

# BRADEN CASTLE UPDATE

Volume XVI Issue 3 February, 2013

## BC ANNUAL FESTIVAL February 23, 2013

All Braden Castle members and friends are invited to attend the annual Braden Castle Festival to be held Saturday, Feb. 23, from 10:00 to ?.

The parade, theme of Mardi Gras, will begin at 10:00 followed by the Duck Race. A picnic luncheon of hamburgers, hot dogs, ham and beans and cookies and soft drinks will be sold in and around the Hall. Games of Bingo, Shuffleboard, & Golf can be played for prizes in the afternoon. A raffle will be held for prizes. Walk in the cake walk and win a beautiful cake.

Join in the parade by wearing your favorite Mardi Gras outfit, decorate your golf cart and get involved.

Tickets for food, raffle and the duck race will be sold on the office porch the week before the festival. Donations of cookies, cakes and prizes are requested, and festival workers are needed.

Let's make this the best festival in BC history!

## HOMEOWNERS ANNUAL MEETING Feb. 20 – 9:15

All homeowners are urged to attend the annual meeting to be held Feb. 20 at 9:15 in the Big Hall.

## CASTLE CLUB NEWS

**Attention Ladies: Valentine's Party** will be held February 13<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 1:30 p.m. in Leisure Hall. Come join us for an afternoon of fellowship, refreshments and valentine fun!

**Silent Auction Results:** Thanks to all who donated, bought new treasures and volunteered, making the auction another successful one. Proceeds totaled \$1,115!

**Upcoming: "The Way We Were" Tea.** Mark your calendar for March 13<sup>th</sup>. Watch for more info in the days ahead!

**Ongoing: "Box tops for Education" and Campbell "Labels"** A jar is in the office for collection of these items which are found on General Mills and Campbell's products. All States and Countries Day will be celebrated March 7, 2013.

The collected items will be given to various schools to help them purchase computers and other equipment they might not normally be able to afford. For the past two seasons they have gone to a school for disabled children in Michigan where Rose & Art Vandenbusche's daughter teaches. Please take a moment to clip them as you use the products. As a group we can make a **BIG** difference!

## MICHIGAN DAY POTLUCK Feb. 21<sup>st</sup> 12:00 Noon—Big Hall

Whether you are a Michiganian or a Michigander, you are invited to attend the Michigan Day event. Bring your own place setting, drink and a dish to share. Come enjoy an afternoon with your Michigan friends and share stories of days gone by in the frozen tundra!

## ALL STATES & COUNTRIES DAY

All States and Countries Day will be celebrated March 7, 2013.

This year the theme is "Happy Birthday Everyone". Again we remind you that this day is open to every state and country, even if you attended Indiana Day, Ohio Day or Michigan Day. We look forward to seeing everyone Thursday, March 7, 2013 at 12:00 noon in the big hall. A \$1 donation will be collected at the door. Please bring a covered dish and your own place settings. Punch will be supplied. Come, ready to celebrate your birthday

## BLUEGRASS MUSIC

If you enjoy Bluegrass Music, you will enjoy Dick Sausville's evening of music to be held March 2 which will be held in the Big Hall at 7:00. Everyone is welcome to attend.

## MCDONALD'S FAMILY CONCERT Feb. 28 7:00 P.M. – Big Hall

Spend an evening hearing the music of this multi-talented family (mom, dad & their 7 children) blending their voices and instruments in many styles, including a cappella, Gospel bluegrass, brass, sacred classical and more! **A love offering will be taken.**

SHUFFLEBOARD LUNCHEON  
Thursday, Feb. 14  
12:00 - Leisure Hall  
Followed by Turkey Shoot

## RED HATS NEWS

The Red Hats will be going to the Sand Bar Restaurant on Anna Maria Island Feb. 19. Anyone who would like to go, please sign up on the sheet next to the office. We will leave at 11:15. New residents are welcome to join and have fun with us. All you need is a purple outfit and a red hat or a red visor. Last month we went to First World Restaurant; fun was had by all.

