

NATURES TALES

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LIVING LIFE NATURALLY

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March 2013

Tidbits from Speckles, Natures Proud Cat!

This is my favorite time of the year! In addition to the usual activities we also have all the Fun-in-the-Sun competitions going! I'm so busy running from one event to the next it is hard to keep up with all the OTHER things going on in the park – and there is definitely no time for naps for me!



- At the last membership meeting Ken (#56) and Steve (#300) were elected for a three year term. Our thanks go to Ken for the previous three years he served as President, and to Bruce (#19) who has faithfully served as Treasurer for the past six years.
- There was a lot of hollering and shouting at the Super Bowl party which I think means that everyone had a great time! Willis & Rebecca and all their helpers did a great job of decorating, organizing and making this event such a success. Congratulations to Jean M. for Best Wimpiest Chili, and Steve C. for Best Hot and the Overall Winner in the Chili Cook-Off.
- Once again we had a MedCheck blood draw. What a great way for us to be able to monitor our health at greatly reduced prices!
- Have you ever heard of a “Paver Party”? Ellis & Barb had one to celebrate the completion of their beautiful new paver patio in front of their house!

- What a great touch to the Valentine Spring Fling dance – a Valentine Video of our very own Valentine Sweethearts, some photos from as far back as their high school dating days! Thank you to Ruthi for compiling the video, Bruce for the music, Laurie for acting as MC, and to Bob and Florence and all their helpers for hosting and making this such a special evening.



Relaxing at the Valentine's Dance

- Sylvie & Sylvan are grandparents! They are excited about the birth of their first grandchild! Steve & Paula are also excited about the birth of their first grandson.
- Just in case you didn't notice – Julia (#116) has been the “Official Photographer” for all the Fun in the Sun events. She has done an awesome job with all the photos. I think Misty should make her the “Official Natures Photographer”!
- Rick & Michelle, Lot 233, have built a large shed on their lot. We are happy to have them as a part of our Natures family!

- It seems as though we never stop eating! Valentine's Day was started with a delicious Valentine's Brunch. Perhaps this will become a Natures' tradition?



Preparing for Valentine's Brunch.

- The cement truck continues to visit Natures. Jay & Lee (#305) have expanded their slab, Nolan & Ricky have poured a slab on lot #304 and Ken & Terry, Lot 232 have forms ready to pour.
- Everyone's eating again and yet I keep hearing that people are on diets?? The Spaghetti Dinner was delicious and a great success!
- Another house came rolling in!! Congratulations to Ken & Barbie, Lot 238, on their beautiful new home!



Another New Home!

- Hans & Hermien can be seen relaxing in the shade of their new carport. Check it out – It's a nice addition to their lot.
- Everyone had a lot of fun at Fun in the Sun but there were so many events and competitions happening that I can't remember them all. (Perhaps Misty can.) I'm only a little cat you know!

What a fun month it has been! I can't wait to see what is in store for March!

That's all from me!



Fun in the Sun!

Fun in the Sun (FITS) started as an open invitation to outside clubs to visit us for a weekend packed with various competitions and events. This was an exciting weekend, but at the end of it the organizers, helpers and competitors were exhausted. Then, prior to our expansion, we reached the point where we had no room in the park to accommodate other parks. A big drawback to having everything packed into one weekend was that people could not enter all the competitions as some of them had to run simultaneously in order to fit everything into one weekend. So FITS was dropped, but it was missed.

After two years it was suggested that perhaps we could still have FITS, but it should be spread out so that there was only one competition per day, and it would only be open to those staying at Natures. Having just completed the second expanded FITS it is obvious that this format works, and is a lot of fun for everyone. Because of the more relaxed schedule more events have been added, a number of which are as much fun to watch as

they are to compete in. And each year new suggestions are made and new events are added. We will have to wait and see what 2014 holds!

Although it was a little chilly on a couple of days, the 2013 FITS was a blast! This is thanks to Tom, the coordinator, and all the event organizers who did a wonderful job of ensuring that each competition or activity ran smoothly. Thanks also go to the hosts and helpers of the Hot Dog Roast, Valentine's Brunch and Valentine's Dance which took place during FITS. Thanks to Julia too who did a great job of catching all these events on camera.

Fun in the Sun Results



JP, what is that Horseshoe doing in the Tree?

