



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF MWFPOA , 73 LAKE VIEW DRIVE EAST, OCALA 34482

President's Message

Merry Christmas

Is it just me, or does the end of year holiday season come faster and faster? It is almost time to yank the Thanksgiving table cloth off of the table and put on the Christmas one. It's also been time for buying gifts and trying to stay ahead of the shopping rush that gets completely maddening the day after Thanksgiving, otherwise known as Black Friday. Makes you wonder how it got it's name. Just one week after Christmas, it will be time for New Year's Eve. A part of me wishes that the holidays could be spread out just a little bit more. Maybe then, people wouldn't feel so much stress and pressure.

Have you ever noticed how aggressive the driver's become on the road during the month of December? I often hear myself muttering, "Merry Christmas to you too", or " That's the Holiday spirit" while driving around town in December. Unfortunately it's not just the traffic that seems to get worse. Tempers flare everywhere around, including within families, who may be having difficulty traveling, or even just being together. This is the time of year to put aside differences and make a fresh start. Some of your friends or neighbors may also be having stress and difficulties this time of year. Check in on them.

I think, that in the spirit of Christmas, it's important to remember the many blessings that we have. Remain calm and breathe. Perhaps when you're feeling stressed out, just take a pause. It's not about how many presents you buy, or how much money you spend. People always say it's about the thought that counts. I believe that to be true.

So while we are thinking about our loved ones, friends, and neighbors during this holiday season, think about the things that are important. Those things include, family love, lasting friendships, kindness, and generosity which has many forms. Focus on the things that matter and will leave a lasting impression.

While this time of year does not always leave time for giving back, consider doing that after they are over. Lend a helping hand to a neighbor. Send a dish of food to a friend who's been ill or taking care of someone else. Smile and wave when a neighbor passes you on the street in your neighborhood. Small acts of kindness will go a very long way to making someone's day and leave a lasting impression.

Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

God Bless

Gena

Upcoming Meetings
(subject to change)

Executive Board Meeting
December 12th - 7pm

General Association
January 14th- 7pm

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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Remember the Reindeer

Hang up the stockings. Decorate the tree.
Presents placed perfectly. What a sight to see!
Milk and cookies are out, Kids are tucked in tight.
There's so much to do On Christmas Eve night!
Before you take a snooze And dream of the next day,
Don't forget some food For the friends who pull the sleigh!
You see, reindeer need snacks, too A little love and fun
To help Santa through the night, And get the important job done!
-Anonymous

Officers of MWFPOA

President	Gena DeCamella	727-808-8918	president@mwfpoa.com
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Treasurer	Karen Reade	352-622-2030	treasurer@mwfpoa.com

Committees

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Sunshine Welcome Refreshments	Chair: Jennie Adams Dale Kennedy Chris Banks Holly Roberts	adamsjen@icloud.com imaussified@embarqmail.com chrisbanks272014@gmail.com hbrlifestyle@gmail.com

Community Matters

Calendar of Activities — December 2024

All events will be held at Friendship Park unless otherwise stated

- ◆ **Trivia** - December 5th 7pm
- ◆ **Executive Board Meeting** - December 10th 7pm
- ◆ **Equine Club Meeting/party** - December 19th 7pm
- ◆ **Christmas** - December 25th
- ◆ **Hanukkah** - December 26th
- ◆ **Line Dancing** - See FB for updates on schedule

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



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.

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**

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.



An Open Letter to my Sons:

A few years ago, I wrote that I wish my Dad were still around so that I could ask him about what it was like to be 64. I'm 71 now and this still rings so very true. I thought I'd share it with you:

I really don't know if I'll be around when my five sons turn 71 and even if I am, I may not remember being 71. They are all in their 30's and 40's now. They are raising families, buying houses, and making their way through their careers. Blessedly, they are all doing great. We are very lucky parents, indeed.

But boys, when you get to 65 or 70, if I am not around or can't remember who I am or who you are, let me share a few things with you.

- You probably won't need an alarm clock. Sleeping in means sleeping until 6:30 am – not noon!
- When you wake up in the morning, it will NOT be the first time. You will have gotten up once, twice, three times, or more to pee, pass gas, or just get a drink of water. I know, because of your kids, you don't sleep through every night now, but just wait. A full night's sleep will be a thing of the past.
- You will ease yourself out of bed – not jump out of bed. No matter how good of shape you may be in (and I'm in pretty good shape for my age) you will be stiff and achy in the morning. Your ankles, or your knees, or your back will scream at you. "Slow down, old man. I hurt!" If you are lucky like me and have taken reasonably good care of yourself, your aches and pains won't be debilitating. They will just be annoying.
- You will wake up on some days and hurt in some place that you certainly didn't hurt yesterday or last night. You'll wonder "what the hell did I do in the middle of the night" to my ... shoulder ... hip ... back... neck ... whatever?

All of this and you haven't even made it to your first cup of coffee!

