure Shredding people will be here on Wednesday February 19th, 10am to noon. Thank you.





# VETERAN'S ASSOCIATION

Linda Baker



We had a great meeting on 12/07/24, 18 members were able to attend. Discussed Bylaws, future events, charities to support, lunch outings.

## Did you know?

It's a tiny act that means much more than people seem to realize. On Fridays, civilians back home wear an article of red clothing — a shirt, a tie, anything — as a reminder to all to **Remember Everyone Deployed**. These Fridays became known as R.E.D. Friday.

RED Fridays seem to wax and wane in terms of popularity among civilians, but the core of the movement is important: to Remember Everyone Deployed. The Global War on Terrorism is now officially older than troops eligible to enlist and serve in that same war — it's important to remember that we've still got men and women out there fighting for us.

It's not hard to show your support for the troops: Simply pick something red from your wardrobe and be ready to wear it on Friday, volunteer your time organizing care packages for troops who still need essential items, or write a deployed troop. Simple gestures go a long way.

## Remember everyone deployed.

\*\* Have you heard of the **Brick Program**? Our brick program allows U.S. Military veterans and their families to honor their service by purchasing a brick, which is placed in the Veteran's Memorial (in front of the clubhouse). If you'd like more information, please contact Steve Falck (239-980-9318). This is a great tribute to the Veteran(s) in your life!

\*\*If you know of the passing of a Pine Lakes Veteran, please contact Tim 513-300-7877 or Linda 517-202-6219. We have a special segment during our Veteran's Day Ceremony to honor them and we don't want to miss anyone.

\*\*If you believe you are a member but are not getting the meeting reminder emails, please contact Linda Baker (LLB5775@comcast.net or 517-202-6219) to update your information.

Our next meeting will be held **Tuesday, January 7, 2025, at 2:00pm** in the Activities room of the Pine Lakes Clubhouse. All Pine Lakes and Lake Fairways Veterans

are invited. Stop by and get to know your fellow Veterans better. Pine Lakes Veteran's Association Hats and Shirts will be available for sale. Hope to see ALL Veterans there!

## SPOTLIGHT ON OUR VETERANS

Denny Miner

### **Bill Roberts, Seaman 3rd Class (Part 2)**

*Interior Communications Technician*

**B**attle stations manned. A Russian sub had surfaced off the port side of his ship. When the Russians realized that they had surfaced alongside a US Navy ship, they sounded General Quarters and dove. Bill's ship followed the sub across the Mediterranean and through the Straits of Gibraltar where another US Navy ship that followed it to Cuba during the Cuban missile crisis.

Bill returned to Newport in September 1960 and got married in October of that year. He has four children. He was released from active duty in January, '61 and started attending weekly meetings for the next two and a half years. He was honorably discharged from the Navy in April 1964. He found work as an electrician, a field he enjoyed for a lifetime. He had his own company for 13 years.

Some places of interest that he was able to visit were Barcelona, Spain, Gibraltar, Rome, Athens, Monte Carlo, Marseilles and Nice, France, and the oil fields of Saudi Arabia, where they fed him a camel steak dinner (Delicious).

His fondest memory was made in France. While on a pass in France, he went for a walk towards the outskirts of the city. The road turned from paved to dirt. As he passed a small farmhouse, a middle-aged couple and their two children waved at him. He waved back. They motioned for him to join them on their porch. They didn't speak English, and he didn't speak French, but they shared their lunch of cheese, bread and wine with him. He thanked them as best he could and returned to his ship. "I had seen the real people of France."

He moved to Pine Lakes in October 2003. It was clear that Bill is quite proud of his service and enjoys remembering his time serving.

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## BOCCE

Jackie Bartilucci

*“Throwing balls toward a target is the oldest game known to mankind. As early as 5000 B.C. the Egyptians played a form of bocce with polished rocks. Graphic representations of figures tossing a ball or polished stone have been recorded as early as 5200 B.C. “*

That’s why it’s such a hit here at Pine Lakes! We can relate!

Come join the fun at our Wednesday bocce games. It’s a great chance to get outside and hang out with your neighbors. There’s limited skill involved, no running, no hitting little balls – just throwing balls at other balls. Kind of like bowling without the shoes or heavy balls.

