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A 55 & Older Community



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Betmar Bulletin



November 2023

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Email: Office@betmar.org

Betmar Library Hours

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Monday through Friday

Betmar Communications Hours

Monday through Friday
9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.
Email: Communications@betmar.org
(813) 779-2843

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Communications779-2843
Golf Clubhouse788-5897
Library788-9761
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Security cell phone395-3010
Shuffle clubhouse782-9764
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Printed copies of the Betmar Bulletin will be distributed to those on the list Communications has on file for shut-in and those without a computer.

Bulletin is available at

Betmar.org

November 2023 MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Owners & Acres General Assembly Meeting Workshop	10:00 a.m.	10/31/2023	Annex
Owner & Acres General Assembly Meeting	7:00 p.m.	11/2/2023	CH 2
Owners Board Meeting Workshop	10:00 a.m.	11/14/2023	Annex
Owner Board Meeting	9:00 a.m.	11/16/2023	CH 2

PRESIDENTS LETTER

WELCOME BACK!!

More members are returning at the current time. November is here that means our winter is starting. The other morning it was 48 degrees, to me that's cold!

As far as Betmar, we have a lot of work ahead of us. If you like this community and want it to stay the way it is, we must get ACRES BYLAWS in order. As all of you know, Betmar is a 617 Corporation and when you read the law that if it's in my BYLAWS, it is enforceable.

Therefore, we need to write the Bylaws carefully to include what we want to enforce. You, the member, would vote to approve the New Bylaw's.

Some of the items that need to be addressed are:

- Emotional Support Pets
- Enforce the 55 and Over

These are just some of the examples of things that need to be addressed and others in our Bylaws. We have a great place here but to keep it you need.

Enforceable Rules. Currently our Trustee's work at enforcing the rules we have, but they can only go so far, we need the Bylaw's that give us the power to enforce.

Remember you the member vote on all Bylaw's. All we have to do is live by the rules we have, which about 90% of you do and I thank you.

We should be grateful for everything we have; this is a beautiful place; everybody should get along.

Be thankful this Thanksgiving for we all have been blessed.

George Ferrari

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Things you Need to Know

Communications

NEWS FROM THE WEBMASTER

A couple Website changes have taken place recently, and I just wanted to let you know about them.

1) The Comments section (button at the top of this page.... <https://betmar.org/comments/>) is no longer password protected. This is a test. When we decided to put the password in place, we went from about 50 comments per week, to less than 2 per month... ..It simply stopped being used. As you may recall, this password was put in place when comments got out of hand, and Betmar Administration simply felt it prudent to not air Betmar's dirty laundry on a public forum. Please keep comments professional, and we'll see how it goes. IF unsuccessful, the page will likely come down completely.

2) The Betmar Calendar page on this website (<https://betmar.org/calendar-2/>) has for some time had a "Printable Calendar" option button at the top. When using this link, please understand that the "Printable Calendar" is a snapshot in time, taken at the beginning of the month.. ...view this like the old paper copy you used to put on your refrigerator. No one came to your refrigerator with changes and cancellations, and they still won't. But the live calendar shown on the calendar page WILL. So, if you want to double check the time or status of a meeting or event, please double check the live calendar. The Printable calendar now has a disclaimer at the top to remind you of this. Most things remain the same, so the refrigerator calendar is still a good idea. Just be sure to double check if necessary.

OTHER STUFF:

When Betmar community emails are sent out, DO NOT REPLY TO THEM. Your reply will go to the central repository that launched the community email. ...so, it goes nowhere. If the Community email says "Contact Bob Smith" then send an email to Bob Smith. If the community email has something you would like to comment on, then email your comment to the appropriate person, or use the Betmar Comments section link on the Coffee News. I try to clean out the central repository often, and forward what I find to whomever "I think" it should have been sent to. But the bottom line is, "Reply" or even "Reply to all" goes nowhere. I see a lot of emails that say things such as, "Put me down, I'll helps", or "Why did that happen?" I believe some people think they are sending their comment out to all of Betmar.sorry.... you're not. The Central repository (which we pay Google for) allows us to send bulk emails in quantities that exceed Gmail or other provider limits. It's common for us to send out 10,000 emails in one day. If you are on the receiving end of one of these forwarded emails, please respond to that person.... don't hit reply, which puts your response back into the repository.

Ever use the Betmar Website? If your answer is no, THAT'S IMPOSSIBLE. ...You're on it now. Hit the "Home" button at the top of this page to bring you to the main menu. I find it funny how many people read the Coffee News every week, but say they never use the Website... ..The Coffee News is located ONLY on the Betmar Website. The email you get simply provides you with a link to this section of the WWW.BETMART.ORG website. This e-mail was sent from the BETMAR Website (<https://betmar.org>)

Table and Chair Procedures

The responsibility for Table & Chair setups is assigned by Block from October to April. The assignments are shown below. The schedule for the setups is posted every week in Coffee News. Please refer to the centerfold of the phone book for a map showing the block locations. To schedule a setup, contact Tom Brown at 603-978-9250 or tomdianebrown@yahoo.com.

