

Valencia Lakes Social Scene



Editor: Kim Hauriel • Design: Kathy Schwegel

March 2017

March Events:

Please join us at the upcoming March events that the Social Committee has planned!

Valencia Lakes Community Blood Drive and Meet and Greet

Saturday, March 4 @ 2-4:30pm

The Community Blood Center will have its Blood Mobile in the Valencia Lakes Clubhouse Parking lot on March 4th from 2-4:30. Please come out and donate! Walk-ins are welcome, but residents are encouraged to pre-sign up to donate on the sign-up sheet in the Clubhouse lobby, which will allow you to select a specific time slot. Please note the following requirements to donate: 1) Must bring a photo ID; 2) Must be at least 16 years of age; 3) Minimum weight of 110 lbs. Please eat before donating and drink plenty of water throughout the day of donation. Please contact VLNSC@hotmail.com or Donna Sylvester at 317-727-7990 with any questions. Also, the March Meet and Greet will be held from 2-4:30 to coincide with the Blood Drive. Come out and meet your fellow Valencia Lakes neighbors while enjoying some light refreshments.



Special message from Laura Rosen at the Community Blood Center:

Dear Lifesaver:

Blood supplies in Collier County are very low! If you have not donated within the last 56 days, please help to save lives by giving blood this Sat. March 4th from 2-4:30 pm at the Valencia Lakes blood drive. Look for bloodmobile parked at the club house. **We only have 8 donors signed up.** Kindly reply to this email if you intend to donate blood: laura.rosen@nchmd.org or you may reach me on my cell phone at 239-734-0740. Thank you in advance for your support and together we can make a difference to someone's loved one in an area hospital.

Eat a meal prior to donating, be well hydrated and bring photo ID!

Blood is Life
Pass it on!

Valencia Lakes Blood Drive
Bloodmobile parked near clubhouse
Sat. Mar. 4, 2017 ~ 2-4:30 PM
Sign Up Contact:
Donna Sylvester 317.727.7990
VLNSC@hotmail.com

Details about the new 2017 Frequent Donor Program will be available when you donate blood!

- * Photo ID is required
- * Minimum Weight 110 lbs
- * Donors must be at least age 16
- * Eat a meal before giving blood
- * Drink lots of water on donation day

Community Blood Center
What's Collected Here... Stay Here!
www.bloodc.org
239.624.4120 [f/givebloodcbc](https://www.facebook.com/givebloodcbc)

Go 4 It!
January 1 - December 31, 2017
Blood Donor Frequent Donor Contest

*Qualify to win prize drawings based upon your donation frequency this year!
PEOPLE CAN GIVE BLOOD EVERY 56 DAYS

	2 DONATIONS: \$150 gift card
	3 DONATIONS: \$250 gift card & a gift certificate for luxury transportation for a "Night Out On The Town" courtesy of Out On The Town Transportation LLC.
	4 DONATIONS: 3-day, 2-night stay at JW Marriott Maroo Island & dinner for 2 at Quarr's Restaurant

JW MARRIOTT MAROO ISLAND

*Donors can qualify to win prize drawings based upon the number of successful whole blood donations that are made Jan. 1 - Dec. 31, 2017. Donors will be given official frequent donor tracking cards at their first donation during the contest period. Cards must be presented at time of each donation. Donors are responsible for putting cards into the prize box by Dec. 31, 2017 to qualify for the prize-drawing. Donor names will be drawn January 16, 2018 & prize winners will be notified.

[f/givebloodcbc](https://www.facebook.com/givebloodcbc) Community Blood Center
What's Collected Here... Stay Here!
www.bloodc.org 239.624.4120



Congratulations to our Chili Cook-Off Winner!

Thank you to everyone who participated and attended our 2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off on February 2nd. There was a wonderful variety of 6 kinds of tasty chili, including beef, turkey, pork and Puerto Rican chili. 37 people attended and paid \$1 each to sample and enjoy all of the chili as well as the HOA supplied corn bread and beverages. Our chili cook-off winner was Donna Sylvester with her delicious Southwest Turkey Chili, and she took home the cash prize. We took so many great pictures of our event that we had trouble deciding which ones to use. Enjoy!



Congratulations to our Pet Parade Winners!



Most Original Costume
"Winston", owners Ken and Chrissy Laswell.



Best Parade Performance
"Aligra", owner Jim.