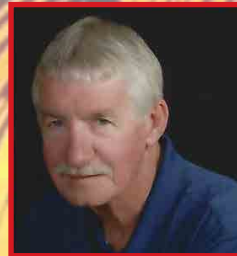
Sign-Up for the Winter/Spring season, which starts **January 15, will be held on January 8, 2025, from 9 am to 10 am** at the clubhouse. The cost for the season is **\$15. CASH ONLY PLEASE.** The season normally runs for 10 weeks, every Wednesday. Games will start at 9 am and depending on the number of teams, the last game will start at 4 pm. If you can’t commit to being a regular player, we always can use substitute players. The cost for that is \$10.

We have a meeting of the players after the sign-up on January 8. The meeting starts at 10 am and will include the following: picking teams, discussion of the rules, any updates. Written rules for the players will be available that day and are posted at the courts. The teams are picked randomly, one male and one female per team. No spouses or significant others are allowed to be partners. We also offer training sessions for the new players prior to the season starting.

*Come join the fun! You’ll be amazed at how well you can do.*



*Happy  
New  
Year!*



**Ron Cook**  
Our Resident Realtor  
**(239) 839-7293**



**Wendy Saniti**  
Our Resident Realtor  
**(239) 600-0272**

### **ATTENTION PINE LAKES ESTATE HOME OWNERS:**

The markets are changing and we would love to sit down and talk with you about what’s taking place here in Pine Lakes.

Just give us a call and we can set something up.

**RAWLINGS**  
REALTY, INC.



1400 Colonial Blvd #77, Fort Myers, FL 33907  
(239) 482-7785 | [www.rawlingsrealty.com](http://www.rawlingsrealty.com)

# TENNIS - A MAN FOR ALL SEASONS

Frank Tivnan



When tennis legends Serena Williams, Roger Federer and Rafa Nadal all hung up their racquets at about age 40, the sports world bowed in reverence.

So, what are we to make of a 97-year-old athlete who smacks tennis balls with flourish and vigor. That is John Seiler, a marvel of a man who holds dual citizenship in the U.S. and Canada and was born during the Hoover Administration.

This isn't a brittle nonagenarian goofing around the court to stir the blood. His forehands are quick as a hiccup, his footspeed keeps pace with whippersnappers 30 years younger, his soft shots smooth as velvet.

(Full disclosure: so often have John's fastballs zipped past me that I am being treated for acute embarrassment!)

John's life is Hollywood stuff! The first of several industrial accidents in his 20's knocked him cold for 24 hours, later cost him half of three fingers and threatened his right leg with amputation. John howled his disapproval, re-located

to the warm waters of Pompano Beach to exercise his leg daily, and was waterskiing in three months.

A man for all seasons, John did enjoy downhill skiing, helicopter skiing, ice-and-roller skating hockey, scuba diving, snowmobiling and baseball. He co-owned a custom-made 30 foot boat built of African Mahogany and piloted a PA-12 float plane for hunting and fishing around Lake Huron.

Last October John lost Barbara, his devoted wife of 42 years, and says tennis is his grief therapy.

*"And when I get old", he says "I'll play pickleball".*



*John Seiler is on the left, Frank Tivnan on the right.*

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# PINE LAKES MIXED BOWLING LEAGUE

Sharon Rondeau

We have three weeks left to the first half/fall session of bowling!

## As of December 9th, the standings are as follows:

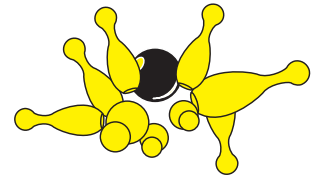
1st place: (46 pts.)	Team 1	Carol Kranyik, Don Proulx, John Kelly, Dean Hurd
2nd place: (42 pts.)	Wigglepins	Cheryl Ratliff, Fran Stauffer, Al Gaetani, Tony Birchfield
3rd place: (36 pts.)	Team 3	Don Sweet, Char Wagnitz, Tom Kamensek, Randy Califf

## High Averages:

Men:	175 Randy Califf	166 Dean Hurd	165 Tony Birchfield
Women:	156 Irene Hinchley	128 Michele Ingram	123 Fran Stauffer

## High Scratch Game:

Men:	232 Tony Birchfield	218 Randy Califf	212 Dean Hurd
Women:	209 Irene Hinchley	185 Michele Ingram	166 Jill Pray



## High Scratch Series:

Men:	633 Tony Birchfield	614 Randy Califf	553 Dean Hurd
Women:	506 Irene Hinchley	411 Michele Ingram	411 Fran Stauffer