Table & Chair Assignments by Month

Month	1 st Half	2 nd Half
October	O & P	S
November	W	M & N
December	G & H	E & F
January	T	U
February	K & L	I & J
March	V	Q & R
April	A & B	C & D

What-Not Barn New Hours

The What-Not Barn had a great year last year and we're counting on this year being just as great. Beginning *Tuesday, November 7th*, the barn will be open *Tuesdays and Fridays 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m.*

That means we're looking for guys to help with pick-ups. If you think you might want to join in the fun call: Linda 231-268-6681.

Linda Benz



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CLUB NEWS

Beginners Art

Beginners Art will meet every Wednesday at Clubhouse 3, until last Wednesday in March 2024. We set up at 12:45 p.m. and have room access until 3 p.m. I can be reached also by phone at 813-395-8322.

Thank you.

Colleen King

Carport Concert

What a great time we had last year dancing and groovin' to some new, local sounds right here in Betmar! Carport Concerts are BACK and open to ALL!! "Music is the language of God: It brings people together in love, peace, and harmony. "ALL CONCERTS are the SECOND THURSDAYS during 'Happy Hour' (4 – 6pm) Come with a cooler, chairs, and happy feet!!



2023-2024 UPCOMING CONCERT DATES

November 9, 2023	5718 Arrowhead
December 14, 2023	5121 Betmar
January 11, 2024	37300 Lakewood
February 8, 2024	36609 Strand
March 14, 2024	36704 Lakewood
April 11, 2024	5612 Apache

Upcoming Bands: Po Boys, SnakeFarm, Ed Wright, and others TBD

VOLUNTEERS are needed on concert days. If you can, please COME EARLY to help "set the lines" with your carts and chairs. We also need help with counting money, registering new members, and breaking down.

A suggested donation of \$5 pp is requested but NOT REQUIRED. Attendees can take a chance on our 'Share the Wealth' raffle. Winner takes (or gives) half!! CCC gets the other!

Questions and/or comments can be dropped in the membership form found on our Club page on Betmar.org. Or please email/text me directly:

phyllislabranche82@gmail.com 813-395-3571

ATTENTION ALL (new & returning) MEMBERS

- 1) Please go to Betmar.org/clubs and fill in your MEMBERSHIP FORM for our electronic records.
- 2) Monthly club MEETINGS are FIRST THURSDAYS @ 4pm (Happy Hour) LaBranche House ~ 636 Arrowhead Drive
- 3) '23-'24 Membership dues need to be received by 12/31/2023 (\$25pp \$50 couple)

Please make checks payable to: Betmar-Carport Concerts Club and bring to MEETING, CONCERT, drop off at Betmar OFFICE or MAIL to:

Rick LaBranche
5636 Arrowhead Drive
Zephyrhills, FL 33542

How to find the CCC MEMBERSHIP FORM ONLINE

- Go to Betmar.org CLUBS/Organizations page.
- Scroll down and click on Carport Concert
- Scroll down and click on MEMBERSHIP FORM
- Fill out all required fields and click submit.

Send money separately!

Looking forward to our next season of “Park Life”
Phyllis M. LaBranche, CCC Prez

“We ARE, Betmar; Friends to the End!”

Chorus

Please join the Betmar chorus for sounds of Christmas. Our concert is dedicated to the late Linda Lafayette who directed our chorus for many years. Thank you, Dawn, for taking the director position!

Nothing like Christmas tunes in December!
Terry Phifer



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Computer

We would like to welcome back the members who came last year and invite new members to join us this year. Sessions are devoted to helping you solve problems you have with the device that you own. Just bring it to class and we will help you figure it out. Our schedule will be posted on the Bulletin Board in Clubhouse 2 and announced at coffee.

You do not need to be a “GEEK” to be a member of the Computer/Tech Club and take advantage of the benefits of being a member. The primary goal of the Club is to help Betmar residents with their technology and software needs.

Except for the holidays, we have a meeting every week from November through March on Tuesday from 1 – 3 pm in Clubhouse 2. As a member you do not have to attend every week. We publish an activity and training schedule each month with a description of the training and activities that are happening at each Tuesday meeting and members can decide what meetings they want to attend.

**Every Tuesday (Fix-It-Tuesday) at 2 pm we provide an opportunity for members to bring in their device and/or problem that they are having and some of our skilled members will try to help fix your problem. This is a GREAT benefit for which there is no charge!

Membership is only \$15 for the year beginning January 1st of each year. You can visit the Club at no cost for two meetings to see if you want to join.

We encourage everyone to come check us out.

Our November Schedule is:

November 7

1:00 Business Meeting followed by short presentation of an app that restores and adds color to old photos.

2:00 Problem solving for your device.

November 14th

1:00 Basic iPhone and iPad

2:00 Problem solving for your device.

November 21st

1:00 Basic Windows 11. Should I upgrade?

2:00 Problem solving for your device.

