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LIVING LIFE NATURALLY

Tidbits from Cally, Natures' Proud Cat!

We've had another very busy month, with so many things going on! Although we had a few rainy days, we've also enjoyed lots of sunny, warm days! Here's what's been going on:



- Something new is always good! Margaret started a restorative yoga class which was well attended. Thank you, Margaret, for showing us how to stay supple and fit!
- We had another Fund Raiser Barbeque which made \$390 for the Fun Activities Association. Many thanks to Rainy, Greg, Steve B, Julie and crew for a delicious meal which was so well organized!
- Volunteers have been busy in the clubhouse. One group took down all the beautiful quilts that had been on display for two months, then a second group decorated the clubhouse with kites for spring and summer. The end result is a bright and cheerful looking clubhouse. Thank you to both groups for all the work they put in to keep the clubhouse looking pretty.
- St. Patrick's Day Dance is always a fun event with green costumes, green hair and green beards! Many thanks to Ken for greeting all the ladies with a kiss and a green carnation!
- We had our third and last blood drive for the season. A total of 17 units were donated giving us a grand total of 49 units for the season. Many thanks to all those who came out to donate and to Ken for organizing the blood drives.
- One of Natures' popular events, the Talent Show, provided a fun evening of entertainment. Those organizing the event did a wonderful job of pulling it all together and keeping it running smoothly. Thanks to the hosts, organizers and performers!
- We had two successful soup events plus three breakfasts - all raising funds for the Fun Association. At all of these events the delicious smells wafting out of the kitchen while the food was cooking were most enticing. Many thanks to the cooks and their helpers for these delicious meals.
- Natures has some very talented artists! Our craft sale had many shoppers looking for unique gifts for themselves or to take up north with them. Thanks to the organizers and crafters.
- What fun! A Mardi Gras Parade! Big Bill lined up drivers for all his creations and others decorated their carts and bikes and, with appropriate music, they paraded around the park cheered on by all the spectators. The parade was followed by the Mardi Gras Dance. Many thanks to Tamara and her helpers for hosting the two fun events.
- The Sandpipers' Theatre Group put on their latest show 'Delightful Dreamettes'

here at Natures. We are so grateful that they are willing to share their talents with us! It was funny, entertaining, and definitely Delightful. Thank you, Theatre Group, for a fun evening!

- Because of rain in the prediction, the two day Spring garage sale was condensed into one day, selling in the clubhouse in the morning and then moving the remaining items onto Monte Cristo in the afternoon. An exhausting day for all the coordinators and their many helpers! In spite of the condensed sale it was still a huge success, making a total of \$1,416.32. Many thanks to the coordinators, helpers, donors and shoppers!



Afternoon Sale on Monte Cristo Road

I don't like this time of year because this is when I have to say goodbye to so many of my Winter Texan Family. I'm going to miss you! Please be safe on the roads, and have a purrrrrfectly wonderful summer!

That's all from me!



Condolences

Sadly we inform you that Ron (Joann, Lot 310) passed away in March. Ron was a cheerful soul, always with a ready smile, and he

will be greatly missed by all his friends here at Natures.

Ron & Joann had been talking of making Natures their permanent home, and when Ron's son came to Natures and saw how much Joann is loved and what a great support system she has here, they understood why she wished to remain here.

We extend our heartfelt condolences to Joann and family at this sad time, but we are delighted that she will now be a full time resident with us here at Natures.

9th Annual Owners' Appreciation Dinner & Dance

We all know who the members of the Fun Activities Association Board are. We also know who hosts special events or coordinates activities because we see them doing the things that they do. We also see the people who help the Board, the hosts and the coordinators, as well as the people who organize and cook fund raiser meals. If you take a moment to name all these people you will be amazed at how long the list is!

But, have you ever wondered:

Who cleans out the refrigerators and freezers during and at the end of the season? Who cleans the stoves and ovens in the kitchens? Who decorates the clubhouse for the various seasons and functions? Who scrubs the tiles on the sides of the big pool? Who shelves the books in the library? Who takes care of the recycling of plastic, aluminum, tin and cardboard? Who plugs in the coffee for early morning coffee? Who keeps the electronic activities board up to date? Who monitors the Google Activities Site? Who makes the fire on Friday evenings? Who picks up the Winter Texan Times that magically appears in the clubhouse every week? Who emails us the weekly activities schedule? Who sends us the monthly birthday and anniversary list? Who orders ice for the freezer and keeps the fridge stocked with candy, water and soda? Who fills

the gas tanks for the grill and outdoor heaters?
The list goes on and on



Many of these people are never seen doing the things that they do, but they are just as important as those doing more visible volunteering. And ALL of these people, both the visible and invisible, play a huge part in making Natures the special place that it is! They are all examples of the amazing volunteering spirit that we have here.

Besides the volunteering spirit, there are other reasons that Natures is special:

- ✓ People are a family here. They care about the Natures family members and when someone needs help, help is quickly forthcoming. When someone hurts, everyone hurts. And when someone has a special joy, everyone shares that joy.
- ✓ People are friendly and inclusive. When someone arrives at Natures for the first time they are greeted and made to feel

welcome. They are invited to join in with the different activities and are immediately absorbed into the family.

- ✓ People consider Natures their home, whether it is for a vacation, the winter or a permanent residence. Because it is their home they take pride in it and try to do what is best for it.

Nine years ago when "The New Natures" was born, the owners honored all the volunteers by giving them a dinner to let them know that their actions and attitudes did not go unnoticed and to show how much each and every person here at Natures was appreciated.



The Appreciation Dinner has now grown into an annual catered dinner and dance and on March 13th everyone in the park was again treated to a tasty meal provided by JROW Catering, and served by some of

the owners and our volunteers. The dinner was followed by a dance with music provided by the Tony Perez band.

Once again the owners wish to let each and every person at Natures know that they are not taken for granted. We appreciate and thank everyone for choosing Natures as their permanent, winter or vacation home. We are also grateful for everything that you have done for Natures and our Natures family during the past season, and for your friendly and positive attitude. YOU are what makes Natures special and you are what makes people want to come to Natures! We thank YOU, our amazing Natures family!