

Maranatha Village Trumpet



"The Lord Cometh!"



Winter Is For Picnics!

January, February and March at Maranatha Village are desirable months for outdoor activities including, walking, bike riding, golf, fishing and picnicking.

The warm winter weather at Maranatha Village is perfect for picnics. The Conway Memorial Park with its beautiful Fogle Pavilion and open pit cooking area is a wonderful venue for a great picnic, whether it is a state picnic or a family picnic.

Winter residents escaping the cold of their northern homes take advantage of the beautiful weather by having state picnics. Some of the picnics this year were for Michigan, Minnesota, and Indiana. Also this year there was a "Born in 1941" picnic, plus individual families also had picnics.

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The Administrator's Perspective

Dollars & Sense!

By Dr. Gerald Webber



Have you noticed how many items around the house are labeled: CAUTION: FLAMMABLE? The manufacturer wants you to know that, while the product itself may be very useful, it has the capacity to ignite a flame, cause an

explosion, or otherwise inflict bodily harm.

A discourse on Village finances might bear the same warning. Touching a man's wallet or checkbook is tantamount to laying hands on the most sensitive parts of his anatomy. Still, there are few aspects of our lives that aren't tied somehow to finances. That's true of our shared cost-of-living in this hallowed community.

Did you know that Maranatha Village has no source of income other than what is provided by its residents and guests? In one of my former lives as leader of a mission agency, my primary appeal was to people and churches "outside" who bought into our ministry and helped pay the bills to make it happen. As Village Administrator, doing this would be an exercise in futility. I could send out a plea, asking folks to underwrite our salaries, pave our roads, replace our roofs, repair our broken water and sewer lines, pay our cable and power bills, mow our lawns and common areas, replace carpets and floor coverings, paint our buildings, and contribute to our insurance costs. I could do that—but it would be a miserable flop!

You see, the folks "out there" have no "skin in the game," no stake in what goes on inside our fence lines. Residency in Maranatha Village is a "user pays" proposition. You and I—whether as 1) owners of manufactured homes; or 2) residents in one of our 139 villas—we (and our short-term guests) are the stake-holders who derive the benefits and thus bear the burden of keeping Maranatha Village viable. Here's how it happens for the typical resident.

To initiate the "Life Lease" process, one remits an "Acquisition Fee" (formerly the "Foundation Gift"), which es-

entially enables us to maintain and improve individual and common properties. When taking occupancy, an Occupancy Bond is purchased, the proceeds of which go directly into an investment account producing income (sometimes more, sometimes less) to help operate the Village. That bond is the resident's to redeem, should his/her situation ever change.

Then, on a monthly basis, we pay a Maintenance Fee. In the next Trumpet, I'll reveal the results of a recent survey that reveals just how those fees are spent for your benefit. You may be surprised to see what you "get" for your money—frankly, I was!

Here at Maranatha, there is no privileged class of those who enjoy the perks and escape the responsibilities. We're in this thing together—for better, for worse, for richer or poorer, in sickness and in health—and more often than not, "til death do us part." I don't want to stretch the metaphor too far, but it is a "union" of sorts, a blending of lives in a close-knit environment, sharing the joys and enduring the challenges. I hope you're happy to be part of it.

Stay tuned for more "**Dollars & Sense.**"

NEW RESIDENTS — 2016

APARTMENTS

Stephens, Marvin/Susan
Wolford, Doyle/Bobbi
*Mullineaux, Jeanne
*Oglesby, Ed/Mina
*Johnson, Jerry/Marlys
Lanz, Max/Louise
Ingerson, Vincent/Carolyn

71 Daniel (Cook)
52 Daniel (Romig)
29 Matthew (K. Lowe)
14 Daniel (Tinkham)
69 Daniel (Vornholt)
6 Ruth (Promo) (Selstad)
15 Maranatha (Promo) (Kruse)

MOBILE HOMES

Mott, Wayne/Gloria
McNeil, Duane/Joan
*Tinkham, Dave/Judy
Windish, Richard/Sue
Livezey, Geof/Cindy

8 Jude (Roerig)
237 Timothy (Edgecomb)
246 Timothy (VanKleeck)
223 Maranatha (Sparks)
236 Maranatha (Pierce)

*re-located---5/4/16

Winter Is For Picnics!

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Gerry Carlson wrote the following about the Minnesota picnic. "About 40 Maranatha Village residents and winter visitors with Minnesota roots or connections gathered in the Fogle Pavilion for a time of food and fellowship on March 11th. It was a great time of sharing and laughter.