November 28th

1:00 iPad photos-taking pictures and editing

2:00 Problem solving for your device.

Creative Writers

“Almost all good writing begins with terrible first efforts.” Anne Lamott

Attention all budding wordsmiths. Creative Writers invites you to join us beginning Monday, November 13 from 9 am to 10:30 am at the Apache Building.

(Look for our sign to tell you which room.)

Share with us your childhood memories, your humorous yarns, your faith-filled chronicles, and anything you would like to partake in with us. None of us are professional authors so don't worry. We simply write for the joy of writing. We look forward to hearing your stories.

Our facilitator is Conne McCormick 724.584.7420 or connesax@aol.com



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Dance

A MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Welcome to a new season of the dance club. I want to thank you all for allowing me to be your president for the last 2 years. Since 2020 we have lived through Covid, the flu, hurricanes, flood watches, tornado, and alligator sightings and as always, we have come out Betmar strong.

I really wish to thank all that have worked together to make this all possible, the officers that work so long and hard to make this happen, the music committee, decorating committee, cleanup committee, and the table setup committee. Also, I need to thank all the teachers that give their time and talents to keep all the dance classes going. They are also a large part of the dance club. Please continue to support your dance club. We are always looking for more people to volunteer. So, if you like to dance and have a few hours to volunteer come to our monthly meetings and join our team and bring us some new ideas. Enjoy your dance season.

Janet Blair ~ Dance Club President

General Meetings – Monthly meetings are held from 3-4 p.m. in the Apache Clubhouse. The next meeting is Tuesday, November 13. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Saturday Night Dances

The full schedule is published online under Clubs at Betmar.org and on Facebook—search Betmar Dance Club. Paper copies are also available on the rack at the front of Clubhouse 2 and at the office.

Table reservations are available Tuesday mornings from 8-9 a.m. in the Clubhouse annex and the night of the dance. If you are trying to reserve a specific table, we suggest you make your reservation ahead of time.

2023-24 BETMAR LINE DANCE CLASS November 6, 2023 - April 25, 2024

Monday – 10:30-11:15 – Ultra Beginner
(designed for those who have never danced)

– 11:15-12:00 – Beginner
(designed for those who know the basics)

Tuesday – 10:30-12:00 – Improver
(A step above Monday's beginner class)

Thursday – 10:30-12:00 – Fun Line Dancing
(beginner, improver & a little intermediate)

What does it cost?

Betmar Residents: \$15.00 per season covers as many classes as you choose to attend. (season is November through October)

Non-Residents: \$2.00 per class.

What to wear?

Comfortable clothing & supportive shoes such as sneakers. For your safety, please don't wear flip flop like sandals.



For additional information contact: Pat Armendinger, Line Dance Director, 813-780-1205; Janet Blair, Instructor 813-476-2915; Joyce Smith, Instructor 207-944-7335

Betmar – A 55 and over community

SATURDAY NIGHT DANCES

Clubhouse 2, 37137 Lakewood Drive, Zephyrhills

November Musicians

4 – West Wind

11 – Bill D. Williams

Veterans Theme Dance

18 – Pure Classic Gold

Thanksgiving Theme Dance

25 – Will Yancy



TABLE RESERVATIONS FOR ALL DANCES ARE AVAILABLE BY A DONATION OF \$5.00 ON TUESDAYS FROM 8-9 a.m. IN THE CLUBHOUSE 2 ANNEX AND AT THE DOOR THE NIGHT OF THE DANCE. DOORS OPEN AT 6:00 p.m. Dance is 7-10 p.m.

Bring your own refreshments!

For additional information, contact Pam Ward 989-859-6905



Betmar ~ A 55 and Older Community

Dance Classes – (all lessons in CH3) to participate in dance classes, residents pay a yearly \$15.00 membership fee that entitled the resident to participate in an unlimited number of line dance and clogging classes. Try them both!

Non-residents may participate if a member sponsors them, and an additional \$2.00 fee is paid per session.

Line Dancing

Beginning Monday, November 6, line dance classes will meet as follows in Clubhouse 3:

Mondays 10:30-11:15 a.m. Ultra-beginner

11:15 – 12:00 noon Beginner

Tuesdays 10:30 – 12:00 noon Improver

Thursdays 10:30 – 12:00 noon Fun Line Dancing (mix of all levels)

Clogging

If you have always wanted to try clogging, now is the time! Beginners welcome! Director, Karolyn Dowell, will hold Fun Clogging classes from 9-10:15 a.m. on Tuesdays and Thursdays beginning November 7. For additional information, contact Karolyn Dowell, 317-512-2610 or Jimmy Stokes, 813-782-1918

Ballroom

Ballroom lessons are scheduled for January and February 2024. Watch for more information as we get closer to that time. If any schedule changes occur, we will do our best to notify you through an email notice.

Looking ahead – Karl Sapp has been contracted to play at our New Year's Eve dance. Betmar residents will be allowed to purchase tickets 2 weeks prior to non-residents. Watch Coffee News and the December bulletin for additional information.

