

APRIL 2024

MEADOW WOOD FARMS NEWSLETTER

www.mwfpoa.com



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF MWFPOA , PO Box 77-1896—OCALA, FL 34477

****SEEKING EXECUTIVE BOARD CANDIDATES****

In preparation for our annual Board elections in May at the general meeting in Friendship Park. We are seeking nominations and volunteers to serve as President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer.

Note: All Executive Board positions are officially available. Our current Board is stepping aside, so we NEED to see other Association member step up and into these positions. The newly elected officers' term will begin June 1, 2024, and extend through May 31, 2025.

We have a number of new residents, and that means a lot of new ideas and talent are available! You can help make a difference in our community by volunteering a bit of your time. Please consider adding your name to the election slate for next year. Currently, the slate consists of the following:

- President: Available
- Vice President: Available
- Secretary: Michele Shuler (we can have more than 1 candidate)
- Treasurer: Available

Any Association member in good standing may serve on the Board. If you are interested, contact Michele Shuler, Election Chair, at mmicheleshuler@gmail.com. You can read the Duties of the Officers in our By-Laws, available in your Directory or online at www.mwfpoa.com.

Elections will be held at the May 14th meeting at Friendship Park. Nominations may also be taken from the floor at that time for any member in good standing.

"Be the change that you wish to see in the world." Mahatma Ghandi

Upcoming Meetings *(subject to change)*

Executive Board Meeting

April 16th - 7pm

General Association

May 14th - 7pm

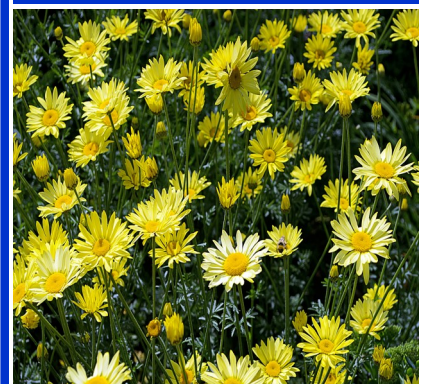
THIS IS OUR ELECTION MEETING SO YOU WON'T WANT TO MISS IT!

Meetings will be held at Friendship Park under the Pavilion.

Minutes are posted on the website after all Board and Association meetings:
www.mwfpoa.com

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Getting Short

“I’m getting short.” I’m not referring to how tall I am, but to how much time I have left to serve this magnificent neighborhood. Years ago, I served in the U.S.A.F. I first heard the expression “getting short” during those years. I’m guessing it was initially a reference to the time one had left to serve in a combat zone but in peace time it remained a popular term for someone whose time in the service was very nearly over.

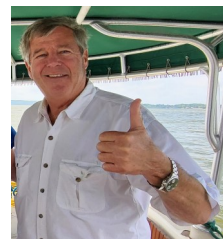
There were the standard jokes. “He’s so short, he can’t see over a curb.” “She’s so short, she couldn’t jump over an envelope.” Bad jokes to be sure, but they were pretty common when your buddies knew you were about to leave. In reality, “being short” often meant that a person was so close to leaving the service that they just didn’t care anymore.

While I am getting short in my service on your Board, I can assure you that I still care – VERY much. MWF is our home. Our neighbors are our friends. This is “our” community and we will continue to love it. Is it perfect? No. But it is pretty darn good and we will continue to work, hope, and pray that it continues to be the quiet, peaceful, and friendly neighborhood that it has been for the 17 years we have called it home.

As I step aside from the leadership role, I willingly become a follower. I so want to believe that some of you will step up to lead. That you will be willing to do the work that needs to be done to maintain MWF and our Association. That rather than give up and step away, you will step up and get involved. I am “short” so I leave you with this quote from Teddy Roosevelt.

“It is not the critic who counts; not the man who points out how the strong man stumbles, or where the doer of deeds could have done them better. The credit belongs to the man who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood; who strives valiantly; who errs, who comes short again and again, because there is no effort without error and shortcoming; but who does actually strive to do the deeds; who knows great enthusiasms, the great devotions; who spends himself in a worthy cause; who at the best knows in the end the triumph of high achievement, and who at the worst, if he fails, at least fails while daring greatly, so that his place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who neither know victory nor defeat.”

