

NATURES TALES

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October Fun!

October is the transition month from a gentle, quiet summer to the activity filled winter. The first dance of the season was on Columbus Day, hosted by Jim & Peg (Site #50) and Bruce & Mary Sue (Site #19). There were about 40 people from Natures and about 15 people from Gulf Haven, and a great time was had by all.

An impromptu dance with Jack and Cassandra (Site #59) providing the music was held on October 23rd. Even at such short notice, it was attended by about 30 people who enjoyed the evening.

Mike & Karen (Site #73) brought a huge supply of apples from Michigan for everyone to share, and hosted an Apple Bake-Off on October 25th: Homemade Apple Anything to be served with ice cream. It was such a success that they decided to make it an annual event.

A couple of "impromptu" bike rides were enjoyed by a handful of people. The "official" bike rides started on October 29th with a ride to NABA Butterfly Park. Although it was a windy day the bikers enjoyed their ride as well as an informative tour of the park where an abundance of beautiful butterflies were seen. Watch the bulletin board for information on these weekly bike rides. For the energetic, they are fabulous outings.

On October 24th volunteers helped hosts Jan and Dan (Site #64) decorate the clubhouse with ghosts and goblins for Halloween. The dance on the 31st was well attended and there was an abundance of clever, humorous and downright amazing costumes.

Shrill whistles during the evening signaled that someone had been issued a citation – anything from 'dancing out of step' to 'frowning without a permit'. At the end of the evening 'Judge Big Shot' (Stan – Site #69) held court, with sentences ranging from 'a day at an adult daycare' to 'attending dance lessons'. It was a fabulous party with lots of dancing, lots of fun and lots of laughter, all made possible by everyone to helped put the evening together.

Monday Night soup supper will continue this season, but it will be a little different. Al & JoAnn (Site #100), who did excellent job for many years past, have decided to take a break. Mike and Karen (Site #73) volunteered to host this season's soup suppers, and, having enjoyed other meals that they have prepared, we know that their soup suppers will be a great hit. The price remains the same – \$4.50 person which includes soup, salad and dessert, with profits going to the Fun Association. However, the little twist that they are putting into the soup suppers is that they are asking anyone who has a special soup that they make to host one of the soup suppers. This is a great way to share the responsibility, and enable us to enjoy a greater variety of wonderful soups. If you are willing to host a soup supper, contact Mike or Karen and they will give you all the information (and help) that you need.

Volunteers are at it again!

This is just the start of our busy season, and already volunteers are popping up all over the place. Thank you so much, all you wonderful people!

Some people have told us that Natures compares very favorably to other parks and resorts that they visited during their summer travels, and that they greatly appreciate how clean, neat and tidy Natures is. The people who really need to hear this are our summer volunteers who have worked tremendously hard to make everything neat, clean and tidy. Those who are not here during the summer cannot even begin to imagine the amount of hard work that volunteers put in during those months sprucing things up for the coming season.

However, volunteering doesn't stop when summer is over. To some extent our summer volunteers take a well deserved break, but our Winter Texans arrive with a fresh willingness to keep up the good work.

We all have our own areas of expertise, but what is unique to Natures is that so many people here choose to share their talents with all of us. The willingness of people to host dances and other events, help decorate for various holidays, help clean up after functions, fertilize the orchard and other trees, re-wire speakers that were dismantled during the clubhouse construction, replace a little tree that died, redo the map showing where people are located in the park The list goes on and on. We have aerobics, water aerobics and dance lessons that are all headed by volunteers. The activities web site is run by a volunteer. Bike rides, cards, dominoes, the camp fire, the library, our beautiful trees and flowers are all courtesy of volunteers. Even those who are unable to do things physically are volunteers in their own right by the way that they encourage those who can and do volunteer. And everyone who returns tables and chairs to their place and cleans up after themselves is a hero in our books!

We have a whole park full of fantastic people and we, the owners, thank each and every one of you for making Natures a truly special place!

Tidbits from Speckles, our Proud Natures Cat!

Busy! Busy! Busy! That's what my life is! Between catching mice so that they don't get into your houses, and rushing around trying to keep up with everyone, there is little time for me to relax in the sunshine – although I notice that YOU have time to lounge around the pool!

- It must be cold up north because SO MANY of our Winter Texan family are back already. We are still missing a few, but I'm sure it won't be long until they are here also.
- Doc & Yvette (Site #40) have a smart new porch roof which looks really great.
- Pam & Rick (Site # 79) are enjoying riding around in their golf cart. They don't offer me a ride though!
- Connie has a fantastic new set of wheels! It is wonderful to see her riding all around the park. Way to go, Connie! Everyone is delighted to see you out and about!
- Tony & Pam (Site #67) have a new outdoor shower. They said I could use it, but I don't like water.
- John & Pam (Site #61) have a new carport. It looks really nice.
- Art & Carol (Site # 34) are back after a two year absence. Welcome home!
- Another new house rolled into the park. Check out Site #48 and see Richard & Barb's beautiful new home.
- Misty said she could never shoot a deer. She doesn't seem to have any problem running them down though. Check out Bill & Misty's truck (Site #48) and you'll see what I mean!

- The Fun Association voted to get a Wii. I don't know what it is, but people seem excited about it. They are also getting a new amplifier to help with the sound for our dances.
- It's a small world! Dave & Judy (Site #63) and Art & Ann (Site #36) bumped into each other in Laughlin, NV. Art & Ann were heading south and Dave & Judy were heading north!
- There are some strange new creatures in the park. I think that Bill (Site #51) has been creating again!

That's all from me. Have a happy Thanksgiving, and if someone could sneak me bit of turkey, that would be purrrfectly fantastic!



November Activities

November 7th 3:00 p.m. Fall Festival.
See details on Bulletin board.

November 8th 6:30 p.m. Clubhouse.
Birthday celebration. Join us for cake as we celebrate the November birthdays and anniversaries.

November 14th 9:00 a.m. Clubhouse
Fun Association Members Meeting. If you are at Natures you are a member of the Fun Association. Only YOU can let the Fun Association Board know what activities you want, so please attend and share your thoughts. Free coffee and donuts!

November 26th Clubhouse
Thanksgiving hosted by Mike & Karen. Additional details are on the Bulletin Board.

November 28th 7:00 p.m. Clubhouse
Elvis Lives! We will finally dispel all the rumors that Elvis is dead! Elvis will be performing at Natures, and you are all invited to put on your dancing shoes and join the fun.

Weekly Activities:

Aerobics: 8:30 a.m. Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday.

Bike Rides: 9:00 a.m. Thursday. See bulletin board for details of each ride.

Camp Fire: 5:00 p.m. Friday. Bring a chair and food to cook over the fire.

Coffee: 9:00 a.m. Wednesday Site #100. Bring your coffee mug and meet your fellow nudists.

Dance Lessons: 6:30 p.m. (beginners)
7:00 (everyone) Wednesday

Euchre: 6:30 p.m. Monday. Bring a partner and \$1.00

Petanque: 2:00 p.m. Every day. Everyone is welcome- even those who have never played before. Balls are available in the office.

Soup Supper: 6:00 p.m. Monday \$4.50 per person. Sign up required.

IMPORTANT NOTICE!

In order to keep others healthy, if YOU are sick, PLEASE stay home. If it is something contagious, please would YOU AND YOUR SPOUSE stay home. Let the office know and we will arrange to have your mail delivered, and will assist you in areas where you may need help. Your cooperation will be greatly appreciated!