If you have questions, suggestions, concerns, don't hesitate to contact any one of the Dance Club officers.

See you on the dance floor!

Joyce Smith ~ Dance Club Secretary ~ 207-944-7335

Garden Club

As we enjoy a brief taste of autumn, planning begins to prepare the gardens to better withstand extreme weather.

We thank Bob Coutz, Properties, and his crew for their help with removing overgrown and declining shrubs, as well as replacing damaged irrigation controls in several of the gardens along Lakewood.

We welcome four new members to help with future projects and maintenance (Jim, Kathy, Kim, and Karen).

We invite both snowbirds and year-round residents to join us in the gardens. It's great exercise and a wonderful way to make new friends and no membership fee! We Meet Wednesdays (8:30 – 10am) at Apache Junction, off Lakewood between Jo and Amanda Streets. No matter how brown your thumb is; we can use your help.

We lost several long-time gardeners who moved away (Theresa Daniels, Judy Bubar) who will be sorely missed. At our September luncheon, we thanked them and our other summer workers (Brenda, Kathy D, Judy H, Marie, Geri, and Pennie) who hand watered during much of the summer to help our gardens survive the prolonged drought and unbearable heat.

Our next business meeting will be held at 9:00am in the Apache Blue Room, Monday November 9th. Everyone is welcome! Pennie Jefferson, Secretary ~ 352-238-2547

Golf

From the President

I would like to thank all the volunteers who help to make the Betmar Golf Course a great amenity for our park, especially the men who helped with the bridge repair in October. Their hard work saved about 80% of the cost of this repair. What a great group of people we have.

As more people return, remember that every golfer is a ranger for our course. If you see something, say something (in a polite manner, of course!) My advice lead with “oh, you must be a visitor or just recently moved here because walking your dog on the course or using the cart paths for jogging is not allowed. Most of the time the response is a respectful apology.

There are many good things happening with our golf club including improvements, activities, fundraisers, and volunteers. I hope every member will be a part of that in some manner.

May your putts be few, and your drives be long and straight, your chips-well good luck with those because the only good chips I have are made by Frito Lay.

Men's Golf

The men's golf scramble began the season on Friday, October 13th. All men who are members of the golf club are invited to participate. The card draw is at 7:45 every Friday and the cost is \$1.00.

Ladies Golf

Ladies league will be on Thursday mornings beginning November 2. Start time will be 8:30. Must be there by 8:15 to sign up for the card draw. The first meeting will be on November 30. The meeting will be at 8:00 unless we have to change the start time to 9:00 a.m.. That will be determined by the weather. Thanks ~ Maggie.

November Activities

Night Golf Scramble – Saturday, October 28th – Check-in 6:30 p.m.

Breakfast – Saturday, November 4th –

Clubhouse 2 – 8:00 a.m.-9:30a.m. Veterans

Outing (Scramble) – Saturday, November 11th

– Following Lunch Turkey Trot Outing –

Friday, November 17th – Check-in 4:00 p.m.

Night Golf – Tuesday, November 28 -Start time TBD.

Looking for volunteers for the monthly breakfast. Sign-up Sheets available in Clubhouse for Activities and Volunteering.

Club House Director

We will be needing volunteers to help with the starters desk and rangers this year. Please consider giving a couple of hours a week to help out. If you were on the schedule last year, please let Julie know if you will be available again this year and if the same time works for you. The starters and rangers will begin sometime in November.

Pro Shop

The Pro Shop is open for another season. We think you will like the variety of golf merchandise in the shop.

The Pro Shop Managers are Phil Hawkins, Brenda Moody, and Carol Sambol.

Our knowledgeable volunteers will be happy to help you with all your golfing needs.

The shop is open five days a week and the hours are posted on the door. Stop by and see what we have to offer.

November Board Meetings

The Golf Board Meetings will be on November 20, 2023, at the Golf Clubhouse. The General Meeting will begin at 1:00pm with the Executive Meeting to follow at approximately 2:00. Please note that this is a change of date due to the Thanksgiving holiday. All Golf Club members are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Ladies Golf

Thursday Ladies Golf League will begin on November 2nd. Sign-up by 8:15 a.m., tee off at 8:30 a.m.

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HOSPITALITY

Meeting Schedule: First Thursday of each month in Clubhouse at 1:00 PM. Our season runs from October to April.

Our Mission/Purpose

The purpose of our club is to welcome new residents. We do this at Coffee Hour every Tuesday, and we welcome them in their homes with cookies. We also have prepared a Welcome Folder which is distributed by the Office to all new residents.

Activities/Special Events

We provide a luncheon to all the volunteers who help decorate the park for Christmas. We make and distribute Valentines to all residents. We are sponsoring a Dessert Card Party in February and a Style (Fashion) Show in March. We send get well and sympathy cards to residents in need. Hettie Sweigert – 782-6605

LIBRARY

I would like to talk about the Betmar Library, your library. We truly are a hidden gem in Betmar. Many of our residents are not aware we exist, yet we have so much to offer. I realize in today's technological atmosphere, a brick and mortar, real book venue can seem outdated.