The following bowlers bowled some great scratch games:

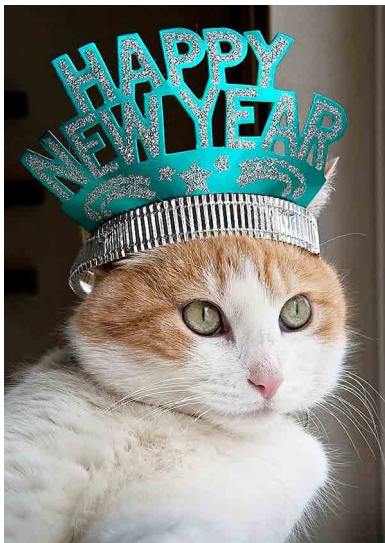
Nov. 18th: 218 Randy Califf  
212 Dean Hurd

Nov. 25th: 204 Tony Birchfield  
217 Randy Califf



*Congratulations to all of you!!*

Our 2nd half/winter session will start on January 13th, and we will bowl for 12 more weeks. If you are interested in bowling or have any questions, please call Sharon Rondeau at 508-846-3001 or Irene Hinchley at 843-300-2730. We bowl on Mondays at 2:00 at Bowlero/Coral in Cape Coral. The cost is \$16.00 per week.



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**CHRISTMAS CART  
PARADE  
continued**





# PINE LAKES SOFTBALL

Ed Huether

**W**e hope everyone had their fill of turkey and ham and had a wonderful, safe and healthy holiday.

Well, it's January 2025 and the new softball season is about to begin. The Panthers have retained almost all their regular players since last year. Sadley, I report that Joe Cuifalo one of our veteran infielders passed away in November. Joe brought a lot of laughter to the dugout. He will be missed.

The team managed to sign on two new players at November's meeting, they are Harvey Linder and Michael Dhayer.

November and December practices have gone well, and the first game of the season will be held on Monday January 6th at 5:30 at Carmalita Recreation Park. Games are played every Monday and Wednesday at the Carmalita Recreation Park in Punta Gorda at 5:30.

Come out to the games, meet the players, your neighbors and support the team. It is something different to do, we are sure you will enjoy the evening, and the players will enjoy seeing the stands full of fans. Please let's keep Dave "The Can Man" busy by keeping those cans coming.

**We are looking forward to seeing you at the games.**

### Players and Positions:

Tom Liptak	infield
Norm Smith	infield
Tom Holtz	outfield
Del Keyes	infield
Dave Joseph	pitcher
Ed Huether	infield
Allen Kerns	outfield
Harvey Linder	outfield/infield
John Deringer	scorekeeper

Bud Gehring
Bill Skinner
Steve Falck
Larry Skinner
Brian Willis
Matt Heier
Jack Sims
Michael Dhayer
Dave Gluck

catcher/pitcher/outfield
manager/outfield/infield
infield
outfield
infield
outfield
catcher
outfield/infield/pitcher
"The Can Man"



**CHRISTMAS TWILIGHT HOME TOUR continued**



# PICKLEBALL

Notes from the Kitchen • Ginger Mitchell

Wow, what a difference a month makes! The Beginner's Pickleball class marked its completion with a round robin tournament. There were 8 participants and a lot of good playing with plenty of seasoned players cheering them on. Not to be left behind there was a round robin tournament for the more experienced players two days later. Speaking of experienced players Kathy Matrese scored the first Golden Pickle for the 2024-25 season. Whew, and to think we are only halfway through December.

We have so much to look forward to in this upcoming season - new friends, morning play, ladder tournaments, glow ball and partying. Our dues remain at \$10 and entitle

you to this and more. Penny will be collecting dues at the court on Mondays at 8:30. New members must fill out a form to submit with their dues while returning players do not have a form unless you want to update your contact information. You may pay by cash or check made out to FPPA.

Remember to get your tickets for the Smash Dance with the Pine Lakes /Lake Fairways Tennis Associations on Monday Jan.27th for \$15 a person. The band is Bigtime Jukebox Band. Check out their website.

