

# BRADEN CASTLE UPDATE

Volume XVI Issue 1  
December, 2012

## WELCOME TO BRADEN CASTLE PARK

Welcome back to the Park for another season! It is good to see “old” friends again and to meet new ones. Some are not here due to illness and death, and some of us are not moving around as well as we were, but we are glad to be back!

We seem to come back to Braden Castle and start on the run with the Christmas Season just ahead of us. With the economy the way that it is, let’s enjoy Christmas for the “reason” and participate in the following:

### Red Hats Meet for Lunch

Dec. 11, 11:00 a.m.

Welcome back Red Hatters and any new Red Hatters are ALWAYS welcome. We will be going to Anna Maria Oyster Bar for our Christmas party. We will be leaving at 11:00 a.m.; be sure to wear your Santa hat!

Your Queen Mom  
Ann Zelen

### Shuffleboard 101

Thursdays at 10:00

Learn the Basics and have some fun!

Come join us everyone

Once a week on Thursdays at 10

December 6<sup>th</sup> is when we begin

A good pair of shoes & a smile on your face

Is all you need to set the pace!

## SHUFFLE BOARD NEWS

Thursday, Dec. 13

All members are invited to a meeting at 10:00 in Leisure Hall for election of new officers for 2013. Nominated officers are: President – Tom Chaffee, Vice Pres. – Max Miller, Secretary – Viola Sommers, Treasurer – Jim Covalt.

A Turkey Shoot will be held at 1:30 at the shuffle court. Everyone welcome.

**HYMN SING BEGINS:** Hymn sing will begin November 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. New choir members are always welcome. Practice on Friday mornings at 9:00.

**MOBILE HOME MEETING:** Thursday, Dec. 6 at 9:15 a.m. in the Hall. The revised prospectus will be handed out and discussed along with other topics.

**BOARD MEETING:** Wednesday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 9:15 a.m. in Leisure Hall.

**CAROLING** – Dec. 20

Join in with the Carolers Dec. 20 at 6:00 p.m. starting at the office. Bring your golf cart and come join in our Caroling Parade. We will travel the park. If you have been good little boys and girls there “may” be a special guest. If you can’t carol, sit on your porch and enjoy the beautiful music. What a great way to get into the Christmas spirit!

## NEW YEAR’S EVE GAME PARTY

December 31

7:00 - ?

Bring your games and friends and join in the party to celebrate the New Year. Bring snacks or soft drinks to share. Have a safe celebration, good food, and fun and not worry about the traffic.

## CASTLE CLUB NEWS

**Rally for Randy** – The Rally for Randy fund drive to raise money for the expenses of Vera & Harry Pressey and their son who suffered a brain aneurysm on Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> has been a huge success. At last count over \$573 has been raised! Thank you for your generosity. These funds will be sent to Vera & Harry in the next few days.

Ladies, our **Christmas Party** will be held **Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> at 1:30** in Leisure Hall. Join us for a short business meeting followed by some Christmas fellowship, fun and food. Please bring 1 or 2 non-perishable food items as your gift to the less fortunate.

**Silent Auction time is coming Jan. 11, 2013!** We will be accepting your unwanted usable items on Jan. 10<sup>th</sup>. Watch for future information.

**Braden Castle Cookbooks** are on sale at the office and at all Castle Club events. A new insert of more recipes should be ready later this month. These are great Christmas gift ideas!

**CLOTH A CHILD:** Braden Castle is sponsoring a family for Christmas again this year. A mother with 4 children, 3 girls ages 10, 8 & 1 and 1 boy age 4 has been chosen. A container has been placed in the office for contributions. If you prefer to donate to a specific child, see Vi Johnson 744-1095 for gifts asked for and sizes.

## LOOKING AHEAD:

Beginning planning ahead to enter the parade at the Festival coming up in February. Remember the theme is “Mardi Gras”.