Stop for a moment and remember the fun of reading before all that exploded into our world. Turning the pages to see what happens next Creating the characters looks and voices in your mind. Nothing compares in my estimation.

Great news! The library is now open all day from 10:00 a.m. until 3:00p.m. Monday through Friday. We look forward to seeing you. We are always available to assist you.

We now have the complete series for the following authors:

Linda Castillo Kate Burkholder

Paul Doiron Mike Bowditch

Karin Slaughter Will Trent

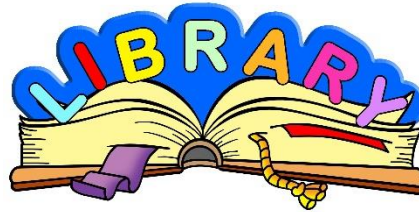
Heather Graham The Krewe series

John Sanford # 33 Judgement Prey

Jenn McKinlay Sugar Plum Poison

Ken Follett The Armor of Light

Kim Richardson The Book Women's Daughter



So on to what we have to offer:

- New Releases: Books we purchase so you can access the newest releases from popular authors.
- Children's Books and Movies: When your grandchildren visit, see your library for that special book or movie.
- Movies on DVDs: We have hundreds of titles to choose from.
- Books on CD's: You can access books while driving or if vision issues make reading difficult.
- Large Print Books: We have a large selection of titles and authors in large print for pleasurable reading. They are specially marked for mysteries and novels.
- Mystery Books: We have mystery books galore I'm sure your favorite authors are on our shelves.
- Westerns: If westerns are your favorite reading, we can't be beat on our selections and authors.
- Novels: We have novels by all the well-known favorites and many unknown to you that may become favorites.
- Inspirational Books: We have a wide selection of both novels and mysteries.

Puzzle Room: We have a room devoted to jigsaw puzzles. If you enjoy working on them, come to your library and take some home.

We have books on Florida, biographies and autobiographies, art, crafts, hobbies and much more.

We have a wall filled with books to sell. Buy some to take when you travel and donate there. Our prices cannot be beat.

To summarize, your library wants you to visit, read, watch, and listen. We are located on Betmar Drive, just inside our park entrance off State Road 54.

We have been working hard getting old books out of the system to make room for newer books. Unfortunately, we will no longer be able to accept donations that are over 10 years old.

We would like to thank everyone for supporting the Betmar Library. We always look forward to donations from our wonderful readers.

Come see us, you'll be glad you did.

Toni Nelson

**What-Not
Christmas Sale**

**Betmar Clubhouse 2
37137 Lakewood Drive
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**Saturday, November 25th
9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.**

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MUSIC & ENTERTAINMENT

There are sheets on the Bulletin Board in Clubhouse 2 and Clubhouse 3 for those of you would like to select a Friday evening and present a program of music for us. We really want to have you participate! Music Entertainment every Friday night in Clubhouse 3 at 7:00 p.m., if you would like to host a show, the signup sheet is on the bulletin board. We are also selling drinks, and, in the future, more items so bring an extra buck for your enjoyment.

If you have questions, feel free to call Carol Kelly at 813-783-7523 or Bobby Sliva at 516-817-9446. Gloria Wood ~ 813-783-3209

Shuffle

Welcome back to all snowbirds! Our busy season is beginning. Please remember that Oct 1 is the deadline for dues. You must be a member in good standing to play in tournaments. A big thank you goes out to all of those who kept things rolling in the quiet months, and congratulations to all who placed in the recent tournaments.

Our November meeting of the Shuffleboard Club is Wednesday, November 8, at 10 a.m. Members, please attend as we need a quorum to make purchases.

There are several opportunities for friendly shuffle competitions. 6-Park will be playing at Betmar on November 10, and Betmar teams will be playing against teams from five other local parks. This is an excellent opportunity for beginners to observe and learn about the game. On Friday nights we offer the popular game of Hoss Collar which is a fun game that helps to improve your strategy and shooting skills. Every Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday at 1:00 we also have Shuffleboard Round Robins, where we form teams and play three games for fun. For those interested in lessons, they will begin late November, early December. Please check the bulletin boards at the courts for further info and other events.

A few tournaments are coming up—two district tournaments—November 2nd in Zephyrhills and November 9th in Lakeland. In addition, Lakeland is hosting a state tournament on November 20th.

We look forward to seeing all of our shuffleboard friends and meeting new friends at the courts. Stop in and see what it's all about and consider joining if you haven't already. We are up and running and look forward to a busy season!

Happy Thanksgiving to all from the Betmar Shuffleboard Club.