*Here's to a wonderful New Year of friendship and play.*



*Tournament participants and coaches, Steve, Jay & Geoff*



*Beginners Round Robin Winners  
L-R 3rd JoAnn 2nd Louise 1st Jensen*



*First Golden Pickle of the Season  
Kathy Matrese on the right*

**TEE TIME** Ladies 18 Hole Golf League

Joann Cline

Looking back on all the golfing fun we had in December and looking forward to lots more fun in the new year! January's calendar shows a New Years Day Tournament, the two day President's Cup, our Member-Member Tournament, and the last of our regular Ladies Shoot-Outs.

**HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

*May your drives be long and your putts be true!*

**\*\*\*CONGRATULATIONS LEAGUE WINNERS\*\*\***

**November 16th Shoot-Out**

**Winner:** Linda Kantz

**Runner Up:** Eileen Sims

**3rd place:** Connie Riedlinger

**December 3rd Seven Lakes Invitational**

Linda Kantz **1st in Flight 1**

Laurie Pellerin **1st in Flight 2**

Lori Skinner **3rd in Flight 1**

**November 27th Two Best Ball Shamble with Men's League**

Team Score 114

Mike Hayes

Randy Califf

Laurie Pellerin

Terry Simon

Team Score 117

Del Keyes

Linda Kantz

Scott DeLonge

Jeff Furnia

Team Score 118

Ed Clevenger

Jeff Penders

Ray Walton

Bob Kingsley

Team Score 121

Phil Eberhardt

Charlie Schneider

Sandy Craig

Bernice Furnia

Team Score 122

Tray Stewart

Boomer DeSantis

Rick Taymon

Sue Hunt

Team Score 122

Irene Hinchley

Mike Lajiness

Rick Thibodeau

Khris Clevenger



**December 4th Scramble**

Team Score 57

Irene Hinchley

Debbie Kimbro

Bernice Furnia

Lori Skinner

Team Score 60

Laurie Pellerin

Khris Clevenger

Sue Hunt

Linda Knotts

Team Score 62

Linda Kantz

Annette Maloney

Jean Cusack

**December 11th Low Net in Flight**

Flight 1

Linda Wakefield net 64

Linda Kantz 64

Flight 2

Sung Kingston net 62

Annette Maloney 73

Sandy Craig 74

Flight 3

Bernice Furnia net 67

Sue Hunt 73



# MEN'S GOLF LEAGUE

Scott DeLonge

Thank you to all who played and congratulations to the winners. Remember sign up for Members/Members by December 23rd. You can sign up in the pro shop, the cost is \$25.00 per person.

---

## November 21st

### CTP

#7 Chuck Yedjnak

#12 Tray Stewart

1. Chris Tupper  
Ed Clevencer  
Happy Meredith  
Joe Demkowicz

1. Jim Wilson  
Jeff Penders  
Boomer DeSanis  
Mike Oliverio

2. Jerry Beamer  
Bill Skinner  
Ray Reetz  
Al Thibdeau

2. Phil Eberhardt  
Mike Lajingss  
Ray Walton  
Bob Kingsley

---

## November 27th

### CTP

#7 Mike Lajiness  
#16 Ray Walton

#3 Marilyn Hayes  
#12 Linda Krantz

1. Mike Hayes  
Laurie Pellerin  
Terry Simon  
Randy Califf

2. Scott DeLonge  
Del Keyes  
Linda Krantz  
Jeff Furina

#3. Ed Clevenger  
Jeff Penders  
Ray Walton  
Bob Kingley

---

## December 5th

### CTP

Blue-None

White- Daryl Lang

1. Frank Chiappa

### Blue Tee

2. Peter Caldarozzi  
Del Keyes

4. John Dieringer  
Chuck Yedinak

1. Joe Demkowicz  
2. Jeff Penders

### White Tee

3. Ed Clevenger  
4. Jeff Furnia

5. Jerry Beamer  
Ray Reetz  
Chris Tupper

---



*Eagle on 18th Hole  
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Don Russo

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We play every Thursday morning at 8:30 AM. If interested in joining us call Ron Hovet at 419-602-0348, or Bob Godet at 407-209-6532 for additional information.

The course is in great condition, thanks to the efforts Scotty and his crew, and Dan, John, and Steve in the Pro Shop. We have had great turnouts despite the cold & windy mornings we've had in December.