- By this time in your life, you may be retired, or semi-retired, or at least considering retirement. You will still be working just as hard as you used to or at least as hard as your somewhat diminished energy level will tolerate but you will NOT be just sitting around waiting for the sun to rise. Did I mention that you will not be sleeping in?
- Your hearing will be fading. Huh? Your eyes will betray you. Even your teeth will start to crack and chip and break. Even if you are healthy, you will spend more time going to various doctors and hanging around waiting rooms than you care to think about. Take a book with you. It'll help pass the time.
- You will look back more often than you look forward. If you are lucky like me, you will look back and smile, for the most part. You will have made some mistakes and wish you had a few do-overs, but you will remember a great number of things that just make you smile.
- Again, if you are very lucky, you will still have the opportunity to do some "bucket list" things. DO THEM! Life is too short. I can assure you that you will not want to be on your death bed and say "I wish I had ..." I plan to get to mine saying, "I'm so glad I did..."
- You will wish you could spend more time with your kids. I know I do. I didn't grow up with a large, close-knit sort of family and never really learned how important family should be. It's just not something I seem to get. And yet, I miss all of you terribly. I miss teaching you. I miss coaching you. I miss laughing with you. I miss everything about life with you. But I have grown older and so have you. You can beat me now at golf, or one-on-one in hoops, or darn near anything else. You have your own families. Your lives don't really include me now and I get it. But I'll be here, if and when you need me.

Because I love you. Thank you boys, simply for being my sons.

The Meadow Wood Farms Equestrian Club reconvened after a summer hiatus on October 24th. We were finally able to welcome our guest speakers for the third try, after personal business and then Hurricane Milton forced postponement.

I was thrilled when Natalie Keller Reinert and Justin B. Long finally walked into our pavilion at Friendship Park. Both Natalie and Justin are authors in their own right, as Natalie has written many novels and series about horses and horse people, with the Ocala area as a backdrop. Justin is married to a veterinarian and recounts many stories from her practice in his books "Adventures of the Horse Doctor's Husband", including the tale of "Highway", the horse who fell off a trailer on I-75. Highway was rescued and treated for his injuries and was able to live out his life peacefully whereas his trip on the trailer was surely ending at the slaughterhouse.

The meeting had a lively engaging beat with many questions posed to both Natalie and Justin. Afterwards they gave out bookmarks and had quite a few books for sale. Many members went home with their purchases tucked under their arms in anticipation of sitting down and reading for themselves what they heard these two gracious people speak about.



Our November 21st meeting dawned sunny and bright but turned chilly as meeting time approached. Our guest speaker for this meeting was Kelly Harper from Purina. Kelly also graciously supplied our membership with an array of sandwiches, fruit and sweets.

Kelly gave a great presentation about all the feeds and supplements Purina has available along with the benefits of each. She handed out information to everyone and indicated that everything she spoke about was available at Sparr. Sparr will deliver to anyone, with no minimum, with the delivery fee of \$20 waived for the first order.

After questions and answers, there was a drawing for a free raffle of a large bucket filled with supplements and stable supplies. The lucky winner was Lindy Kanoza (pictured).



However, everyone was happy to go home with some samples and lots of great information thanks to Kelly. If you haven't come out yet for one of our monthly meetings, join us for our next meeting on December 19th for our Christmas/Holiday party and gift exchange. Everyone is invited. Let's hope the weather cooperates.

UPCOMING EVENTS

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IS BACK!!!! One of MWF favorite pastimes has returned. Please join us at Friendship Park on December 5th at 7pm and again on January 9th. Don't forget to bring snacks and drink of choice. Come with a team, or come alone and join one. Fun and laughter are guaranteed as our illustrious Emcee, Frenchie will challenge our knowledge on all kinds of topics.

CHRISTMAS PARTY

The MWF Equine Club is hosting a Christmas party pot luck with gift exchange on December 19th at Friendship Park at 7pm. Please bring a dish to share and a present to exchange and celebrate the season with your neighbors.





Art in the Park



SAVE THIS DATE;

Saturday, November 23rd 10—2. Friendship Park

This will be interactive, so plan on staying for a while.

Gourmet Food to eat at the Park and some to Take Home as Gifts.

Woodworking, Sewing Crafts, Paper Crafts, Metal Work, Water Colors, Calligraphy,
Custom Pet Memorials, Jewelry

Our own nationally known Illustrator/Artist, Joe Kanoza, will do an oil painting live.

There will be Demos/Classes in Calligraphy and in Die Cutting.

Drawing for a surprise Gift from among the Artists.