Each couple attending gave a short testimony identifying who they were and their connection to Minnesota and to Maranatha Village. This time led to much fun-filled banter and humor. However, on a more serious level, there were several moving prayer requests and blessings shared by various folks.

Then Max Day, Doug McLachlan, and Terry Price each gave more pointed testimonies and reports about their upcoming summer ministry opportunities back up north. We were reminded to pray for these men, and their wives, as they continue to serve in various ministry situations. Actually, we all need to remember to pray for one another as we have opportunities to serve the Lord wherever He places us."

If you are reading this and have just spent your winter in the cold north, then next year Maranatha Village could be the perfect place for you. Contact the Village office at 863-385-7897 to check things out.

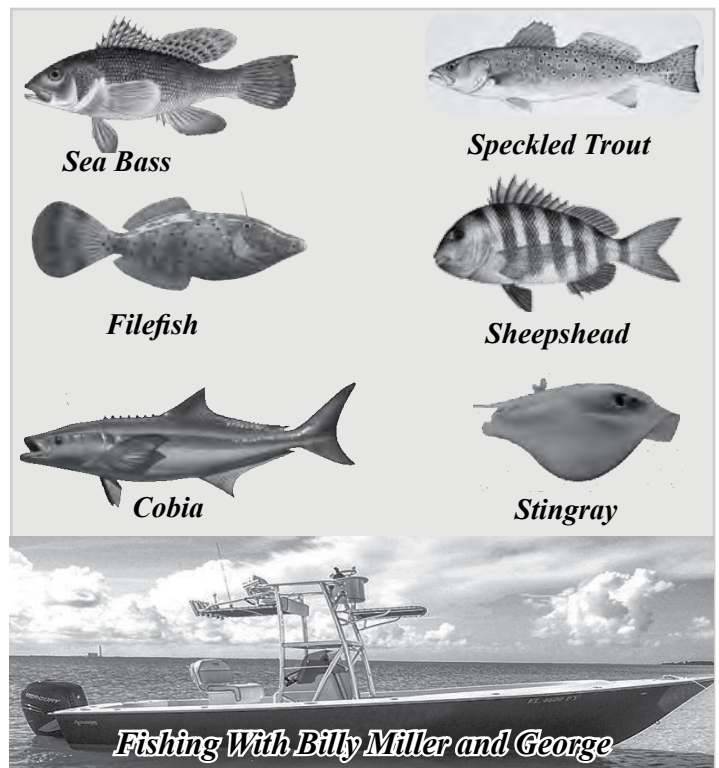
Picnics in January, February and March are much better than shoveling snow.

Rev. Carl Barton

Village Men On Intracoastal Waters!

We had a beautiful day for fishing with Billy Miller and his buddy George. Eight guys (Bruce Hendsbee, Ken Cook, Dick Sweezey, Don Wetzel, Mike Livezey, Geof Livezey, Joe Festa, Dave Welshans) went out into the Intracoastal waters, but did not go into the Gulf. Billy said that there would not be enough room for me, so I took a much needed five hours of rest, and spent some time on the beach in St. Pete. Those on Billy's boat caught about eight speckled trout (18"), and one cobia (36"). Some small fish were thrown back into the water. They did about 99% casting. The other men on George's boat caught about ten sheepshead, three small sharks, one stingray, two filefish, and two small sea bass. They did all bottom-type fishing. So I guess as the year has gone so far....it has not been good fishing. Too bad the guys did not do better, but the fish will bite only when they want to bite. I appreciated Clay Lewis's input in helping to put this fishing trip together.

Don Laven



New Village Residents

Richard & Sue Windish



Sue & Richard

Sue Windish: I was born to wonderful Christian parents in Cedar Springs, Michigan. My two younger brothers and I have many fond memories of picking fruit at Grandpa's orchards, swimming at Olin Lakes, and attending Friday night Bible club. When I was 12 years old, I went to Lake Ann Baptist Bible Camp, up by Traverse City, Michigan. While there, I was pushed off the high diving board, and a life guard had to help me back to shore. That very night I could not wait until the evening service to get saved. I have lost my way many times, but my Lord has redeemed me, and I am so grateful for His love.

Richard (the love of my life) and I were married in 1991, and my family doubled. We are so thankful that all our children know the Lord as their Savior.