### 2012 MEMORIAL SERVICE 2013

A beautiful memorial service was held Feb. 1 remembering 18 past residents of Braden Castle who passed on in the year of 2012. They are as follows:

Cuba Welbuam	Jan	FL
Ron Gore	Jan	FL
Rickey Valentine	Jan	IN
Dorothy Meade	Feb	FL
Richard Harts	Feb	IN
Wilda Kirkpatrick	Feb	IN
Arlene McAuley		FL
Bernie Henning	March	OH
Byrl Jessup	March	MI
Lester Davis	March	OH
Ruthanna Borden	April	IN
Tom Sola	May	FL
Wanda Wheeler	June	TN
Emory Hale	July	NY
Helen Nelson	Sept	MI
George Grau	Sept	MI
Arthor Casey	Nov	FL
Donald Wooley	Dec	MI

### MARIACHA BAND Saturday, Feb. 16 Big Hall

Tickets are on sale from Judy Dayton on the "office porch" for the upcoming Mariacha Band. Enjoy this uplifting music.

### **BRADEN CASTLE BOOK CLUB**

It is not too late to be a part of the new Braden Castle Book Club led by Susan Jones and Pat Grau. You can join for any of our meetings—even if you haven't completed reading the book. Florida history is the theme of our 2013 reading plan.

Nine ladies gathered for our first meeting on Jan. 15<sup>th</sup>. Susan led the discussion of: A Land Remembered by Patrick D. Smith. We enjoyed sharing thoughts and insights. At the conclusion of our meeting each lady was asked to rate how well they liked the book. A Land Remembered received 4.9 stars out of a possible 5!

At our meeting, the group decided to switch the order of our February and March books. We want to complete our Cracker Western prior to the annual Cracker Trail ride across FL – which begins east of Bradenton on Feb. 18<sup>th</sup>. We also decided to move our start time 15 minutes later to allow adequate time between our meeting and Bible Study.

Our next meeting will be at 10:15 on Feb. 12<sup>th</sup> in the Leisure Hall. We'll discuss: Alligator Gold by Janet Post - -CRACKER WESTERN.

**DID YOU KNOW:** Braden Castle now has a new water fountain on the porch of the men's clubhouse.

### HISTORY CORNER

#### *"Live-Oaking"*

The huge live oaks draped in Spanish moss here in Braden Castle are reminders of life in Florida. However, did you know that such trees, earlier in our country's history, were strategic resources very important to national defense?

"Live-Oaking" was a way of life for US shipbuilders in the new nation, who used the most valuable parts in ship design. Hired gangs of loggers and carpenters were dispatched to hunt and convert live oaks into wooden ship components. The new United States federal government attached laws and bounties to live oak trees.

From the mid 1700s through the mid 1800s live oak rustling was a serious problem. Land and naval forces were authorized to prevent unauthorized felling of live oak trees on federal lands. The only authorized use of such trees was for the construction of ships of the United States navy. Hefty punishments for such rustlers were enacted by Congress. These Acts of Congress were some of the first "environmental protection" statutes in US history.

"Old Ironsides", a US navy ship still docked in Boston Harbor, was built using live-oak timbers and remains a reflection of American ingenuity. When you next come upon one of our majestic live oaks, think of it as a symbol of the historic strength of our nation.

Glenna Shanahan

### NEWS FROM OUR BC NEIGHBORS:

#### **Ponce de Leon – Cindy McKee**

#3 – Doris Picken's house is up for sale. It is a one bedroom.

#4 – Floyd Hatlee has vegetables coming up in his little garden. He has been playing some golf.

#5 – The Swope's children will be down at different times to stay. Some will arrive in February.

#6 – Carol and Mac McIntyre had company last week. Carol's daughter and Mac's daughter both visited last week. This week Carol and Cindy McKee checked out the new IHOP on State Rd 64. It is very nice.

#7 – Jim and Cindy McKee spent Christmas in Illinois. Cindy enjoyed her time watching her grandchildren who were out of school on Christmas break. They returned to the Castle on Jan. 7. Cindy joined the Book Club and, although she has never belonged to a book club before, she really enjoyed reading the book and listening to the discussion. Jim is still carving wood; he went to the Winter National for Woodcarving in Ft. Myers on the 26<sup>th</sup>.

He needed to replenish his wood supply as he was out of carving wood. They will be entertaining family during the month of February.

#8 – Betty and Lu Files are really settling into their house. She has been fixing it up. Betty enjoys going to some of the activities around the Castle. They have family visit often. Lu is trying his luck at fishing and has had his grandson come and fish with him.