Best Valentine Costume
"Love Bug", owner Barb Stelzer.



Best Trick
"Roxy", owners Danielle and Jordan Tompkins.



In addition to our wonderful attendance, the Humane Society brought two adoptable dogs to visit and meet us. Jack and Annette Major collected and dropped off boxes and boxes of donations (both from our residents and Petsmart store donations) to the Humane Society from our event. Thank you to Jack and Annette!

Thank you so much to Valencía Lakes resident, Bryan Bo, who is the manager of the Petsmart on Marco Island. They donated around ten boxes of goodies to be used as donations to the Humane Society for our event. Please give him a warm thank you if you see him around!

We also give thanks to the new Petsmart at Tarpon Bay on Immokalee Road in Naples. They donated gift cards as well as doggie treats and toys as gifts and prizes for our event.





Get to Know Your Neighbor

Column by Donna Sylvester

This month we are featuring your neighbors, Kathy and Paul Mankowsky, who reside on Grove Drive. Kathy recently accepted the Treasurer position on the Homeowners Association Board.

Twelve years ago, Kathy and Paul built their “dream” home in Valencia Lakes along with 30 other new Beazer homeowners who all closed during the same month. They all had a lot in common; planting trees, growing grass and being clobbered by Hurricane Wilma in October of 2005! Without a doubt, it was more serious north of Naples and more inland but it got everyone’s attention.

Kathy and Paul will be celebrating 40 years of marriage this year and have two lovely daughters; Aspen in Denver, Colorado. The older daughter, Autumn, lives in Tallahassee, Florida. Kathy is originally from Philadelphia and Paul is from western Massachusetts. Long ago, when Paul’s job transferred him from Boston to Philadelphia, he had Kathy’s sister working for him. She subsequently set them up on a “blind date” and they have been together ever since; a true story of love at first sight! Kathy stated, “With their health, happiness and children who are productive, they are blessed and very fortunate.”

Throughout Paul’s career with Country Clubs, they lived in at least a half of dozen cities in the United States. Kathy’s folks retired in Sarasota and this became home to raise their children for approximately 18 years. However, when they decided it was time to settle down, they did so in Valencia Lakes. Paul is the Country Club Manager at Worthington Country Club in Bonita Springs.

While Kathy is a Real Estate Agent by trade, she manages commercial properties in suburban Philadelphia. Also, Kathy works with two partners who list and sell properties in Florida for the past 12 years. Kathy has her Florida Real Estate license in Florida for the past 30 years. In her spare time, Kathy enjoys cooking, reading, traveling and working on the Landscape Committee. She admits to an inherited addiction which began in the mid-1980’s from her father who built Christmas trees. To this day, Kathy loves Christmas and enjoys it... every day in her “Christmas Room”. It is a “happy place” to go. Friends and neighbors also find solace in her “Christmas Room”.

How did Kathy get involved in the HOA Board and

Valencia Lakes Ladies at the Waterways Bingo

Each month, Waterways Community Clubhouse hosts an evening of Bingo. Approximately 20 Valencia Lakes residents attended last month on February 15th. The next Bingo Night is on March 15th, 2017. For more information and to RSVP, contact either Sondra Greer at sondanc1016@comcast.net or Natalie Mandarano at natalie527@comcast.net. Prices are: \$8 for entry & 1 strip, \$14 for entry & 2 strips, or \$20 for entry & 3 strips. No card sharing. No one under the age of 18 is admitted. Concessions available.



Mardi Gras Bar Crawl in Fort Myers Beach on February 25th

32 people went to Fort Myers Beach via bus where everyone completed a bar crawl through three bars and one tropical winery. They received food and drink specials and participated in Mardi Gras themed games and raffles. Fun was had by all!



Volunteers Needed

We are always looking for volunteers to help plan and staff events.

Get to Know Your Neighbor *(continued)*

become Treasurer? She thanks her neighbor, Tony Kolaskoski, who has worked with the community for years. He approached Kathy and said, "You are exactly what we need on the Board." Kathy expresses gratitude to be able to serve our community in her new role as Treasurer; she is learning more and meeting new residents. Enjoys working with Paul, Linda and Simon; there is good energy and communications and they are invested in Valencia Lakes. We are all doing our best and want to do it right!