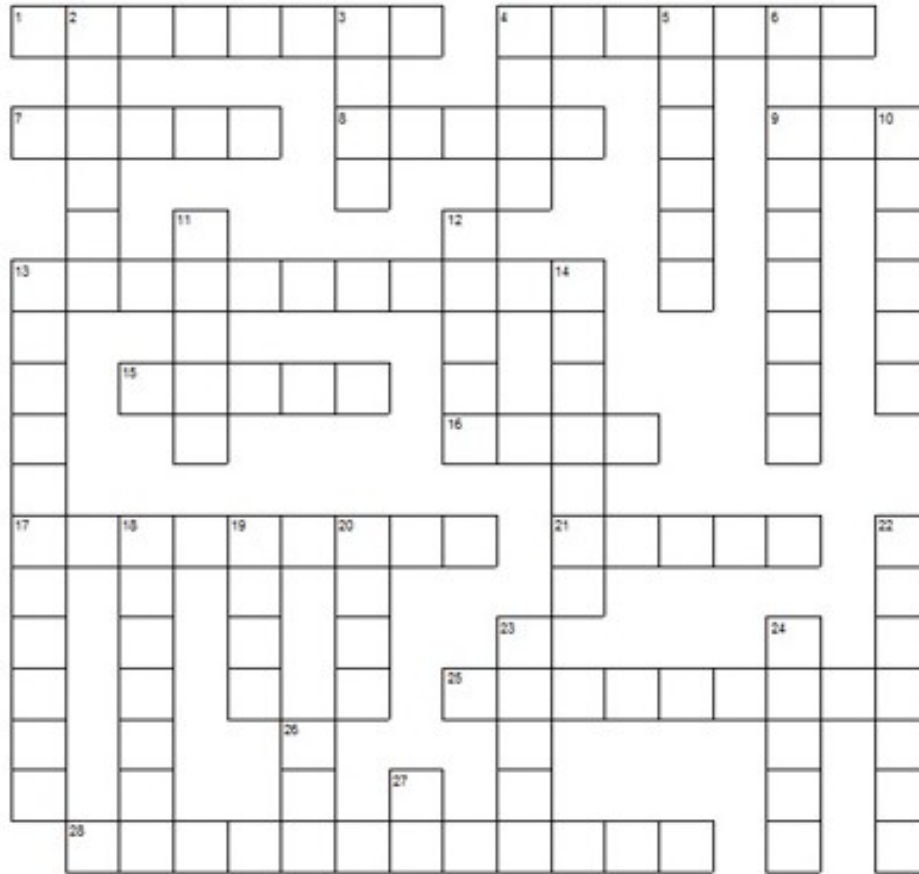
Questions, please contact : Jodie Gebhard 352 390-3739.



Despite chilly weather, our first Art in the Park was a great success with lot's of turn out by shoppers looking to do some Christmas shopping, as well as finding some goodies for themselves. It was truly inspiring to see the talent on display by some of our Meadow Wood Farm neighbors. Who knew that we lived with such great talent! Special thanks to Jodie Gebhardt for her efforts in making this happen for all of us, as well as bringing her paper art (cards and ornaments) to enjoy, and thanks to all of the participants who displayed their wares. Stan and Kathy Rowling (horse shoe art), Kim Cooper (quilted items), Joseph Kanoza (oils on canvas), Melinda Steinbacher (jewelry), B and Z woodcrafts, Connie Storey, Gracie Jancewicz, & Elizabeth Waller who provided baked goods and coffee, and Kari (pet memorabilia) A calligraphy presentation by Judith Tintera was offered. It was so much fun- watching the children participate in the various crafts.

*Thank
You*

Christmas Words Crossword



Across

- 1. HUNG BY FIREPLACE WITH CARE
- 4. COUNTRY WHERE ELVES WORK
- 7. A TREE TOP WITH WINGS
- 8. MAKER OF SANTA'S TOYS
- 9. CHRISTMAS COLOR - can also be very hot for those that want it that way
- 13. RING WHEN REINDEER MOVE

15. PLACE TO PURCHASE GIFTS

- 16. WHITE PRECIPITATION
- 17. OCCURS ON H₂O DECEMBER 25
- 21. COLOR OF CHRISTMAS that can also be used for a tree color.
- 25. RED AND WHITE CHRISTMAS CANDY
- 28. WHEN THE MICE WERE SLEEPING

Down

- 2. SHINY ICICLE ON XMAS TREE
- 3. ALPHABET MINUS 1 LETTER (FRENCH)
- 4. PACKAGES PUT UNDER IT
- 5. BRIGHTEST TREE ORNAMENTS
- 6. SANTA'S HOME
- 10. SANTA'S STRONGEST REINDEER
- 11. WHAT YOU GIVE AT CHRISTMAS
- 12. SANTA'S LAST NAME
- 13. C₆H₈O₆
- 14. MISER WHO GOT CHRISTMAS SPIRIT
- 18. RED NOSED DEER

- 19. BRIGHT SHINING SPOT IN SKY 1ST XMAS like in "Hollywood"
- 20. LEAVE FOR SANTA TO DRINK and no it is not beer, even though some might think it is OK
- 22. 3 BRILLIANT MEN BRINGING GIFTS
- 23. GLASS SPHERICAL TREE ORNAMENTS
- 24. CHRISTMAS SONGS
- 26. SANTAS WIFE
- 27. CHRISTMAS MORNING what I usually see very late in the work day.



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If you are aware of someone who could benefit from receiving a card, please notify Jennie Adams at 352-854-1914

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They're supporting us.**



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 30, 2025)

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

Meadow Wood Farms Property Assoc., Inc., 73 Lake View Drive E., Ocala FL 34482

Please *print* to provide the information below :

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

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better in our online
edition...

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hello
DECEMBER