Check out the website for Braden Castle which will have the newsletter each month:

[www.bradencastlepark.com](http://www.bradencastlepark.com)

## NEWS FROM OUR NEIGHBORS:

### Ponce de Leon – Cindy McKee

#3 – Doris Pickens has moved back to Terre Haute, IN. I understand she is busy with activities where she is living. Sure does seem quieter on this street without her buzzing around in her golf cart.

#4 – I hear that Floyd Hatlee is up helping his son. Heather is busy as usual. She devotes a lot of her time to the church. She continues to work a couple of days a week at the Castle office.

#6 – Carol and Mac McIntyre are pleased to see people moving back on the street for the winter. They both enjoyed the Thanksgiving dinner. Carol really enjoyed being able to see so many people at the hall that day.

#7 – Jim and Cindy McKee spent Thanksgiving with her sister in Georgia. It was nice to be there as this is the 2<sup>nd</sup> time in 20 years that she was able to celebrate Thanksgiving with them. They will be spending Christmas in Illinois with their children and grandchildren.

#8 – Betty and Lu Files have rented #8 from Mike Taylor. Betty likes to bicycle, read, do arts and crafts and design. Lu likes to fish and watch football. They will soon move in from Anna Maria Island.

#12 - Lucille Herrold is staying with her daughter near Ocala this winter.

#13 – John Martin is currently here working on remodeling the house.

#17 – We have seen Kenny Robinson in his golf cart on his way to play cards.

### Oak Street – Janet Collins & Ann Zelen

#2 – Mary Schappert – Mary is taking a vacation from swimming this week since they are repairing the heater in the pool. She went to her daughter-in-law's for Thanksgiving. She also has been riding her bicycle quite a lot lately. She went to the Outback for supper with her church group the day after Thanksgiving.

#4 – Joe & Velva Thomas – Joe and Velva stopped at Gatlinburg and Pigeon Forge on their way down to Florida. They really enjoyed the side trip. Soon after they arrived they had their house pressure washed and had a hard time getting in their front door.

#5 – Lila Berry - Lila and her son had a nice trip down except for seeing one very bad accident. They just arrived here the day before Thanksgiving so spent Thanksgiving Day at home resting. Lila made a good dinner for both of them.

#8 – Robby & Ann Zelen – Robby and Ann had an eventful summer. Ann celebrated her 70<sup>th</sup> birthday on Aug. 7<sup>th</sup> and on Aug. 8<sup>th</sup> she broke out with shingles that so far have lasted three months. She had the shingles shot one month before so the shot didn't help at all. Her doctor said after what happened to her he isn't recommending the shot to any of his patients until further testing is done on the shot. Then, on Sept. 28 after a day in Lexington for a Dr. appointment, a seven hour day, they came home and found their home

flooded by a broken hot water line. Two inches of water all over 1/2 of the house. They had to move out of their home for 5 weeks and 5 days until all was repaired. Looks like a new house now. They moved back in and enjoyed it for five days and then left for Florida. After a two-day visit with his sister in Georgia, they got here Sunday, the 4<sup>th</sup>. It is so wonderful being here in Florida with the beautiful weather. They enjoyed the wonderful dinner at the Hall for Thanksgiving Dinner. Robby's turkey was all gone so no leftovers this year!

#9 – Terry & Janet Collins – They arrived at Braden Castle a week later this year than usual because of a very important day – on November 10 their granddaughter was married. What made it even a more special day was that the bride wore Janet's 55 year-old wedding dress that was made by Terry's mother. They were involved in all the wedding activities and enjoyed every minute. The Thanksgiving Dinner at BC was very delicious along with giving them a chance to visit with their Braden Castle friends.

#10 – Jim & Mary Abrams – During the summer Jim and Mary had a date every Friday night with friends – dinner and a movie. Jim kept busy during the hot and dry summer taking care of his garden and yard. He had lots of zucchini and squash. Mary was busy with the zucchini. Their daughter from Montana came for a visit and also they had a visit from their grandson and great grandson from Georgia. Their grandson drove them as far as Georgia on their way down to Florida, and Mary drove the rest of the way. They had a wonderful meal at the Hall on Thanksgiving Day with Mary's brother and sister-in-law. Mary and Jim are enjoying the great Florida weather.