#9 – Fermande Lefebvre – Lefebvre's family will be here from Canada to visit the middle of Feb. for a month. Both brother and sister (Denis and Carole and Collette and Claude) will be here.

#10 – Peter and Judy Aylen have arrived from Main; they have spent a lot of time and muscle power fixing up their house.

#13 – John Martin will return in Feb. to work on the house. It will be nice to see John and Nancy going back and forth to their house on Braden Castle Dr.

#14 – Harlow Manks and Ruth Emory have arrived from Maine. They are quite busy playing Bingo; Harlow likes to play poker. Ruth is quite a cook.

#17 – Have seen Kenny Robinson planting flowers. His place always looks so nice. It is a beautiful yard. He spends many hours working on it. Guess that is why it looks so nice. Kenny plays cards with the guys and then he and Iris play cards in the evening.

#### **Oak Street – Ann Zelen & Janet Collins**

#2 – Mary Schappert's daughter and her husband from Grand Rapids, MI are here visiting. Mary is getting a lot of "to do" things done. They were going to leave yesterday but decided to stay in the 70 degree weather instead of 7 degrees at their home. They will be coming back the end of February.

#4 – Velva and Joe Thomas returned to the Park on Jan. 4 after spending 2 1/2 weeks back in KY for Christmas with their family. They had a good time but were glad to get back to sunshine and warm weather. They stay busy with all the activities in the Park and at church.

#5 – Lila Berry wondered where the last month went. Her friends, Pat Grau and Dorris Holleman arrived in Jan. and they have been going to Wed. church night dinners and Sundays at United Methodist Church together. Pat & Lila took Dorris out to eat to celebrate her birthday. Lila slept thru the morning of the Red Hat luncheon so in Feb. six friends said they'd call her early so she could be up and ready to go with them. On Sunday, Jan. 20 Lila and Dorris attended the Annual Church Women's Tea and program. It was very nice and several other ladies from BC were also there. Monday a.m. the phone rang and woke Lila up. When we went to reach for the phone, she fell out of bed. She ended up with a black & blue big toe – but everything is ok, although she is moving a little slower these days. Sunday when her son called he said that Amanda, her great granddaughter, had had a baby

girl last week. This makes her four great-great-grand children now.

#6 – Wayne Lewis wasn't home for a report this month. We will try to catch up with him next month.

#8 – Robby and Ann Zelen have had good friends visiting from Paducah, KY. They have a beautiful motor home and are staying at the Encore RV Park behind Wal-Mart. They went out to dinner a lot and went to Camping World in Tampa, then to the Hard Rock Casino and had fun. Tomorrow is yard sales, then go to see the manatees. Robby is trying to get back to riding his bike again with the afternoon group, but so far only went twice.

#9 – Terry & Janet Collins – They had their sister -in-law for her annual week's visit. While she was here they went to a movie, points of interest in Ellenton and Palmetto, the beach, and Ringling's. After her visit they went on a Country Western Cruise to Belize and Cozumel. They saw eleven country singers on three Country Family Reunion shows. Larry Black and his group on one, Larry's Country Dinner Show, and Nadine on a show of her own. They enjoyed it all.

#10 – Jim and Mary Abrams – Jim has been helping do some work around the park. They spent the day with Mary's brother; they went to the Rod & Reel for "grouper cheeks". Pretty good! They are looking forward to their daughter's visit in Feb. Jim enjoys the Men's Breakfast at church every month, and Mary enjoys her Red Hat getaways. They had friends from Michigan visit for an afternoon.

#11 – Paul Smith and Theresa Liston are glad it is warming up. Paul got his golf cart going . . . They are enjoying ball games on their new TV. If you felt the earth shake, it was when Paul paid for it. - Only been 20 years since he bought one.

#13 – Mike and Cheryl Pearce – They arrived New Year's Eve from the cold icy Kokomo, IN Mike and Jim Bair are quite the fisherman with golfing on Wednesdays. Cheryl stays busy doing crafts and reading. On Mike's second day here he caught a nice big fish in the lagoon.

#15 – Bill Bondi & Bonnie Nichols – Bonnie will soon start therapy on learning how to bend. Bill is adding on a porch across the front of their house. Digging out the stumps is his first project after getting all the required permits.