We have 16 wonderful grandchildren and 10 ½ great grandbabies.

Richard Windish: I am from Holland, Michigan. I was a long-haul independent truck driver for 40 years. I retired, and then I hauled travel trailers from the factory to dealers for a few years. In the early years of driving, I came across Bible tracts. I met a couple of Christian truck drivers, and at first, I ignored them. Then I decided to read the King James Bible through and did so in one year. I have read it through each year for the last 40 or so years.

It took some close calls before I finally trusted Jesus as my Savior. Once I accepted Jesus, I began to grow in Him. I have made a lot of mistakes, but I still belong to Him.

Sue and I have been married for 25 years, and we have been living in San Jacinto, California. We have been active in church the last ten years at the Hemet Valley Baptist Church in Hemet, California.

The Lighter Side Of Wisdom

*"If you worry, you don't pray.
If you pray, don't worry."*

* * * * *

*"When we get tangled up in our problems, be still.
God wants us to be still so He can untangle the knot."*

* * * * *

"A grudge is a heavy thing to carry."

* * * * *

*"You know you are getting older when you know all the answers,
but nobody asks you the questions."*

* * * * *

*Church Sign: "You are not too bad to come in.
You are not too good to stay out."*

From 0-5 to League Softball Champions!

by Dick Mooney



Dick

One Of Our Own!

Playing in the 55 and over league this winter in Sebring was a blessing for me. I've played softball on numerous championship teams in New York State over 40 years, but

the championship in Sebring was special and different than any other I have ever experienced.

The league drafts players from a list of pre-registered players. The coach who selected me is from a league in New York in which I played. Our team consisted of players from Canada, Michigan and New York. The league was made up of four teams with players ranging in age from 55 to 81. We played on Tuesdays and Thursdays at noon at the Highland Sports Complex, at the end of Martin Luther King Blvd.

We were sponsored by New Beginnings Church in Sebring. At the beginning of the season, our coach announced two team rules: one, that he was the boss, and two, that the team would pray before each game. Our coach soon realized that he had forgotten to draft a pitcher. He asked if any of the players could pitch and since I had some pitching experience, I became the pitcher.

We started the season losing our first five games, but we didn't get discouraged. I think the losses actually brought our team closer together. We encouraged each other and didn't criticize our teammates for missing a play or not getting hits when they were at bat, unlike some other teams in the league. After games we spent time together – we had lunch together at the VFW on

Tuesdays and grilled at the field after games on Thursdays.

We finished the season in third place and had to play the second place team who had an All-World player on it. Plus, they were a powerful hitting team in the league. We were trailing by three runs going into the top of the last inning. We scored eight runs to defeat them, which put us into the championship game against the first place team. The first place team, Chula Vista, had beaten us five of the seven times we played against them during the season. We played a flawless defensive game and beat them 15 to 13 to win the league championship.

I am so thankful that the Lord placed me on this team, for the fellowship we enjoyed, and for the opportunity to minister to believers and many unbelievers. At our final game, I was given the opportunity to pray and prayed that each team member would seek a personal relationship with God.

If the Lord is willing, I may just play again next year.

Editor's Comment: Dick not only likes playing softball, but he also enjoys fishing. Just recently while fishing in the Village front lake, he caught this big beautiful bass.



The Softball Champions



Lot's Wife!

The Sunday school teacher was describing how Lot's wife looked back and turned into a pillar of salt, when little Johnny interrupted, "My Mummy looked back once, while she was DRIVING," he announced triumphantly, "and she turned into a telephone pole!"



Cook's Korner

Raspberry Kropsua

Finnish oven pancake

- 2 T. butter
- 3 eggs
- 2 cups milk
- 1 tsp. salt
- 2 cups flour
- 3 cups raspberries
- 1 cup sugar

Heat butter in oven in 9 x 13 inch glass pan. Pour batter into pan. It may appear thin. Sprinkle berries on top, then sprinkle with sugar. Bake @ 425° about 40 minutes. Batter will rise high and fall as it cooks. Serve with yogurt or sour cream or eat plain - no syrup needed. Reheats well in microwave. Use one large egg if cutting recipe in half.

Barb Kruger

Luscious Lemon Bars

Maribeth Smith

- 2 cups flour
 - 1 cup softened butter
 - 1/2 cup powdered sugar
- Mix together and press into a 9 x 13 pan. Bake 18 minutes in a 350° oven.