#15 – Bonnie Nichols – Bonnie is having surgery at Sarasota Memorial Dec. 4 on her back followed by 2 weeks of therapy. Bill has a 7-point buck, so will be here to take care of Bonnie.

### Seminole Drive – Vi Johnson

#2 – Jim and Wanita Covalt had a good but hot, dry summer. They are glad to be back in Braden Castle.

#6 – Harry & Vera Pressey – Vera's son, Randy, is seriously ill; and we hear Harry has had problems also. Our prayers are with them during this difficult time.

#9 – Dan and Luellen Caughlin entertained their children during Thanksgiving; they enjoyed a delicious meal at the hall.

#13 – Spike & Joan Barre said “nothing new” for them.

#15 – Kip and Vi Johnson are busy as usual; Kip has been working at 13 Oak Street fixing the floor for their son.

#21 – Tom White has returned to the park.

#29 – Bob & Kathy Kendall are enjoying being moved into their home. Their nieces played volleyball in Kissimmee and are now National Champions. Kathy's mother and sister flew down for the event, and everyone had a very enjoyable time.

#31 – Pat Schuller reports that 2 grandkids have been chosen to go into the select band which is an honor, and guess what – Pat is going to go listen and watch and will be able to show photos when she gets back from Atlanta. By the way – if anyone should happen to go by her house at night and notice water running – please turn it off.

#33 – Dick and Jane Vondell were entertaining Jane's sister Ellie for afternoon tea and cookies. Her sister lives on Second St. in Bradenton, and they take turns serving tea and cookies. Their son and family who live in Michigan had been to Disney World and stopped by for a visit.

#41 – Glenna Shanahan did not want to see a single snowflake, so she was here the middle of October. She has a picture of the alligator in the Lagoon. She cooked a turkey for the family, and they had a great Thanksgiving.

#47 – Kathy Brockway had a good summer and is enjoying the peace and quiet of the park. She cooked the turkey and entertained her children for Thanksgiving. She will be having more company for Christmas.

#51 – Bill and Charlene Cobb had a pleasant summer. They are already going to flea markets and sales. They plan to spend Christmas up north.

#55 & 57 – The Halstead's spent Thanksgiving with their nephew and grandson in Sarasota. Had a very nice time.

#### **Braden Castle Drive – Betty Eddy**

#1 – John & Nancy Martin arrived on Wed. morning. They are doing work here and there. Met with friends Thanksgiving for lunch. Their friends, Denny & Nancy, came in on Sat. for a couple of weeks. Good to see all of them.

#2 – Betty Eddy's sister Carolyn from Winter Haven met with sister Juanita from Two Rivers and they all traveled to Ft. Myers on Thanksgiving to have lunch with family & friends. Now it's time to start decorating for Christmas. Carolyn will head home on Sunday.

#3 – Brenda Dugan's daughter Kim with Tommy & Charlene came in from Ft. Myers Wed. night. They went on to Brandon on Thanksgiving. Butch's family, Robin, Shawn, Cindy & Bobby from St. Pete were here for lunch. Brenda & sister, Joan from Spring Hill, flew to Ohio the first of Nov. for a week to visit sister Lucille & brother Terry and other family & friends. Brenda had knee surgery on the 15<sup>th</sup>. That went well.

#5 – Ed & Mary Copus won't be coming down this year.

#6 – Doug Williams headed for Ohio Saturday morning to go deer hunting. Good luck.

#12 – Talked with Pete Gilberti today and he told me about the storm they had this summer. He and Mike Osterman built a few arbors to repair damage done and just make the gardens prettier.

#15 – Ron & Debbie Herrold are keeping busy at their house.

#21 – I see Don Herrold out and about. "Lookin Good!"