Kudos to our weekly League Winners:

## December 5th Game: Team Gross Net

<u>TEAMS:</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>TEAM</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
Bob Godek Ray Charest Joe Salerno Don Wiegand	26	Jay Nicoson Cameron Penfield Gil Gabriel Ken Hunt	27
John Houser Jack Roberts Ron Hovet David Gluck	27	George Chittum Don Russo Dareld Schick Al Gaetani	28

## December 12th Game: Scramble

<u>TEAMS</u>	<u>SCORE</u>	<u>TEAMS</u>	<u>SCORE</u>
Gil Gabriel Dale Mobley Larry Hurley Al Gaetani	143	John Clark Dareld Schick Ron Hovet Ken Hunt	150
Ray Charest Don Russo Bob Morrison Joe Salerno	146	John Houser Bob Godek Jim Rastrelli David Gluck	155
George Chittum Jack Roberts Jay Nicoson Don Weigand	149		



## NIFTY NINERS

Sharol Liepe

**W**inter is here, but in Florida that means a jacket, so grab your jackets and join us, the Nifty Niners, every Wednesday. Play is friendly, encouraging and fun, yet there is an underlying hope to be a winner. If you would like to join us, contact Ruth Hovet ~ Welcome 2025!

Now for the exciting results of our play starting Nov. 20th, oh yeah, that was supposed to be a "Shoot Out" but was cancelled due to rain. Nov. 27th was the day before Thanksgiving, and it was a very chilly morning, but everyone warmed up quickly. We played a "Shambled" and the result: First Place honors went to Laura Muller, Cindy Pennfield, Karen Proulx, and Libby Richards and Second Place honors went to Donna Russo, Jane Vogel, Kathy Wiegand and Jacquie Yedinak.

On Dec. 4th, we started at 9 am because it was supposed to be warmer, but it wasn't, LOL. Anyway, bundled up, we began play and the game was "Scramble with a Devil Ball". The team of Sharol Liepe, Libby Richards and Kathy Wiegand came in First Place and in Second Place the teammates were Ruth Hovet, Veronica Klimko, and Jacquie Yedinak. Dec. 11th the play was "Low Net" the favorite of some but not so much for others. The winner was Nancy Hurley with a 27 and in second place Kathy Wiegand with a 28 ~ great job! Third place went to Donna Russo and fourth place was Linda Lamonica.

Dec. 12th was our awesome Holiday party at Magnolia Landing, thank you Jane Vogel, for arranging this luncheon, thank you to everyone for a wonderful day and all the beautiful friendship shared on this day and every day. Coming Events: Member/Member Tournament Jan. 6th and 8th with Celebration Luncheon on Jan. 9th. See you all next year!

By the time you read this it will be January, so on behalf of all the Nifty Niners we hope you had a Wonderful, Joyful, Christmas, and have an awesome New Year - Welcome 2025



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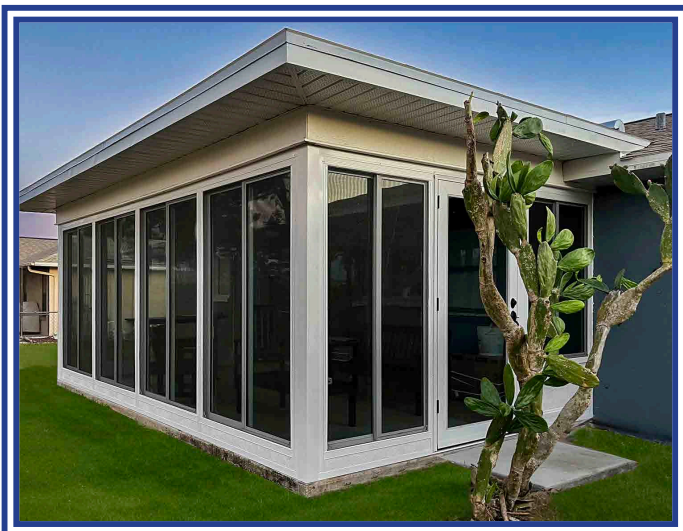


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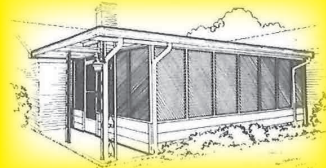
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## January Birthdays