#17 – Roy Hunt – They are enjoying the sunshine and warm weather.

#### **Seminole Drive – Sue Jones**

**{Vi Johnson, after many years serving as the Seminole Drive representative for our newsletter, has decided to retire. Hence, Sue Jones and/or Pat Grau will be your new "local reporters." Thanks, Vi, for all of your work and dedication to the well-being of BCP!}**

#2 – Jim and Wanita Covalt are entertaining her brother for two weeks. They are excited as they don't get to see him too often. Jim has been involved with shuffling with Coach House and bicycling; the newsletter keeps Wanita busy.

#4 – Rex and Jane Hopper arrived two weeks ago and are happy to be here.

#10 – Richard Weaver is feeling better, and Karen's recovery from her knee replacement surgery is going well. Her surgeon told her she is "ready to get on with her life" so she is looking forward to doing a few cartwheels next week. They both send their thanks for all the supportive prayers, cards, food, etc. Karen said the generosity of the people in our park was "humbling."

#11 – Lon and Jan harts enjoyed visiting with friends – Larry and Sharon Stoner and Wayne and Carolyn Kitch – from up North (Indiana). Lon is also happy to have finished the repairs on their front step.

#15 – Kip & Vi are expecting company, their two daughters in mid-February. They are busy with Festival planning also.

#19 – Hunt and Susan Jones (submitted by Hunt): New Year's Day passed without a visit from one of Hunt's illegitimate children who had failed his early parole review. Nevertheless, Hunt found him in good spirits during the allotted ten-minute call from East Jersey State Prison. Hunt recently took the old GMC and Airstream to the Tin Can Tourists' exhibition at the Florida RV Supershow in Tampa, joining Forrest and Jeri Bone and 15 other members for the six-day event. (You may have seen the rig on Fox News that week). Nearly 5,000 people visited the TCT exhibits. Susan moderated the first BCP Book Club meeting on January 15 during which a lively and interesting discussion took place.

#21 – Tom White's sister and brother-in-law from Fort Collins, Colorado visited at the end of January. Tom is looking forward to his "imminent" (his word choice) retirement.

#23 – According to our last phone visit, Joyce, John Mark and Russell Lee Sang hope to arrive in Florida in early February.

#25 – Pat Grau is busy with friends and activities (bike riding, book club, etc.) She joined in on the cruise "jaunt" with others from the Park last week.

#29 – Bob and Kathy Kendall went on the cruise this past week.

#31 – Pat Schuler was full of news. She is planning a weekend get-a-way to Michonopy and Cross Creek (of Marjorie Rawling's fame) – a combination of antique shopping and sight seeing. In March she is planning a trip to Rome, GA to follow the progress of her grandchildren in a music and art competition.

#33 – Dick and Jane Rondell are looking forward to a visit from their son. (He has signed them up with "Comfort Keeper," a service they quite like and thought others here might be interested in: help comes in three times a week from 3:00 to 6:30. The person cleans, does wash, shops, if you need, and makes an evening meal.) The Rondells are also excited about their annual birthday tea with Jane's older sister and her daughter on Valentine's Day.

#41 – As we approached Glenna Shanahan's home, beautiful monarch butterflies were fluttering

around her plants. This month she enjoyed the first meeting of the book club and had a nice visit with her daughter.

#51 – Bill and Charlene Cobb said they made it home for Christmas but were held up on their return here because of snow. They have been working repairs/upkeep and are expecting two batches of kids for visits in March.

#55 & #57 – According to Shirley Halstead, things are "going smooth" for everyone.

#59 – Sandy and Chester Miller are renting the Lane's place. Chester will be involved with planting watermelons locally, and Sandy seemed interested in the many activities in our park.

#61 – Oz and Maggie Louise Tuohy, Peggy McKenzie's daughter, left from Ohio via Fort Lauderdale to winter at BCP. They are looking forward to exploring the BCP activities like the Saturday morning coffees and the State days.

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

#1 – John & Nancy Martin plan to return in Feb.

#2 – Betty Eddy is enjoying her daily routine. She was very sorry sister Juanita from Two Rivers became ill and needed to go home to see her doctors. Sisters Nancy & Debbie from Ohio will be here for a week's visit on Feb. 12. Sister Carolyn from Winter Haven will come over too.