- 4 eggs
- Pinch of salt
- 2 cups regular sugar
- 6 T. lemon juice
- 4 T. flour
- 1 tsp. baking powder

Beat eggs; add remaining ingredients. Pour onto hot crust. Bake 22 minutes at 350°. Sprinkle powdered sugar over all after baking. When cool, cut into bars and enjoy!

Chocolate Chip Cake

- 1 cup chopped dates
 - 1 tsp. baking soda
- Pour 1-1/3 cups boiling water over and cool

- Cream together:
- 1/2 cup shortening
 - 1 cup sugar

- Add & Cream:
- 2 well-beaten eggs
 - 1 tsp. vanilla

Add with the date mixture.

Sift together and add to date mixture:

- 1-1/2 cups plus 3 T. flour
- 1/4 tsp. salt
- 3/4 tsp. baking soda
- 1 tsp. cocoa

Pour into a well-greased 9 x 13 inch pan

- Top with:
- 6 ounces chocolate chips
 - 1/4 to 1/2 cup sugar
 - 1/2 cup chopped nuts

Bake 350° for 35 minutes

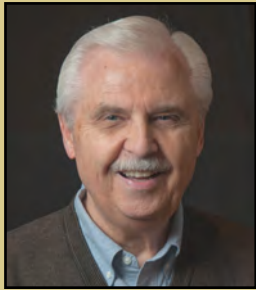
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Joyce Boonstra





Maranatha's Growth & Development!



Telling The Good News

Every day my wife Connie and I thank the Lord for leading us to Maranatha Village a little over two years ago. It has been such a blessing to see the hand of God's leading for us and to experience the multitude of blessings the Lord has

brought to us since making 53 Gideon Rd, Sebring, FL our permanent home.

We love our home! We revel in the natural beauty of the Village! But – most of all we prize the fellowship we enjoy with the many, many new friends and acquaintances we've made here. We have remarked often – and repeatedly – that it is the people who make this place so special.

Now, for several months, I have had the privilege of working alongside Jerry Webber, Jerry Johnson, and the rest of the Maranatha team to serve the needs of the Village. Truly it is a distinct honor and pleasure to tell the "good news" about this wonderful place the Lord has raised up where we can live and serve.

I've already had the privilege of showing a large number of prospects the housing opportunities that are available

here at the Village. It has also been exciting to me that almost daily, we receive phone calls, emails, and other contacts from folks interested in learning about visiting and living in this special place.

Do you know the number one factor that has impressed me about all of these contacts?



Charlie Welner
70 Daniel Road

It has been that nearly all of them are inquiring about the Village because of the encouragement of Maranatha residents, former winter guests, or other friends of the Village. **Word-of-mouth advertising!** That is our greatest asset in promoting the Village.

Will you join with me in publicizing the good news about Maranatha Village? Tell friends and family about the blessings of considering our Village for a winter visit, or as a place to make their home. I will be glad to follow-up on all prospects and inquiries. You may direct inquiries to me at GCarlson@maranathavillage.org or have them call 863-385-7897 and ask for Gerry Carlson.



Gary Hanson – 72 Daniel Road



New Addition for 71 Daniel Rd.



Mini Golf Project

Goal is:\$20,000.00

Donations plus purchase of personal bricks as of May 3, 2016 was:\$14,239.00

Thank you to those who have given.

Village Office

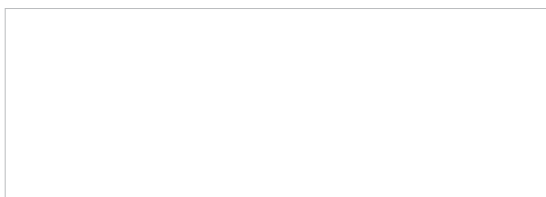
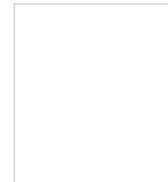
Maranatha Village

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**“Believe on the
Lord Jesus Christ
and you will be saved.”**



Blood Donor HONOR ROLL

*Thank you for participating in the blood drive at
Maranatha Village on Wednesday, March 30, 2016*

*Maxine Arter
Reid Kitchen
Ilene Coyle
Eloise Skillman*

*Cathryn Burlison
Patricia Ann Schwark
William Follett
Jeanette S. Thorp*

*Janice Follett
Eileen Thompson
Deborah Kershaw*

*Bruce Hendsbee
Terry Arter
Dale Moore*



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