Pat Norton ~ 207-649-8469

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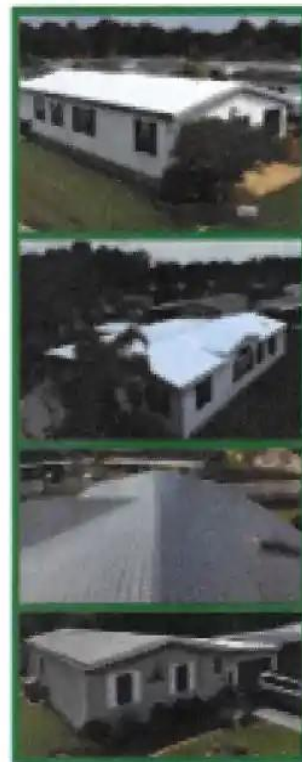
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TOPS

TOPS (Taking Off Pounds Sensibly) meet on Wednesdays, beginning October 4. The voluntary weigh-in is at 8:15 with our meeting at 9:00am. Meetings offer wellness programs.

After a summer of overindulging with picnics, barbecues, and experiencing a hurricane, it might be time to think about losing some of that weight we may have gained.

Some TOPS members who were still here for the summer have been weighing on Wednesday mornings from 8:15-8:30 a.m. with no formal meeting. If anyone wants to get an idea of what TOPS is all about feel free to drop by at that time.

TOPS do not subscribe to any specific weight program. That is up to each individual. We at TOPS are simply there to cheer you on no matter how you choose to lose weight. Men and women are both welcome!

Our formal meetings will begin October 4, 2023. Weigh-in will be from 8:00-8:30 a.m. We enthusiastically welcome new members. I know we have had quite a few new people move into the park this summer and fall. If you want to lose weight, AND HAVE FUN DOING SO, please consider joining us on Wednesday mornings. We are planning to include inspiring games and activities so we always welcome fresh ideas!

If you have any questions about our TOPS group, feel free to contact any of the following.
Margo Mains....207-242-4969 mainspizza1947@gmail.com
Harriett Pettola...813-6028145...harriettp2008@aol.com

We are just getting into the hurricane season, so we wish for everyone to stay safe. Let's pray that we escape any serious damage. We are eagerly looking forward to the return of our Snowbirds and pray for them all to have a safe trip back. Please consider visiting our TOPS group as a guest.

A TOPS member will always be glad to explain our meetings and requirements. Hope to see you all soon.

From the desk of the Secretary, Margo Mains
Questions? Contact our Leader Harriett Pettola
813.713.1935.



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Tennis & Pickleball

The Betmar Tennis and Pickleball Club is gearing up for a great year of fun and exercise. If you are new to the game, come by the courts any morning and see what you are missing.

The new membership fee is \$75 plus a \$25 initiation fee (\$100 total). If you are a new member and pay your dues prior to Dec 31, your membership will be good until Dec 31 of 2024. If you are already a member, your 2024 fee will be \$75/year. An application form is available at the courts and in this issue of the Bulletin.

Jimmie Stokes and Sandy Bedingfield won Gold Medals in the October 6th Tampa Life games and qualified for the FL State Senior Games. Way to go Ladies!

The Tennis and Pickleball Club will be hosting the annual "Holiday Home Tour." This is a fundraiser that will be held on December 12. Tickets will be sold at Betmar Coffee. This is a great way to celebrate the Holidays and have some cheer too!

The next monthly meeting will be held Wednesday, Nov. 8th at 3:30 in the Maple Leaf room of the Apache Club House.

Submitted by Robin Meek, Secretary

BETMAR TENNIS/PICKLEBALL CLUB APPLICATION

BETMAR - A 55 AND OLDER COMMUNITY

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____ PHONE _____

E-MAIL ADDRESS _____

INITIATION FEE for new members is \$25.00. ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP is \$50.00 (2024=\$75)

_____ NEW (\$75.00-2023/\$100-2024) _____ RENEWAL (\$50.00-2023, \$75-2024)

MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO **BETMAR TENNIS/PICKLEBALL CLUB TREASURER** and return to:
Ronnie Delano-Ellis, 5823 Arapaho Ct.

AMOUNT PAID _____

In submitting this application, I understand that I will abide by the rules of fair play and court etiquette. I also take responsibility for adhering to CDC guidelines as they pertain to health safety of all players on the court. All play is at my own risk. Questions regarding this pledge can be addressed to the president of the Betmar Tennis/Pickleball Club.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Administrative use only.

Ck #	Amount	Date	Cash
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WELCOME TO BETMAR!

Betmar is proud of its 8 pickleball courts and its tennis court. The club is an option for all Betmar residents.

NEW MEMBERSHIP FEE IS \$ 75.00 for 2023. New members joining in October, November or December of 2023 will also be enrolled for the 2024 year. Participating in the clinic (usually held in January or February) waives the \$25 initiation fee. Starting in 2024, the initial fee is \$100 with renewal members paying \$75.

Your fee allows participation on the courts from January until the end of December. Open court play for pickleball runs daily from 8:00 am to 10:30. Temperature sometimes affects time. On Fridays, there is a ladder league where members play competitively amongst themselves. Of course, you have the option of gathering 4 friends and playing when you wish (outside of open play).

