

Hello, friends,

I want to thank everyone for attending the meeting on Friday. We had a record-breaking attendance—30 people, 8 of them for the first time! Welcome to all of you.

Ingrid passed out booklets to each of us that had been made by Carrie Bell. Each booklet contains inspirational and funny quotes and anecdotes. If you have read yours, you might consider bringing it to the next meeting and trading with someone else, as each booklet is different. That is an enormous amount of work. We will have a thank you card at the next meeting for everyone to sign to show our appreciation for her kindness.

This will be short and sweet. We had a free-wheeling discussion of so many topics that it's hard to write a summary of everything! I am attaching a handout that shows the extremes of bad days/good days that many of us feel. On any given day, we may be closer to one side of this or the other. The goal is to have more good days than bad and to be grateful for everything we once had and still have. Remember, you are not in this alone, so if you are having a bad day, please reach out to someone in our group. We're here to help each other.

Linda reminded us that there is live music every third Sunday at the Train Station in Dunnellon. Admission is \$15 at the door; no advanced tickets are necessary.

It was also mentioned that a benefit for Hospice will be held at the World Equestrian Center on March 10 in Arena #1. It's entitled *The Soundtrack of Your Life* with live music and dueling pianos. General admission is \$35 per person, or you can get a VIP ticket for \$100. I was not able to find any more information online, so if you know someone involved in Hospice, maybe they can help you.

Debbie informed us that if you have SECO Energy as your electric provider AND the account was in your spouse's name, you may be eligible for a refund. This will depend on how long you have had service, but for many it is worth a call to SECO to find out. They will tell you how to apply, and you'll need copy of your spouse's death certificate and you'll put the account into your name. Call the number on your monthly bill and they will walk you through it.

I still have some copies of the application for exemption (homestead or widow) if anyone needs them. I can also email it to you. **Deadline for application is March 1st.**

The Thursday dinner with music was inside last month due to weather. Many felt it was too loud and didn't allow for chatting with each other, so we are not doing a standing reservation on Thursday evenings. If anyone wants to have dinner with music on Thursdays, we may look at that again when the music is out on the pavilion. I will be in contact with Sue at the Oak Room to schedule something on a regular basis, so be on the lookout for a notice when that is in place.

Linda closed the meeting by reading a funny verse entitled *Dust if you Must*, which I've also attached.

The latest membership roster is attached. For those of you who don't have email addresses, Ingrid Crane will deliver this message and any attachments to your home. *If you don't plan to return to the group, or don't want to receive this information, please let me know, and I'll remove you from the list.*

The next meeting will be **Friday, March 11th at 10:30, in the Card Room of the Orchid Club.** We will have a guest speaker: Mary Garrepy will talk with us about *Reach Out-Neighbors Helping Neighbors*. This is an Oak Run Group that for a nominal donation will help with such things as small repairs, handyman jobs, computer issues, programming TV remotes. This is something many of us may need from time to time, so you might want to make sure to be here next month.

A special note: the April meeting will be moved to Friday, April 1st NOT April 8. This is because Oak Run needs the Card Room for a standing annual commitment.

Thank you, and I hope to see you next month.

Shelley
210-410-0090