				1 Kay Brown Sal Carrera Luis Garcia Toni Jo Judkins	2 Barbara Brown Terry Radusin Ann Rasler	3 Sandra Cook Sandy Morais Shirley Rogers	4 Joann Cline Leo Mandeville Kelly Jo Myers-Madoian
5 Tom Beaupre Sue Bourque Christy Welch	6 Mario Cordeiro Joan Evans Jesse Huff Pat Pacewic	7 Dennis Serra	8 Virginia Davis Karen Proulx	9	10 Fran Marino Joe Swinford Thomas Thompson Barb Willis	11 Jeanne Lavelle	
12 Denise Dhayer	13 Antoine Matthews Denny Miner	14 Kelly Sexton	15 Deborah Courtemanche Linda Streeter	16 Michele Roomet	17 Dorian Cyktich Kevin O'Rourke Jack Van Ingen	18	
19 Karen Brennan	20 Carol Kleffner Fred Stewart	21	22 Jamine Kretz Frank Porter Terri Wilkin	23 Irene Gaetani Ed Huether Steve Payne	24 Nancy Kelly	25 Sherry Burke Irwin Peters	
26 Jimmy Johnston	27 Linda Langheld	28 Steve Boire Monte Gilliland Joe Salerno Mary Tivnan	29 Larry Burkett Donna Oliverio	30 Elliot Doliner Mo Keary John Warner	31 Nancy LeBlond		

\*The Celebration Calendars are maintained by Bev Thoreson.  
If you have changes or have been missed, please contact Bev so she can update her files at 919-303-2666.

## January Anniversaries

				1 Jim Black & Karen McGee '20 Paul & Nancy Truman	2	3 Steve & Sandra Cook	4
5	6 Rich & Pat Pacewic '80	7	8 Peter & Jeni Vellucci '13	9 Nelson & Deborah Courtemanche	10	11	
12	13	14	15	16 Kevin & Beverly Dobbs '16	17	18	
19 Luis & Sharon Garcia '85 David & Bonnie Wright '73	20	21 Tony & Barbara Grabowski '56	22	23 Ron & Darlene Kasmouski	24	25	
26	27	28	29	30	31 Eric & Christy Welch '97		

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**WHISPERING PINES DEADLINES 2025**

ISSUE MONTH	DEADLINE FOR SUBMISSIONS
February 2025	January 16, 2025
March 2025	February 13, 2025
April 2025	March 14, 2025
May 2025	April 15, 2025
June/July/August 2025	June 14, 2025
September 2025	August 13, 2025
October 2025	September 12, 2025
November 2025	October 11, 2025
December 2025	November 12, 2025
January 2026	December 12, 2025

**WHISPERING PINES TEAM 2025**

Advertising – Stinger Printing [art@stingerprinting.com](mailto:art@stingerprinting.com)  
 Articles – Yvonne Ecklund, Editor  
 Article writers are acknowledged with a by-line.  
 Celebrations – Bev Thoreson 919-303-2666  
 Circulation Coordinator – Jan Hippler, 248-474-8993  
 Distribution by Cul-de-sac Captains  
 Webmaster - Charlie Wakefield [www.ourpinelakes.com](http://www.ourpinelakes.com)

**ATTENTION ARTICLE CONTRIBUTORS**  
**THERE IS A 300-WORD LIMIT ON ARTICLES.**  
 (This will be strictly enforced.)  
**All photos must be submitted in jpg or jpeg form.**  
**All articles must be submitted in Word form and**  
**please do not use all CAPS.**

If you are unable to type your article or you do not have an e-mail account--PLEASE ask someone in your group to type (Word or .rtf format) and send JUST to Editor Yvonne at [yecklund10@yahoo.com](mailto:yecklund10@yahoo.com) THANKS!

**UPCOMING SHOWS/EVENTS FOR 2025 SEASON**  
**UPDATED 2025**

DATE	SPONSOR	EVENT
01/05/2025	Men's Club	George Casey - Comedian
01/11/2025	Women's Club	Sock Hop
01/19/2025	Women's Club	Community Soup Night
01/25/2025	Entertainment	Mark Zuess Band (Speak Easy Band) Mardi Gras Theme
02/01/2025	Men's Club	Dance - Neil Diamond
02/08/2025	Women's Club	Fashion on a Dime
02/15/2025	Men's Club	Johnny Rogers
02/28/2025	Women's Club	Treasure Sale
03/01/2025	Ohio Committee	Ohio Night
03/15/2025	Men's Club	St. Patrick's Day Dance
03/28/2025	Women's Club	Singo Bingo



**UGLY SWEATER DANCE!**



*Winners of the Ugly Sweater Contest -  
 Left to Right - Danielle Poirier, Suzanne Warner, Richard Thibodeau*