#3 – Brenda Dugan & Butch entertained son Bobby, daughter Robin, mark, Julie, Jasmine & Hunter on Sunday.

#4 – Ginny Davis came in a couple of weeks ago with her sister Barbara. They did a lot of visiting & waiting around for the Verizon technician; not much happiness there. Barb headed back home & Ginny is off to Las Vegas along with son Gary & his wife. Ginny is one busy lady.

#6 – Doug Williams spent the first half of January with the "Miseries." He's since returned to golf, working on his jeep and fixing various broken toys for grandchildren.

#8 – Pat Barber should be here in Feb.

\*9 – Fred James is busy working at Mixon's and Maggie is staying with a lady at 77<sup>th</sup> and Manatee three days a week.

#10 – Mike Osterman went to Indiana to visit his son who is was injured in a car wreck. I hear he's having a ball playing with his grandkids. "One kid playing with another!"

#11 – Sharon Ferguson has no news. I'm sure she's busy playing cards and visiting with friends.

#12 – Snookie Gilberti is working lots at Mixon's and Pete is working also and keeping things in order at the house.

#13 – Don & JoAnn White have no big news, just enjoying the weather and living in the park.

#14 – Carol Walsh should be showing up in February.

#15 – Ron & Debbie Herrold will be back home on Feb. 10 from their mission work. We've missed them.

#16 – Wadeen & Mark Baribeau should be showing up any day now.

#17 – John & Marge Hebeisen should be here in Feb. Haven't really heard for sure. Hurry back!

#18 – Earl & Gloria Oakman are enjoying spending time with friends here. Their grandson from Austintown, OH will be coming to Disney in Feb. to play in one of the parades. Won't that be fun? Then the last of Feb. they will be going on a five-day cruise – a Christmas gift from their kids.

#21 – Don Herrold still has some shingles; but they are getting better.

#22 – Linda Wagner is getting settled in. Her computer is finally up and running and can scan her picture albums. Her cousins from Port Charlotte came in on Tues. for her first formal meal, German apple pancakes for brunch. They sure sounded good!! She'll be going to NY soon to visit her brother and sister and families. She showed me some things her Apple computer would do. My, what an interesting lady.

#23 – Jim & Judy Featherstone finally made it home. They are getting caught up on unplanned projects: sewer lines, hot water tank and car battery. Anyway, they are glad to be down and see old friends.

#### **Braden Castle Drive – Doris Mattern & Pat Gross**

#25 – Doris Mattern – She's a little under the weather – doing better. She will pick up the newsletter next month.

#26 – Dave & Nancy Moore are on a cruise – What fun!

#29 - Ruth & Tom Briggs - Tues. & Wed. it was in the single digits in Ohio. Thursday a blizzard closed the schools. Boy, are we glad to be here! Friends visited from Ohio & the Villages this month. They loved the birds and water, as well as the sunshine. This week was the first time Ruth made Shirley's famous noodles. A sunny day found them rolling out the dough and drying the noodles in the sunshine. Yum! Yum! W

#30 – Dorothy Gregory was not feeling so good;tim she had a ride in an ambulance. She's back homerivr now; keep her in your prayers.

#36 – Judy & Kenny Smith had their house painted. It is looking good; just have their trim &real garage door left. Then, they can rest. bee

#37 – Bill & Jenny Cox would like to thankout, everyone who made the sale a big success for Randy. It was a big help to them. Bill & JennySpa have a new great granddaughter, Emily Ann, alsoSo known as “Lady Bug”. She weighed 7 lbs 13.6 oz. Bill says everyone should use their imagination for to g the “Mardi Gras in the Big Easy” parade. Let's dogot it up right! the

#38 – Dave & Annette Holub are getting newdes siding – says “sorry for blocking the road. Dave sits across the way with Bill Cox making sure things are done right. Says he's working hard but will look good when done.

#41 – Verle & Pat Gross - Their daughter's family visited – two teenagers who never have been to Florida or a beach. They went to Disney for two days and the beach three days. They went

#### ***SORRY – COMPUTER PROBLEMS ON THIS COLUMN***

parasailing and to Sweet Berries – What fun!. Verle & Pat celebrated their 14<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary and Verle's 81<sup>st</sup> birthday.- another day in Paradise. “We are blessed!”