I’ll see you around the neighborhood. -- Jim



Community Matters

Calendar of Activities — April 2024

All events will be held at Friendship Park unless otherwise stated

- ◆ **Executive Board Meeting** - April 14th 7pm
- ◆ **Equine Club Meeting** - April 19th 7pm
- ◆ **Line Dancing** - Dust off those dancing shoes! Every Saturday morning 10a.m. Please check FaceBook for changes to that schedule

If you would like to schedule an event in Friendship Park, please contact and coordinate with our Treasurer, Karen Reade @treasurer@mwfpoa.com



Meadow Wood Farms Communications

Website: www.mwfpoa.com

Become a Member for full-access

What is available on our website?

- ◆ Neighborhood Directory
Names, addresses, and contact information of your neighbors
- ◆ Neighbor to Neighbor
A list of Agents & Contractors that are tried and tested by your neighbors. Eliminate the guess work
- ◆ Newsletter in Full Color
- ◆ Meeting Minutes
- ◆ Advertisers
They support our association, so please support them!
- ◆ Board Member Contact Info
- ◆ Committee Member Contact Info

Please reach out to any Board member or Committee person listed on page 2 of this publication if you need any assistance at all. While FaceBook is another form of communication, there is nothing like direct communication!

Neighborhood Facebook pages

Ask to join our private groups on Facebook:

- ◆ **Meadow Wood Farms**
- ◆ **Meadow Wood Farms Equestrian Club**
- ◆ **Meadow Wood Farms Garden Exchange**

IF YOU HAVE NOT YET REGISTERED AS A MEMBER/ USER ON OUR WEBSITE YOU ARE MISSING OUT! IT'S EASY, JUST CLICK ON REGISTER NOW AND IF YOU ARE A MEMBER IN GOOD STANDING YOU WILL RECEIVE YOUR PASSWORD.

Do you know of a Meadow Wood Farms neighbor in need? The Meadow Wood Farms Angels is a group of anonymous volunteers who are ready to help with those small, one-time projects that our neighbors cannot do by themselves by reason of age, illness, disability, or lack of funds.

To submit a request for assistance, email: MWFAngels@gmail.com or call Jim Bain (352) 615-2572. The Angels will contact you and obtain additional information in order to evaluate the request.



ELECTION MEETING AND POT LUCK BBQ

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As everyone knows, the May General Association Meeting is also the Election Meeting. This year, the current board, which together has served for two years now, and for Karen Reade and Jim Bain has been several years, is stepping aside. Michele Shuler is the Elections Chair person so please contact her if you have any desires to serve your neighborhood. This is a wonderful time to get involved. Her email address can be found below under "newsletter". Our current VP, Mark Cooper is planning to make his famous Chili Dogs, which will be all beef to accommodate any food preferences. Please bring a side dish or dessert to round out the BBQ. There will be a donation jar, if anyone would like to contribute to help Mark offset the cost of the food that he will be making. Don't forget that nominations can be taken from the floor at the meeting. To encourage attendance, there will be a \$50 gift card raffle that is open to anyone who is attending AND pays their dues on or before the meeting as well as "It pays to come to meetings" which will be worth \$150. A member's name will be drawn until a winner is found. As you can see, this will be a "Don't want to miss" event. We look forward to seeing everyone there.

Gena DeCamella

Officers of MWFPOA

President	Jim Bain	352-615-2572	president@mwfpoa.com
Vice-President	Mark Cooper	904-370-0253	viciousfish1959@gmail.com
Secretary	Gena DeCamella	727-808-8918	secretary@mwfpoa.com
Treasurer	Karen Reade	352-622-2030	treasurer@mwfpoa.com

Committees

Activities	AVAILABLE	
Maintenance	Ian Reade	tp228000@yahoo.com
Decorations	Chair: Chris Banks	chrisbanks27@yahoo.com
Control	Chair: Chad Ross Robert Zachary	chad.ross01@gmail.com lzachary@gmail.com
Website	Chair: Jim Thomas	foxdadat@yahoo.com
Membership	Patricia and Dave Wagner Janice Eide	patriciandave@aol.com eidejanice@yahoo.com
Newsletter	Editor: Gena DeCamella Michele Shuler	newsletter@mwfpoa.com mmicheleshuler@gmail.com
Sunshine	Chair: Jennie Adams	adamsjen@icloud.com
Welcome	Dale Kennedy	imaussified@embarqmail.com
Refreshments	Holly Roberts	hbrlifestyle@gmail.com

REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL

Proposals are hereby requested for a 24 month contract for the purpose of mowing and trimming the grass in the common areas of Meadow Wood Farms, Ocala, FL.

