

Hot Sands

The Official Newsletter of



50 years of service to the mentally challenged

Our website: www.algarva168.org

Our email: algarva168@execulink.com

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July 2021

Our Grand Commander Speaks:

With all the rain we've had lately, it's amazing that we had such great weather for our golf tourney on Saturday, July 10. But, wow, did we ever. Couldn't have asked for better.

Once again, the event was a great success. Big thanks go out to Jerry and Alda Bongers, who organized everything, Louis Hendrikx, Frank Devet, Mike Charrette, Bill Vandenberg, and to so many volunteers who made the day what it was. Also, a bonus, the general consensus was that the food was delicious, too. I have to agree.

Looking to the fall, I hope you have all received my email, talking about the upcoming election in October. Most Divan members have agreed to keep their current position (unless someone else would like it). I'm so lucky to work with such an accommodating group of people. Thank you.

Please keep in mind, however, that there will be three vacancies to fill. We will need a Grand Scribe (as Rose Vandenberg, our current GS would like to take on the Scribe of the Exchequer spot; Jim Karry is stepping down). We also need a new Master of Communications as Bernice Cadman is stepping down. Lastly, we need a new Vice Grand Commander. I know I can count on you to help fill these positions. Please let me know your thoughts as soon as you can.

I am still crossing my fingers that we can have a real, live meeting at our clubhouse. Wouldn't that be great? I'll let you know as soon as I know.

Until then, stay well everyone. Thanks for all your hard work.

Al Salaam,
Lisa Finch
Grand Commander

Next meeting: Thursday, July 29th at 8:00pm.

THANK YOU

Thank you to Bill Vandenberg, John Smits, and Marty Stokkermans for all their time and hard work power washing, painting and fixing up our hall and shed. Our hall has been repaired, renovated, and spruced up by many different members over the last year. It will certainly feel like a new building when we return to our in-person meetings.



Please consider joining our virtual meetings. A lot of great information is discussed. We would like input from our members to help with our decision making.

**"ALONE WE CAN DO SO
LITTLE, TOGETHER WE CAN
DO SO MUCH."**

--HELEN KELLER--

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Calendar of Events

July 29th TBA (Watch for the news of in person)
8:00pm

August 26th TBA
8:00pm

Dates, times and number of participants are subject to change, so please check each month.

NOTE

Do not attend any meeting or event if you are not feeling well or have been out of country within 14 days of event/meeting.

*****UP COMING EVENTS*****

Bartending

Aug 7th Viki DeVet
Aug 20th Allison Looman

Golf Tournament

LCDS Annual Golf Tournament – Looking for a team of 4 golfers – July 26. Contact Jack VanHaastart if interested

****Upcoming events. We will continue to be flexible as we follow the government guidelines. Let's pray that things get back to business as usual as soon as possible.****

FUN DAY

Fun day will look different this year. The date has not been set, but Rose is working hard at organizing another successful event. She is looking ordering ball hats and organizing a virtual dance party. If you would like a ball hat, navy in colour, with ALHAMBRA, stitched on the front please contact Rose. Thank you Rose for being so passionate about "moving mountains", to make the best of the situation we are in. Please reach out to Rose with if you would like to help her in making this day another success.

DRAW TICKETS

Tony Willemse and the dance committee is once again working hard at organizing this wonderful event. Please contact Tony if you would like to help out.
Date will be Nov. 19th, with our early bird draw being held on Aug. 12th.
Location and dance will be determined on government restrictions. Lets keep our prayers going that this draw/dance can be in person.

Next meeting: Thursday, July 29th at 8:00pm.

JULY-2021-NEWSLETTER
FROM: DENISE BLAKELY, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

Happy 4th of July to all of our members in the U.S. and Happy Canada Day to our members in Canada! Stay safe and God bless!!!

JUNE MAILING

Just a reminder that all Grand Commanders were mailing a packet from me that consist of letters, rosters, membership cards, dues notices, election form, etc. Please keep an eye out in the mail. Also, please give your SE all the dues notices, membership cards, etc. right away so they do not get lost. Please note the due dates. Please encourage your members to participate in the 365 Club. (donate one penny a day to the general fund)

CONVENTION 2021
59TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION, BALTIMORE, MD

LET US PRAY FOR AN AWESOME CONVENTION!!!