#### **Lafayette – Pinky**

We are so lucky to have the Cookie Fairy in our neighborhood. That's Belva; I think that lovely Fairy hits other streets also. Thank you, Belva and Dave. I don't know if she uses recipes or just wings it?? Oh never mind; I thought it was kind of funny.

One day I took a cart ride and there was Art Vandenbusche watering flowers. You know how I am about that. I guess it's up to me to figure those guys out. Hey, they were real flowers; he even brought one to the golf cart to check it out!! Way to go, Art.

Talk about smoke. What? No one was. Well, I didn't know really how to start this sentence. Rose and Art were enjoying a lovely day in the house when they started to smell smoke. They looked at each other, what should we do? Rose called the Fire Dept and told them “to just send a little truck” How did that work out? Two large fire trucks. Another truck with the Fire Marshall came also. He checked out their outlets etc. It was a bad motor in A/C in the attic. Thank goodness they didn't have to destroy anything to find it. I've heard of Smokin hot Mama's, haven't you.

#### **Desoto St. – Pinky**

Did you know we have a Life Guard in the park? Well, meet Jim Bair. He has rescued LC at least 3 times when he (LC) fell down in the mud in the River. Isn't that weird since our last name is Stuck. Sometimes someone will ask how do you spell that? I say, it's Stuck as in the mud. But this last time he really was stuck in the mud, because he's always been interested in being a mud wrestler! So watch out, world!

Hey, you have heard about people throwing a Spaghetti on the ceiling to see if it is done. Some people try to say that's the new way to decorate. Away one day Kathy Brown came over to give LC his shot (not whisky) in his arm. She drew it up and did that little thing to make sure the air is out. She pointed at the ceiling; wow, what a nice design that left. Luckily it fades.

Our Harold Hall hasn't been up to par. I don't know if he ever made par. But I'm sure he is going to show them a birdie soon. When I was younger I played little golf. My daughter's boyfriend was home one summer from college. I worked 3 to 11 and wanted to get off to play golf with him so I called my work and told them I wasn't feeling up to

par. That cracked him up and, of course, I never got par.

I hope you haven't heard anything about us having a stripper in the neighborhood. I checked into it and found out it was just Kathy Brown stripping a desk to re-do it. So much for that rumor.

It is so much fun to watch Norma Ellerbrock put her trash in the waste bin. She does Rock, Paper, Scissors to see which bin she uses to put her dryer lint and coffee grounds in.

Leo has a ceiling fan he wants to put up. He asked Jerry Wood if he could help him because he (Leo) has a bad shoulder, and so does Jerry. I don't know which is which so it will be serious watching that.

About that terrible Notre Dame football game. I think the players were to be taken to the game in a big bus and it lost its way. That's why they didn't show up. Hey, thanks to Dave Gall for flying that flag for me even if he lost some family members who think he turned against his beloved LSU.

I'm going to be the Cake Cop again at the Festival this year so don't try any funny stuff!! Hope you have a Dan Dan Danny month.

#### **Columbia St.**

#11 – The Monarch butterfly nursery at 11 Columbia is doing well. Lois Braley is on the 3<sup>rd</sup> batch of caterpillars. Stop and read the banner that is on the front of the garage. This tells the history of a Monarch from egg to the butterfly.

Lois says, "Thank you for all the greeting and Christmas card fronts. Between the park and the church I have close to 3,000 fronts. They will be collected until the end of January."

#### **High Street – Gay Wells**

#3 – John and Georgiana are happy to have Jim and Brenda staying at the RV park. They are a big help to them.

#4 – Forrest and Jeri were on a camping trip again. They enjoy showing their trailer and the time with the people they camp with.

#5 – Ralph and Gloria have been "under the weather" but are doing much better now so, out biking and walking, and Ralph is back singing in the choir.

#8 – Gay has been busy selling tickets for the shuffle club 50/50 raffle each morning and then going with Jan Johnson to solicit businesses for gifts for the Festival. Paul kept the home fires burning.

#9 – Jim Bair is back doing a lot more fishing now that the weather has improved. Nancy is always busy baking, walking and with Castle Club business.