The following details are provided:

- Term: Contract will commence on or about June 1, 2024 and expire on May 31, 2026 Subsequent contracts will begin and expire on Jun 1 of the ensuing years.
- Scope: Grass areas in Meadow Wood Farms subdivision are to be mowed as follows:
 - o Entrances (includes areas adjacent to entry roads & fences extending, *at a minimum*, 6 fence posts in either direction)
 - § Two (2) cuts per month April through October. One (1) cut per month November through April
 - § Edging and weed trimming as needed
 - o Park:
 - § One (1) cut per month April through October – then as needed
 - § Move fallen tree branches/debris to burn area before mowing
 - § Additional cuts may be requested prior to special events at the park. (See hourly rate)
 - o Blow clean all hard surfaces
- Proposal should include proposed fees with payment to be made in equal monthly payments over the term of the contract
- An hourly rate should also be included in the proposal for requests for additional incidental mowing services, such as vacant properties, water retention areas, etc.
- Proof of liability and workers compensation insurance (if applicable) should be included with the proposal
- Termination: The contract may be terminated without cause by either party with 30 days written notice.

The MWFPOA reserves the right to accept or reject any proposal at will. Residence in Meadow Wood Farms and Membership in the MWFPOA, while not required, will positively influence the contract award.

Proposals must be submitted, in writing, **not later than May 1, 2024** to:

MWFPOA
Attn: Treasurer
P.O. Box 77-1896
Ocala, FL 34477-1896

Jim Bain, President, president@mwfpoa.com

Ph: 352-615-2572

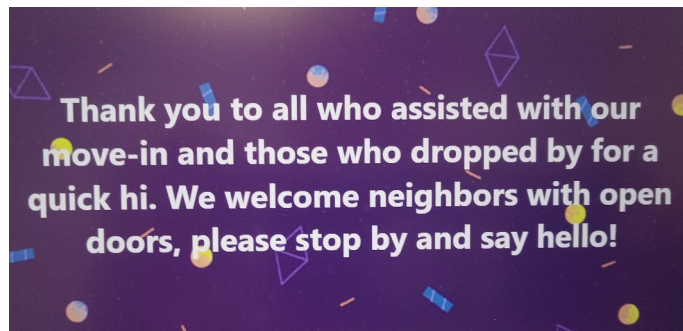
Recognition and Appreciation for our MWF residents

April 2024

It began quite unexpectedly – on the morning of March 8, 2024, a call was made by Gino Laney to Gena DeCamella, our MWF Secretary, asking if she knew of any teenagers who could help unload their moving truck. Through a scheduling error, the hired personnel to unload the truck had cancelled. The moving truck was scheduled to be at their new home at 30 Lake View Dr W around 1 pm that afternoon. As soon as the call ended, Gena sprang into action asking Michael Pineiro and Ian Reade if they could join her to help unload a new MWF resident's truck and they agreed.

Around the same time this conversation was taking place, a post was made by Gretchen Ness on a "Jobs Hiring Ocala" Facebook page asking for help to unload a moving truck at their new residence in Meadow Wood Farms. The help was needed at 1 pm that afternoon. Carolyn Camp received that post from a friend and then reposted it in our Meadow Wood Farms private Facebook group. Three MWF residents immediately responded – Dean and Marissa Bardino and Paul Wilson.

All six of our MWF residents dropped what they were doing to respond to this new resident's request for help. It was the best introduction to our Meadow Wood Farms community Gino Laney and Gretchen Ness could have possibly received. A few days later, Gino posted the following message in our MWF Facebook group:



But the story doesn't end there...

The next day Ian Reade, Mark Cooper and Dan Steinbacher helped remove a tree that had fallen in Gino and Gretchen's front yard. A few days after that, Gino posted in our MWF private Facebook group a request for help in correcting faulty wiring and setup of their swimming pool. Michael Wagner reached out to help him and the pool is operational now.

All of these Meadow Wood Farms residents are to be commended for their generous response to help one of our newest residents. And that is why we are beginning a series of articles in our newsletter called "Good In The Hood." We hope to spotlight MWF residents seen going out of their way to help someone in our neighborhood and let them know how much they are appreciated by the recipients of their service and from our community.

With a grateful heart,
Patricia Wagner

ANOTHER BIRTHDAY

As you may have guessed from the total that I'm reaching that day of remembrance again, no this is not a public holiday but the day that I remember conversations with family, friends, colleagues and acquaintances from my past. The one thing I ask is how they cope with loneliness.

Rural neighborhoods in reality can be quite different from suburban life where front porches and backyard barbecues might evoke images of neighborly connection, The very nature of semi-rural living is homes sprawled on larger plots, creating physical distance between neighbors. Traditional closeknit communities often revolved around shared workplaces or local businesses, but these are less common in sprawling rural developments. The South is experiencing a demographic shift.