Horseshoes

Event Organizer: John (#222)

Winner: John (#222)

Bicycle Endurance Race

Event Organizer: Richard (#122)

Winner: Randy (#313)

Billiards

Event Organizer: Doug (#PT10)

Winner: Ron (#53)

Corn Hole

Event Organizer: Pete (#228)

Winners: Randy (#9) and Leroy (#1)

Euchre

Event Organizer: Rainy (#36)

Winner: Tie: Robin (#54), Ed (#236), Hans (#207)

Blind Golf Cart Race

Event Organizer: Frank

Winners: Stan (#69) & Paula (#106)

Ladder Toss

Event Organizer: Pam (#60)

Winner: Don (#52)

Mexican Train

Event Organizer: Steve (#37)

Winner: Eva (Room #1)

Pickle Ball

Event Organizer: Dave (#63)

Winner: Russ (#212)

Raft Race

Event Organizer: Steve (#300)

Winners: Steve & Jan (#37)

Shuffleboard

Event Organizer: Tinka (#205)

Winners: Greg & Rainy (#36)

Wii Bowling

Event Organizer: Jim & Maryann

Winners: Rainy (#36), Bob (#14), Becky (#228) Judy (#11)

Darts

Event Organizer: Steve (#300)

Winners: Pete (#228), Ken (#232), Sue (#312), Greg (#36)

Petanque

Event Organizer: Jim (#11)

Winners: John (#222), Dolores (#118), Bev (#60), Barb (#28)

Bingo

Event Organizer: Ken & Barb (#238)

Winner: Patty (#212)



Golf Scramble

Event Organizer: Tom (#309)

Winners: Tie

Team 1

Don (#130)

Jim (#11)

Ken (#232)

Steve (#301)

Team 2

Randy (#9)

Cindy (#9)

Bev (#60)

JeanPaul (#65)

Texas Cards

Event Organizer: Dave (#63)

Winner: Don (#52)

Water Volleyball

Event Organizer: Steve (#37)

Winners: Steve (#300), Ruthi (#66), Pete (@228), Dave (#312), Nolan (#304), Dave (#39)

Weekly Activities

Aerobics (Low Impact) Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9:00 a.m. Clubhouse

Bible Study: Monday 10:00 a.m. Card Room

Bike Ride: Thursday 9:00 a.m. Meet outside the office

Bingo: Friday 6:15 p.m. to 6:45 p.m. card sales. Bingo starts at 7:00 p.m.

Breakfast: Saturday 8:00 a.m. to 9:15 a.m. Clubhouse. Sign-up.

Campfire: Friday 5:00 Fire Pit. Bring your hotdogs, buns and drinks and join the fun.

Country Western Line Dancing Lessons:
Thursday Clubhouse
6:30 p.m. Couples Country Western
7:15 p.m. Line dancing
8:00 p.m. Music will continue to be available for those having special requests, seeking additional help, or simply wanting to enjoy more dancing.

Darts: Saturday 7:00 p.m.

Euchre: Monday 6:30 p.m. Card Room

Men's Breakfast: Every second Tuesday.
Meet outside the office at 8:00 a.m.

Mexican Train: Wednesday 7:00 p.m. Card Room

Petanque: Every day 2:00 p.m.

Pickle ball: Every day 10:00 a.m.

Social Hour: Wednesday 4:00 p.m. Sandy's

Stitch & Chat: Friday 1:00 p.m. Clubhouse

Texas Cards: Saturday. 10:00 a.m.
Clubhouse

Water Aerobics: Monday, Wednesday,
Friday 10:15 a.m.

Water Volleyball: Every day 2:00 p.m.
Check the Impromptu Board by the pool
for additional information.

Wii Bowling: Tuesday 3:45 p.m. Clubhouse

March Special Events:

2nd Breakfast in a bag – sign up required

2nd Health Day.
Dr. Lin - 10:00 p.m. – Dermatologist
2nd Dr. Roldan – 12:00 noon – Audiologist
After their presentations both Drs. will
conduct minor screenings, for
approximately 20 or so members.

3rd Join us for Movie Night! DVD Alaskan
Highway. Popcorn served!

4th Blood Drive – Each time you donate you
earn points for t-shirts and other
goodies! Sign up

4th Owners Appreciation Dinner & Dance
5:00 p.m. – 10:00 p.m. Dinner catered
by Don Carlos Catering, Music by Walter
Plant

5th Craft and Bake Sale. All proceeds from
the bake sale go to Monte Alto.

5th Vipers Game. This is a great outside
event. See Ken (#56) for tickets.

6th Favorite Foods Pot luck. Bring a dish to
share and enjoy a meal with your
friends. Hosted by Joyce and Laurie.

10th Join us in the clubhouse for cake and ice
cream as we celebrate all the March
birthdays and anniversaries. 6:30 p.m.

11th “Diamonds & Duct Tape” Dance - Ruthi
Dress up in your best diamonds and
duct tape outfit! 7:00 p.m. to 10:00
p.m.

13th Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Sign up required

16th Members Meeting 9:00 p.m.

17th Wear the Green for St. Patrick's Day
Dance. 7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

20th Box Social – A fund raising event in
which box lunches are auctioned off.
This is a fun event. See the bulletin
board for more details!

26th Yard Sale Clubhouse. One person's
junk is another person's treasure! Prior to
the 26th, please place items for the yard
sale in the shed behind the entrance
gate.

27th Yard Sale Monte Cristo Road

27th Breakfast 8:00 a.m. Sign up required

31st Easter Dinner