#10 – Bruce and Eloisa took a weekend trip to Fort Lauderdale to see her niece's new home. Said the weather was great down there, even though it was a little cool back home. They are looking forward to a cruise coming up this spring.

#12 – Darwin and Connie Damcott are down from cold New York State and enjoying the beautiful Florida weather.

#13 – Mark & Cheryl Caldwell finally made it down and will be here until the first part of March. Great to see them back again.

#14 – Bill and Judy Payne were down for three weeks but now they are back in cold Indiana helping with the grandchildren.

#16 – Don and Carol Hughes have friends, the Sellars, down for about two months. They are staying in Payne's house. Enjoy the wonderful weather we are having after a few cold days, but nothing like up north which we are certainly grateful for.

#### **Gardenia Lane – Joanne Burek**

#2 – Carol Raymond had a fun day last Sunday. Her daughter-in-law, granddaughter and 10 year-old great-gran brought baby "Cece" to visit from Orlando. Cece was just 6 days old and is Carol's 13<sup>th</sup> granddaughter. She certainly has been blessed.

#4 – Eli Reyes says – "Mabel is enjoying the weather in Michigan while I'm enjoying the weather here, playing golf and fishing. So far the Wed. golf bunch is having a wonderful time. We play Wed. afternoon every week. If you would like to play, see me or Terry Collins."

#8 – Linda Szczepanski & her friend Al have been working on cleaning the place, inside and out. Al is remarkable in all he has done to wash, clean and paint the outside. New hardwood floors are in and wood blinds. Linda is waiting for a visit from friends from Buffalo.

#10 – Joanne Burek is enjoying being retired and spending time with friends & neighbors. Each day is a gift and it's special to meet friends evenings on Owen's porch.

#12 – George & Beverly Hansen have been busy as ever between fishing, bingo and evening walking with friends. They enjoy the hot winter weather. Their granddaughter, Keri Ann, from home in New York had an encounter with a deer and the deer won pinning her in the driver's seat. She's ok but has to drive George's truck now. Now, Bev had a tumble over a cord in her house with lots of black & blues. And now, I never thought we'd see George down. Wow, it's a 1st. The flu bug got him bad. He has been in bed, sleeping and sick. Get well George, quick.

#16 - Owen Lautenschleger has been enjoying the horse shoes on Thurs. at 9 a.m. each week at the lagoon. All are welcome. He's also been busy video-ing things in the park. We are so fortunate to have these memories saved on dvd's.

#18 – Thelma Seaman had a fall in her home and broke her hip. Since surgery she is recuperating at Riverfront Rehab on 15<sup>th</sup> St. E in Room 103. Her attitude is so good that she will recover quickly.

#20 – Ed Atwood and Nancy Lifsey are enjoying all that the park offers. Ed has worked at repairing and painting outside the library. Good job, Ed.

### **Azalea Lane – Joanne Burck**

#1 – Bill & Chris Pollitt are looking forward to being here by the end of Feb. Can't wait to see them.

#2 – Barbara Duffy was so pleased that her neighbors surprised her by trimming the tree branches off her roof. She reciprocated George, Eli and Owen with plates of homemade brownies. Thanks Barb.

#3 – Frank & Roni Potter finally arrived. So good to have them here in the park. They enjoyed meeting with friends Sun. evenings at Wendy's.

#5 – Jim and Lou Bliesner are happy to be back in the park. Sorry to hear that Lou had a fall on her way to coffee and donuts. She's mending well. Jim is back to his Friday bowling.

### **Magnolia Lane – Dorris Holleman**

Dolly Zerbe is owner of #4, but she is unable to come back from Indiana so Dorris Holleman has rented #4 until April. Dorris was on Ponce de Leon last year. She enjoys the new location on "the Strip" and is making use of the library & looking forward to "Ohio Day".

### **Riverview Lane – Rolf Ernst**

#1 – Jean Morgan – Jean, an active walker, continues her interest in shuffling, hymn sing and is the proud owner of a new sink. Happy washing !

#4 – Harvey & Dee Johnson – This couple enjoys going out to dinner and the movies. Harvey continues with Bible Study while Dee is active with Red Hats and is looking forward to the "Fiddler On the Roof" trip later this month.