Retirees seeking a slower pace can find themselves isolated, especially if they haven't established deep roots in the community. Younger families, busy with work and children's activities, may struggle to find the time or energy to forge connections. Technology is a great connector, but may also contribute to isolation. While social media allows us to stay in touch with loved ones far away, it can also become a crutch, replacing face-to-face interaction with the pale glow of a screen. Without face-to-face communication you can't read the person's body language. Friends on Facebook may not really be friends, the proof is when you make a post that they disagree with and they become more than willing to disconnect or berate you.

My way to counter loneliness is to volunteer around the community, help the neighbors, wave to people in the approaching vehicles. Stop and talk to people across fence lines, collecting litter from the swales and carrying dog treats in the truck gives me an excuse to talk to dog walkers. Yes, I have been known to help a neighbor repair a fence. Attend local events. Association meetings, trivia night, line dancing, equestrian club, movie night, car shows, music events, art and craft events. Hey you may meet new friends (that you can see in person) or connect with an old friend. By fostering a spirit of neighborliness, we can create communities that are truly welcoming and supportive, ensuring that the warmth of the Meadow Wood Farms sun extends not just to the landscape, but to the hearts of its residents as well.

I may be aging but I refuse be old.
Ian Reade






FIRST CLASS FREE





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 @crossfitfit  @crossfitfit


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Questions About Your Medicare Options?

I'd like to help.

I can answer any questions you have and help you choose the **Florida Blue Medicare** plan that's right for you.

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 1-352-508-1250
 Carol Harper
 Mid Florida Agencies
 charper@midfloridaagencies.com

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Ad Size	Member Rate	Non-member Rate	6-month Rate (Member)	6-month Rate (Non-member)
Business card	\$10/ month	\$15/ month	\$50	\$75
1/4 page	\$20/ month	\$30/ month	\$100	\$150
1/2 page	\$30/ month	\$45/ month	\$150	\$225
Full page	\$70/ month	\$80/ month	\$350	\$400

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****REMINDER****

**PLEASE RESPECT OUR SPEED LIMIT FOR THE SAFETY
OF PEDESTRIANS AND ANIMALS OF ALL SIZES**



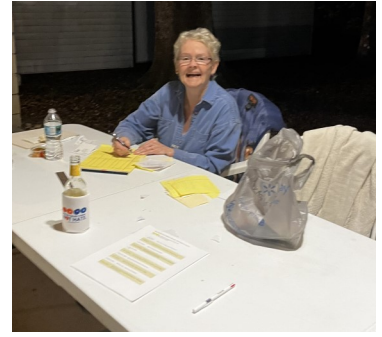
Neighborhood Sunshine



Jennie sent a card to a neighbor who lost her mother recently. If you are aware of someone who could benefit from receiving a card, please notify

Jennie Adams at 352-854-1914

Trivia night, hosted by our favorite Emcee, Frenchie, was a lot of fun! The Executive Board Meeting was moved to 6:15 that night in order to accommodate this very popular event. There were a total of four teams who competed that night, with Tied for First as the first place winner. Dale Kennedy not only did a great job keeping score, but actually had the highest score, according to her. We are looking forward to a re-match sometime in May. Be on the lookout for announcement, date TBD.



Playing hide-and-seek?
Can you find these things in the big picture?

- funnel
- ice-cream cone
- candle
- fork
- saw
- baseball cap
- shoe
- teacup
- mushroom
- banana
- sailing boat
- crescent moon
- heart
- cupcake



Membership Information

If you aren't a member, we would love for you to join us. The MWFPOA provides all kinds of services for your neighborhood (including this newsletter). Please use the form below to accompany your check.

Need to find out if you've paid? Contact Karen Reade at 352-622-2030 or email her at treasurer@mwfpoa.com.

Your MWFPOA thanks you!

Please Join - Renew your Membership

MEADOW WOOD FARMS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

(Annual Dues Effective June 1, 2024, effective through May 2025)

Please send your check for \$95.00 with this form to:

Meadow Wood Farms Property Assoc., Inc., P.O. Box 77-1896, Ocala FL 34477

Please *print* to provide the information below :

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

____ **YES** ____ **NO** Put my/our information in the on-line directory.

____ **YES** ____ **NO** Deliver my/our newsletter to my/our address.

(The newsletter is also available on the website in full color. Just go to www.mwfpoa.com)

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*Photos always look
better in our online
edition.*

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