Thank you to all who purchased ads and made

donations!



**** REMEMBER, IF YOU ARE FEELING SICK IN ANY WAY, I.E., COUGH, HEADACHE, FEVER, ETC., OR HAVE BEEN AROUND ANYONE WITH COVID OR ILLNESS, YOU SHOULD ERR ON THE SIDE OF CAUTION.***

WE NEED YOUR HELP WITH HOSPITALITY ROOM DONATIONS. If you or your caravan is interested in donating items or funds, send to: Order of Alhambra, 4200 Leeds avenue, Baltimore, MD 21229. Thank you for your assistance!

MEMBERSHIP

The Order will begin its fiscal year on July 1st. Let us make a promise to our special friends that we will start this year off with making recruitment our top priority so that we can continue to support those in need. I mailed rosters to all Grand Commanders a few days ago. Will you be satisfied with your membership count in your caravan? I ask that you would never be satisfied with your membership count. Even though you think you have exhausted all chances of increasing membership, you have not. While this world still has Catholics, then the Order still has members. It may be a little harder, but not impossible. There are many churches out there who you can contact. There are many Knights of Columbus members that you can contact. Even if you are turned down, keep trying. You would never let your children give up and I ask that you don't give up either. We are older and a little more tired, but this is why we need new blood in each caravan. Give each new member a position to hold with a job description. Be a mentor to them and make them part of your Alhambra family. The virus is getting behind us and states are starting to open. Start planning your events for the intellectually disabled and start planning your recruitment drive today! **And now abideth faith, hope, charity, these three; but the greatest of these is charity. - 1Corinthians 13:13**

SUMMERCAMP PROGRAM

The Order has been blessed to send 19 of our special friends to summer camp this year. Thank you for all you do for the Order and for our Special Friends.

Next meeting: Thursday, July 29th at 8:00pm.

Memberships

If you have not yet paid your dues, please get them in to Jim Karry ASAP. Thank you to all those who have already paid. They can also be mailed directly to Connie, or e-transferred, dues are \$65.

Jim will be sending out information to each member in the future to let them know if they are in "Good Standing."

Currently we have 50 members. Lets all reach out and try to recruit new members.

CHAPLAINCY NEWS

Over the course of the last year or so, many of us have found gaps in some of our relationships. In my own journey, I've spent the last ten months of my diaconal Ministries in another Parish Community, and now I am back where I started. One thing I noticed, it seems to me, that a lot of the relationship (some that I wasn't even aware) that I missed seems to pick up right where we left off, except with a deeper yearning to reconnect and rebuild... the usual two-second hug is replaced with a 5-second hug. (Doubling the length of the hug seems to double the value... well to a point :)

As the all-clear bell is getting ready to sound, and we're able to reconnect with family, friends, church community, and work circles, etc., as the old saying goes, 'Reach Out And Touch someone'... it creates a positive energy that our relational, Triune God made/designed us for. In the creation story, in Genesis, God, after every day said "it is good", but in Genesis 2 18, He also said "it is not good that man should be all alone"...

Deacon John Lammers

The Last Word

What a fantastic day that we had for the golf tournament this past Saturday. So much time and effort goes into an event like this. Jerry and Alda, you two have done an amazing job. The countless hours you have put in along with the rest of your committee members is something I can't even begin to guess.

A good friend of mine came and volunteered with me. We had a fantastic time. She commented many times about how well the tournament ran. Each golfer that we chatted with, had so many good things to say. I left feeling this is a favourite tournament for many. This tournament could not be run without the committee being so dedicated to our cause, and the countless volunteers that help with the planning and working the day of.

I, for one, wonder how all of our fantastic members continue do all the incredible things you do.

May God Bless us all.
Master Of Communications,
Bernice Cadman



Many amazing sponsors!!



Concentration is Key!

It looks like these two are happy with another successful tournament!!



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