#24 – Fran Romanchock's sister lost her life in a highway accident this summer so it is doubtful

that Fran and Chuck will be down. The sister was their mother's caregiver. So sorry.

I haven't heard from most of the other neighbors, so don't know any more news.

#### **Braden Castle Drive – Doris Mattern**

#25 – I would like to thank all my Braden Castle family for helping me through last winter after my fall. It is wonderful to be back for the winter. God is good – all the time. I can't imagine going through troubles without him.

#26 – Shirley Childers will be going back to Indiana in December. God blessed her and Ronnie with 2 beautiful great-granddaughters just before they come to Florida. One of these great granddaughters will be leaving for Bangladesh for a period of two years. Shirley wants to hold her one more time before she goes over there with mom and dad.

#29 – Tom and Ruth Briggs are enjoying their new home this year. They left falling leaves and cooler weather in Ohio. They have settled in and are enjoying bike riding, visiting with friends and playing cards. This is their first Christmas in the Castle, and they are enjoying watching sparkling lights and decorations appear.

#46 – JR & Sandy Lane had guests at Thanksgiving in the hall. J.R.'s son, Jon Lane and his wife Krisgta and grandson Kristof from Naples, FL, formerly from Budapest Hungary were here..

Everyone else on Braden Castle Drive seems to be settled in and glad to be here for the winter. Have a "Merry Christmas".

#### **Desoto Street – Pinky**

Welcome back or, if you are new to Braden Castle, welcome. I don't have any hot news from the neighborhood this month. Some are here and some aren't and you know who you are. I've only been outside twice so far, so maybe next month will bring in the dirt.

First of all about everyone knows about LC last March when he flew home. He got to security and had to take his belt off and hold up his arms. Pants a little large, so guess what? His pants fell down; lucky he wasn't wearing a thong!! Our grandson Andrew had taken him there, and he was laughing so hard he was crying and didn't see other people's reactions. What makes it even worse they had to tell him it was okay to pull them up. I asked him if he was embarrassed; he said "no". That's not the end of the story. He gets on the plane and sits by a lady (I don't really know if she was a lady) but she must have seen what happened because she asked him if he would care for a cocktail; of course he said "sure" and it cost her \$14.00 for their drinks. So she knew he wasn't a sugar daddy. I'm so glad our daughter and son-in-law met him at South Bend Airport because he may have gone off with her. So this Oct. he bought some new jeans, and the night before he was going to fly down here he came in the living room. took off his belt and held up his arms, and his pants stayed up!!

The summer went fairly well except in the shower. I had a meeting with my bathroom floor. Face to face; please don't try to imagine that.

When we got here I was telling Kathy Brown about us eating out about once a week. She was so surprised she said "wow you never eat out here". Oh she got the wrong idea. We ate out of the kitchen into the living room, out is out no matter where it is as long as it is out of the kitchen.

I expect not many of you have dentures (ya right!!) well, I had to go that route last summer. Boy did I hate to spend the money when I know they will outlive me. Our daughter has a real old Boston Bulldog. He is so old that every time I see him I say, "Go to Jesus". Why doesn't she think that's funny? Oh well, back about the false teeth; if I go before he does, I'm willing my teeth to him because he doesn't have many left.

After much prodding from our family I finally got an electric wheel chair. Didn't bring it down with us because the lift & chair take up too much room, and we have a golf cart here for me to get around. When the gentleman brought it to the house and showed me how to operate it I said "okay, I got it". Our daughter was there so after the guy left I tried it out. In 15 minutes I made a dent in the hall closet door and a little hole in the hallway wall. So, okay I needed a lot of practice. Low and behold my first time out we had to go to a viewing at a funeral home. I thought, "okay, not so bad, if I killed someone at least we are here!!"

Hey you guys on Desoto and Lafayette St, bring me some news or anybody that has something on someone. I'll never reveal the source.

### **High Street – Gay Wells**

#3 - John and Georgiana Myers have been enjoying being here in their winter home. At present they are entertaining their son and daughter-in-law from New Mexico.