Other club activities include group bike rides, Poker Run, Christmas House Tour, Rock-the-House music night, clinics and picnics.



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SPECIAL INTEREST

ACTIVITIES

Many of the clubs are up and running. I hope you are all finding something that you enjoy doing. We always say if you're bored, it is your own fault.

If you would like to use a room for a club or organization, please fill out a Clubhouse reservation form. They are yellow and you can find them in the office or on the white bookshelf and Clubhouse 2.

If any club or organization would like something to go into coffee hour and coffee news, please send it to activities@betmar.org before 7 PM on Monday night.

Thank You,

Michelle McKinnon ~ Activities Director



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Bountiful Blessings

Bountiful Blessings have been asked about gift cards since certain residents are unable to go shopping. Yes, we would be so grateful for gift cards to Dollar Tree, Dollar General, and any of the Grocery Stores.

We now have a Wish List posted on the Club House Bulletin Boards including the one outside. The list is dated, and we will be updating it weekly. Below is what is needed.

- Canned Fruit – Pears, Peaches, Mandarin Orange, Pineapple, Mixed Fruit – small and regular cans
- Dry Bleach – Dry Laundry
- Detergent (Dollar Tree)
- Instant Potatoes – bag or box
- Single serving instant coffee (Folgers)
- Canned Chicken in water
- Canned Cream of Celery Soup
- Canned Cream of Mushroom Soup
- Canned Cream of Chicken Soup
- Individual sleeves of crackers
- Hormel Complete Meals
- Pancake Syrup – sugar free & regular
- Jelly & Jam
- Individual Mac & Cheese
- Toilet Paper
- Canned Potatoes

We have wound care items, canes, item grabbers, and should you need a walker, wheelchair, potty chair, etc. If it is not available, a post on Facebook lets our residents know what is needed. We always need walkers with seats.

Our list for the Thanksgiving Baskets is growing. If you are not signed up or know of someone who could use the food, please let us know.

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Caregivers

Betmar Alzheimer's and Dementia Caregivers

The role of a caregiver is a 24/7 responsibility, our group offers an opportunity for those caring for loved ones to get support and ask questions. If you can't attend our meetings but have questions or just need to ask a question or get support, please call 517-230-2231 and we will help try to answer your questions or get the support needed. There is no cure for Alzheimer's and Dementia, and sadly, there is only one final diagnosis. While understanding the disease and the role of caregivers are important in helping your loved one, a caregiver must also stay healthy, physically, and mentally, in order to help their loved one. Remember, reaching out for support is healthy for the caregiver and for the loved one.

Often Alzheimer's and Dementia patients go for a walk or leave their home and can't remember how to get back. This is a stressful situation not only for the patient but also the caregiver. Our caregivers' group is assisting Betmar Security in compiling a list of names of Alzheimer's and Dementia loved ones who may need Security's help in locating their home when lost. If you have a loved one that you would like Security to be aware of, please call Laraine Roberts at 517-230-2231 or email at robertslaraine@gmail.com to add your loved one's name, phone number and address to the list. This list is confidential and will only be given to Betmar Security.

Submitted by Laraine Roberts

Tennis/Pickleball Club

Presents

2023

Christmas House Tour

<p>Tuesday December 12, 2023</p>		<p>Betmar Park ~ Donation \$8.00</p>
		
<p>6:30 p.m. To 8:30 p.m.</p>		

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- Doug is a **3rd GENERATION** Betmar homeowner. He is dedicated to protecting and preserving the quality of life in our beautiful community!
- Fran is a new resident looking forward to serving our Betmar Community.
- **ABSOLUTELY NO SALES TO ANY LLCs.**



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Craft Fair

Our Fall Craft Fair this year will be held on Friday & Saturday November 17th & 18th in Clubhouse 2. We have several new vendors this year and many of our regulars so please stop down and check things out.

Bingo Bistro will be providing coffee & donuts in the early am. and hamburgers, hotdogs, chips, and soda beginning at 10:00 a.m.

Thank you,

Judi Gearsbeck, 813-780-9811

Motorcycle Group

The Betmar Motorcyclist Group has been in existence for several years now. Our 2023 rides will begin in early January. We have a planned ride at least once a week... usually on Thursday mornings.

We would like to invite ALL Betmar Motorcyclists to join us. We are just a very friendly group of motorcyclists who like to get together to ride, eat and harass each other. There is nothing formal about the group.

There is an Email Contact List for ride notification purposes. If you would have any interest in joining up and would like to be included on the Contact List, please email: Your Name(s), Betmar Address, Phone Number and Email Address to donmclintock69@gmail.com.

If you have questions at all about the group, please contact: Don McClintock via email or text or by calling 330-209-3353.

Pasco Sheriff Letter Holiday Shopping Safety

As we are entering one of the busiest shopping times of the year, it's important to take steps to keep safe while shopping. Being aware of your surroundings while shopping in person and considering your safety online can prevent you from becoming a victim this holiday season. These shopping safety tips from Pasco Sheriff's Office can help keep you and your purchases safe this season.