#8 – Bill Wilson & Molly Crawford – Molly, who comes to us from Great Britain, is simply enjoying the good life at BC and is a voracious prolific reader. (She isn't divulging titles!)

#11 – Donald & Kay Pierce – Don reports that he and Kay were visited by daughter Susan and her husband Terry on 12/26. They were able to get in a little fishing before having to return to Indiana due to Kay's mother's hospitalization with a serious illness. Unfortunately, she passed away on 1/7. They extend their thanks to all of their friends in the park for all of the thoughts and prayers during this difficult time.

#12 – Diane McClung – Diane is a member of the Red Hats and Castle Club and is a walker and shuffler. (She is of few words.)

#14 – George and Shirley Sankey – This couple's van was on the receiving end of a collision which resulted in some front-end damage (thankfully no injuries). They are currently "tooling around" in a loaner until repairs are made.

#23 – JoAnn Phillips – JoAnn reports from Peru, IN that she will be welcoming her 6<sup>th</sup> grandchild in March. Her property, in a sluggish economy, remains on the market.

#27 – Rolf Ernst – Rolf impatiently awaits the first pitch of the Pirates spring training competition at newly-renovated McKechnie Field on 2/24 versus the Atlanta Braves. He's also itching to get out on the river in his new boat. Ahoy!

#29 – Derk & Bep Dewitt – Derk reports he has nothing particularly newsworthy but this reporter's confidential sources reveal that Derk and his buddy, Bob Johnson, are always looking for ways to get into trouble. Bep pleads the Fifth!

#31 – Arthur & Sheryl Casey – This likable globe-trotting couple from Lakeland recently traveled to North Carolina and are taking a motorcycle trip to Pensacola the week of the 27<sup>th</sup>. They consummated a "great deal" on their property and plan to return to BC the weekend of 2/16. Welcome back!

#33 – Henry Braswell – This busy guy continues his work as a business consultant and is active with E-bay sales. See you soon Henry.

### **Poinciana Circle – Rita Hoagland**

#1 Jack & Maxine Hayes - Jack and Maxine are thrilled to be back in Braden Castle and leave that cold Indiana weather behind. They had a new great-granddaughter this summer and have enjoyed her and her big sister. They are so glad to have their little home here in Braden Castle put back together after the storm hit them this summer that did a lot of damage. Maxine is working hard on Indiana Days then hopes to be able to just relax and enjoy life.

#2 Tom & Sharon Crowe - Tom & Sharon are just enjoying the nice weather.

#3 Rita Hoagland - Rita is trying to help Maxine with Indiana Days and just enjoying the nice warm weather. Rita's daughter back home tells her how cold and nasty it is there so she should just enjoy it here while possible.

#6 John & Choochie Romanchock- John's son from Texas was here for a visit and they really enjoyed him while he was here. Peggy and Roger, friends from back in PA, were here for four days and they had a good time with them while they were here. Choochie's knee is better after having surgery this summer. They are both just glad to be here in the warm weather.

#12 Doug & Nancy Nelson - Nancy is glad she is back and wishes Doug could be here also. After having two eye surgeries Doug still cannot see out of that eye. He has a doctor's appointment soon and they sure are hoping for good news.

#15 Ann Allen is busy shuffling and playing music and just enjoying the warm weather here in Florida. She is looking forward to a visit from her daughter and son-in-law in early February.

#16 James & Roxanne Burton - Roxanne and Bonnie are going to be taking art painting classes and she is looking forward to that. Roxanne is looking forward to Lou Ann and Suzanne, her two sisters, visit in the month of March. Their kids and grandkids are coming for spring break and they get to keep a great-granddaughter for a week while her parents take a cruise.

#17 Max & Diane Miller -Max has the scoreboards all painted and lined and is now working on the barber pole at the courts. Diane is finally getting some sewing done and, of course, that pleases her a lot.

#21 Byron & Viola Sommers - They are going to have a cousin of Byron's come from Clearwater for a visit. They are looking forward to that.

#24 Vic & Jan Hillard - They are just enjoying shuffling and the warm weather.

Mary Miller, in her letter to Lila Berry, reports that she is doing fine. She is going to Senior Citizens every day. She misses everyone at Braden Castle.

Everyone here on Poinciana Circle seems to be in agreement that they are enjoying the warm, sunny weather here.