#4 – Forrest and Geri Bone have enjoyed two weekends camping since arriving in Florida.

#8 – Paul and I spent three months in New York this summer and were delighted to be back in warm Florida. We did welcome a new great niece, Lacey, on Sept. 16. She was four weeks early so spent a week in the hospital but is certainly thriving now.

#9 – Jim and Nancy Bair were only here a week when their daughter, son-on-law and two grandsons came to spend a week. They enjoyed going to Universal in Orlando and a boat trip on the river, a little fishing and shopping for the ladies.

#10 – Bruce and Eloisa Griffith took several trips this summer, one to Carolina and to the Creation Museum, which they said was very enjoyable. Eloisa and Gabby spent much of Thanksgiving evening and early Friday morning taking advantage of the super sales. No one else has arrived on our street. Have a great month.

### **Gardenia Lane – Joanne Burek**

#2 – Carol Raymond is enjoying driving her new car after having a van for many years. Good to see her at Bingo and playing cads. She even joined the group at Wendy's Sunday.

P.S.. Everyone in the park is invited to come to Wendy's at 4:45 p.m. each Sunday to meet and eat.

#4 - Eli Reyes will be arriving shortly after Christmas. Eli and Mabel say "hi" to all.

#10 - Joanne Burek is glad to see friends again and to get back into park activities. It's fun to walk and bike with such fun-people.

#11 – George & Bev Hansen are happy to be back in Braden Castle. Bev is now walking painlessly with the group evenings walks thanks to her new knee. George is anxious to get out fishing.

#16 – Owen Lautenschleger arrived Nov. 8 and is enjoying playing horseshoes on Tuesdays.

Anyone in the park who is interested in tossing horseshoes is welcome to meet every Thursday at 9 a.m. at the horseshoe pits by the lagoon.

#20 – Ed Atwood and Nancy Lifsey spent a quiet summer in the park but are happy to have neighbors back.

### **Azalea Lane – Joanne Burek**

#1 – Bill and Chris Pollitt should be here after Christmas.

#2 – Barb Duffy is new in the park. Welcome Barb to Braden Castle.

#4 – Ellen and Doug Scott spent a week at their place in early November. Ellen loves to plant shrubs. They plan to return at Easter.

### **Riverview Lane – Joanne Burek**

#4 – Harvey and Dee Johnson enjoyed Thanksgiving with relatives on the east coast of Florida.

#5 – Don & Joyce Pratt hosted Thanksgiving for their two sons and families and a cousin from Arcadia. Don is happy the card players are back. Joyce has been busy decorating her many Christmas trees and house for the holidays.

#23 – Joanne Philips has moved to Peru, IN into assisted living. She has made many friends there and, of course, is playing cards. She is missed by all her BC neighbors and card-playing friends.

### **Orchid Lane – Patty Chaffee**

#1 – Dale & Barb Lorenz are here and, after all the problems Barb had last year with her hip, it is so good to see her here. At least here she can get out and sit in the sunshine where back in Indiana that would not be possible, I'm sure. Soon Dale's bike riding buddy Byron will be here.

#3 – A couple from the RV lot last year bought this home are in the process of moving in, but they appear to be gone now and I have not met them so can't give names. They have done lots of work there, painting etc. Sure has brightened the place up. I'll try to have names for you next month.

#7 – Haven't seen anything of the Fuller's yet.

#9 – Eldon & Phyllis York arrived in late October. Phyllis' daughter Cheryl drove them down but has since flown home. They have a new Christmas tree out front – check that out!

#11 – Tom & Marge Halstead arrived in late October but have gone home for Holidays. While they were here Tom was out painting his driveway. Makes me want mine done.

#13 – Nils & Bodil Solo also came in late October, but they will be going back to Norway for Christmas. They will be back the first of Feb.; it will be so good to have them here longer this year. Oh, have you seen Nils touring around in his new golf card and yes, sometimes he takes Bodil along.