When heading out to shop in person, staying vigilant of what's going on around you can keep you and your items safe. Consider where you park by choosing a well-lit and highly visible spot.

Remove your personal belongings when exiting your car and store any large packages out of sight in the trunk. Always lock your car doors, close windows, and set an alarm, if possible. Be attentive when walking or driving in parking lots for everyone's safety.

Shop with a buddy; thieves are less likely to target people in groups. When shopping with children, designate a place for them to meet you, such as customer service counter, in the event you get separated, and make sure children know to ask a security guard or store employee for help.

Although gift cards offer flexibility, they also create ideal opportunities for scammers. Buy gift cards directly from the retailer and save the receipt. Carefully inspect gift cards and their packaging prior to purchase for signs of tampering. If a gift card appears damaged, notify a store representative, and ask for a new card. Never buy gift cards from an auction or community website. Resale sites are often an outlet for stolen, fraudulent or already used gift cards. Although online shopping is convenient, always think before you click too quickly to protect your personal information.

Only use secure Wi-Fi networks for online purchases, as public Wi-Fi is usually unencrypted and therefore, much less secure for your personal information. • Verify you're shopping on a secure and legitimate website; secure websites start with <https://>. Beware of phishing attacks. Don't click on pop-ups or open suspicious advertising emails.

Using secure accounts with creative passwords can protect your account from hackers. Using credit cards for online purchases can offer enhanced fraud protection compared to other forms of payment; avoid using debit cards for online purchases.

Crimes of opportunity, such as package theft, often increase during this busy shopping season. If you know you will be away for a delivery, have packages delivered to a safe location such as an office, a package room or to a trusted neighbor who is home during the day. If it's available from a retailer, choose free in-store delivery, order pick-up lockers or curbside pick-up for extra security that works with your schedule.

If a package is stolen, notify the retailer and delivery company, and file a report with law enforcement.

As sales start appearing, don't let your valuables vanish. Taking extra precautions this holiday season goes a long way in ensuring that you, your loved ones and your property stay safe. Check out PSO's social media pages for the latest updates and safety information.



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Travel Group

Current Schedule of Trips

Sunday, November 26

We will travel to Hudson, to Suncoast Broadway Theatre for the much-requested production of “White Christmas.” Cost \$101

Wednesday, December 13 – Holiday Dinner at **Buca Di Beppo** and the **Gaylord Palms Ice!**

We motor coach to the famous Italian Restaurant for a delicious dinner then see the Gaylord Palms Orlando **ICE Show**. We will view the ice Sculpture display and walk through the beautiful Gaylord Palms. Cost \$119

Wednesday, January 17, 2024 – Join us for this fun day at beautiful **Madeira Beach!** We will enjoy some shopping time at **John’s Pass** before boarding the

Calypso Breeze for lunch with complimentary beer, wine, and rum punch. This is a smooth inland water cruise with Captain’s live sightseeing narration. Cost \$101.00

Thursday, February 8, 2024 – Back to the Ed Fletcher Dinner Theater in Clearwater to see “**One Slight Hitch**” a comedy you all will want to see. \$90

Monday, February 19, 2024 – Begins our 5-day, 4-night trip to **Savannah**, Georgia with tours of Savannah, Beaufort, SC, St Simons and Jekyll Islands. See Sandy or Bonnie for brochure. Cost \$750

Sunday, March 17, 2024 – Join your friends and celebrate **St. Patrick’s Day** as we cruise out of the Ybor Channel into the Hillsborough Bay and Garrison Channel for a Luncheon sightseeing cruise. Corned beef and cabbage, Irish potatoes, and soda bread. Enjoy St Pats as you never have before. Cost \$125

Saturday, April 6, 2024 – Suncoast Broadway Theatre presents “**Cats**”. More info in future announcements. \$95

Saturday, April 20, 2024 – The crazy show “**The Underpants**” will be at the Ed Fletcher Early Bird Dinner Theater. As usual, be prepared for lots of laughs and really good food. \$90

Please note: All trips need at least thirty people to ensure the trip will go. If cancelled your money will be refunded. Trips include transportation, entry fees and all tips.

FOR INFORMATION OR QUESTIONS CALL:

Bonnie Coutz (989) 860-5544 or Sandy Bedingfield for more information.

What-Not Barn Pre-Christmas Sale

The Christmas Shed is overflowing with holiday decorations. Our annual sale will be held on Saturday, November 25th from 9 to 1. Please mark the date in your calendar and see the flyer in this Bulletin for details.

We will be setting up Saturday's dance after the sale, so we can always use extra help cleaning out any leftover merchandise at 1 p.m.

That's it, except for two important points.

1. The barn will have special hours and be open that Saturday from 9-12
2. Linda is still collecting Christmas decorations for the sale at the Barn, but the shed is very full, so, if at all possible, hold your treasures until the week of the sale and just bring them to Clubhouse 2 at 9 a.m. on Friday.



Refer any questions to Tom or Dee Brown.



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