Kathy's closing statement was as follows...if I could wave a "magic wand", we would be more cohesive as a community, increase the number of residents involved in our committees and meeting attendance. We have a beautiful community and not so expensive fees. Our community can continue to improve and we can all work at being a good neighbor.

If you would like to be featured in the "Get to Know Your Neighbor" section in a future newsletter or know of a neighbor who should be, please send an email to the Social Committee at vlncsc@hotmail.com.

Community Volunteers Helping to Make YOUR Community a Better Place!

The goal of the Valencia Lakes Social Committee is to foster a sense of community by planning events and programs to meet community-wide social needs and activities throughout the year, geared towards bringing our community and neighbors together for fun and entertainment! We are always looking for volunteers to help plan and staff the events.

The Social Committee meets at the Clubhouse the 1st Tuesday of every month at 6:30 pm. Our next meeting is on Tuesday, March 7th at 6:30 pm. Please join us and help make your community a fun place to live! If you have any ideas or suggestions for activities, please feel free to contact the Social Committee at vlncsc@hotmail.com, but better yet, stop by and join us.

Special Thanks:

Thank you to Adrienne Gagliardo who was the Valencia Lakes Social Scene Newsletter Editor from July 2015 through December 2016. Special thanks to Kathy Schwegel for being our Designer from July 2015 through the present.

All events are free to attend & held @ the clubhouse unless otherwise noted.

Upcoming Events for 2017:

Please note that the Social Committee now has a convenient drop box in the Clubhouse lobby where residents can drop off checks (no cash) for events where there is a cost.

Community Blood Drive & Meet and Greet Saturday, March 4, 2-4:30pm

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Children's Easter Egg Hunt Saturday, April 15, 10-11:30am

The first age group will begin their egg hunt at 10am. Children ages infant through age 12 may participate. There will be prizes and snacks and a visit from the Easter Bunny!

Basketball Foul Shot Contest April, date and time TBA

This contest will be held for 10-18 year olds with food and prizes.

Breakfast Brunch and Meet & Greet Saturday, May 6, 9-11am

Details TBA.

End of School Ice Cream Social Sunday, June 4, 2-4pm

Pool Party Saturday, July 22, 11am-2pm

Non-Sponsored Events

Walking Group Mondays & Thursdays @ 6pm

Meet in front of the Clubhouse

Water Aerobics Mondays, Wednesdays & Fridays @ 8am

The pool is open and operational again.

2nd Annual Casinville Bus Trip Saturday, March 25, 9am

- Bust trip to Seminole Hard Rock Casino in Hollywood, FL. \$45 pp. Contact Samantha Bogert at sambogert@hotmail.com or text 610-509-5418. **There are 4 seats left!** See flyer at end of newsletter.

If there is anyone interested in the below activities please contact the appropriate party via e-mail:

- Learning how to knit or crochet, contact Donna Evans at deedae@aol.com.
- Adult co-ed basketball pick-up games on Monday nights, forming a Co-ed Softball League, or playing organized corn hole, e-mail the Social Committee at vlncsc@hotmail.com.



HOLLYWOOD, FL



“2ND ANNUAL “

CASINOVILLE BUS TRIP

3/25/17

\$45pp

16 SEATS REMAIN

The 36 passenger motor coach will be leaving Valencia Lakes Community Center Parking Lot at 9am. It will arrive at the Hard Rock Casino of Hollywood Approx, 10:45.

You can chose to get off and hit the casino or stay on the bus and continue on to Jimmy Buffett Resort Margaritaville of Hollywood arrival approx. The resort has many restaurants, bars, and live music, sits right on the Atlantic Coast and beach is right there!!!. You can chose to spend the entire day at either place or at approx. 3 pm the motor coach will leave Margaritaville and go back to the casino to do a switch so you can enjoy both places. Hollywood Beach also has a boardwalk with shops and restaurants, and a trolley for \$1 each way that will take you around to different areas of town.

MUST BE 21 YEARS OF AGE TO ATTEND THIS BUS TRIP

It is \$45 pp, and seats are not held until payment is received. To reserve your seats please contact Samantha Bogert at 610-509-5418 via phone call or text, and or sambogert@hotmail.com. You can pay for your seats via check made out to Samantha Bogert or via PayPal send money to sambogert@hotmail.com. Please call Samantha with any questions.

Please include with all forms of payment.... your name, number and email address and how many in your party.