#25 – Tom & Patty Chaffee – Yes, we got here late October and are also going back for Christmas. Will come back the 1<sup>st</sup> of Jan. We had family at our house for Thanksgiving and have more family coming right after Thanksgiving. We see family more here than we do when we are back in Indiana.

#### PARK ACTIVITIES

This may sound repetitive to the “old-timers”, but, if you are new to the park, we would like to introduce you to the many activities held here. Everyone is welcome and encouraged to attend! Activities are as listed:

**CARDS:** Bridge is played weekly on Monday & Tuesdays at 6:30 in Leisure Hall Pinochle is played with a partner on Thurs. & Sat. at 6:30... LH

Poker is played on Wed. at 6:30 LH

**LINE DANCING:** Mon. in the Big Hall at 7:00 – will begin in January.

**EXERCISE CLASS:** Mon., Wed., Fri. at 8:30 a.m. in LH

**BINGO:** Tues. at 7:00 in BH

**BICYCLE RIDE:** Wed. at 9:00 a.m. Meet at North gate, ride and eat breakfast.

**READ:** We have a great park library. There are so many books to read of every kind. Puzzles are also available in the park library either to borrow or to help put together in the library.

**SEW:** Sewing machines are free to use for pleasure and necessity in the library.

**EXERCISE:** Great machines in library. Come and “get in shape”

**HYMN SING:** Choir & Hymn Sing Fri. at 7:00 p.m. in BH. Choir members are needed. Practice 9:00 a.m. on Friday mornings in the big hall.

**SOCIAL TIME:** Coffee hour on 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturdays at 8:30 a.m. in Leisure Hall.

**BIBLE STUDY:** Meets Tuesday's beginning in January at 9:00 a.m. in LH.

**CARDS & POOL:** Join the Men's Club and play cards, ping pong and pool at your leisure.

**CASTLE CLUB:** Every lady in the Castle is a member. Meets two Wednesdays a month, usually 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup>, with craft classes, parties, style

shows, auctions & business meetings. Check the calendar for more information.

**SHUFFLEBOARD:** Meets Mon – Sat. at 1:30, Sun. & holidays – 2:00 at the court. Fee \$5 per yr. Where could you have sunshine & exercise and fun for \$5 a yr? Tournaments and dinners are held. Classes are given, or learn at the court. Everyone is welcome.

Take advantage of these activities. It is a great place to meet people and to help you enjoy Braden Castle Park.

**BOOK CLUB** – Meets the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of each month on Tuesdays at 10:00 in Leisure Hall. All readers are welcomed.

#### The Twelve Days of Christmas

At Christmas time all of us enjoy singing carols, one of them being The Twelve Days of Christmas, But did you know that this is a religious code?

From 1558 until 1829 people in England were not allowed to practice their faith openly. During this era someone wrote The Twelve Days of Christmas as a kind of secret catechism that could be sung in public without risk of persecution. The song has two levels of interpretation: the surface meaning plus a hidden meaning known only to members of the church.

Each element in the carol is a code word for a religious reality.

1. The partridge in a pear tree is Jesus Christ.
2. The two turtledoves are the Old and New Testaments.
3. Three French hens stand for faith, hope and Love.
4. The four calling birds are the four Gospels.
5. The five gold rings recall the torah (law) the first 5 books of the Old Testament
6. The six geese a laying stand for the 6 days Of creation
7. Seven swans a swimming represent the Seven fold gifts of the Spirit
8. The eight maids a milking are the eight Beatitudes
9. Nine ladies dancing are the nine fruits of of the spirit (Gal. 5)
10. The ten lords a leaping are the 10 com-mandments.
11. Eleven pipers piping stand for the 11 Faithful disciples.
12. Twelve drummers drumming symbolize The 12 points of belief in the Apostles Creed.

There you have it, the HIDDEN MEANING OF “The Twelve Days of Christmas” and the secret behind the song.

**MERRY CHRISTMAS  
& HAPPY NEW YEAR!**