life
for the widowed
and their future

Make new friends but keep the old, one is silver and the other gold.

This time honored advice has become our adopted **"LIFE SLOGAN"**
Make good use of this advice each and every day.

1116 West Main Street
Leesburg, FL 34748 (352) 787-0403

Volume 24, Issue 4

October, November, December 2019

Can it really be nine years since I became Life's director in October 2010? It hard for me to believe it's been that long, thus making this the longest tenure I have ever had for one position. I've said it before and I'll say it again: It's also the best job I've had, and I want to thank all of you for that.

It is with that in mind that makes telling you it's time for me to move on, all the harder. But it is time. Ever since I lost Nancy, my wife of 41 years, something has been missing.

On the flip side, Life was where I needed to be as I was trying to adjust to life without my wife. You guys are the greatest. But I'm looking forward to heading out to Seattle more than once or twice a year to see my daughter Emily, David and my three grandkids. Hopefully I'll get more time with Becca too. She's in Orlando and will soon have her Master's in Business.

I'm also looking forward to spending time with my siblings, I have six of them.

I enjoyed my partnership with David Heydt, the first Life Director, as he mentored me for this position. Back in 2010 I wrote that I looked forward to it and it continuing for many years. Though some things can be taught with books or in classrooms some of life's most important lessons are learned through observation. And I learned much observing David and how much he cared for you. I think that was his best lesson and I hope I continued his legacy.

Through the years Life has continued doing the things David did, having wonderful lunches, exciting trips and U-Drives and with fine entertainment. While those things have continued I've also included U-Hikes in our activities. Though I had to cancel them during the past season as I was dealing with the stroke I had Nov. 9, 2017, I hope they will continue.

I will truly miss our Run for Your Life Races. It's turned into a very popular event.

Life is about change. And our meeting place in the Eustis/Tavares/Mount Dora area changed May 2013 when we went from the Elks to Lake Tech. Wow, was that a good move. Our lunches are prepared by the culinary arts students, AND they are wonderful. I can't believe we've been there seven years already.

Of course we had change in Leesburg too after 20 years of meeting at the Leesburg Community Building. We appreciate the Salvation Army in Leesburg, but it looks like we'll be back at the new Leesburg Community Building soon.

I want to thank Roger Beyers and the faith he had in me. It gave me the flexibility to care for Nancy and she had the support of all of you. I don't have a date yet for my departure since I will be helping my replacement, as David helped me.

And besides, I'll be back as a Life member

Blessings,

Stan Reed

BUS TRIPS

GIRAFFE RANCH
Friday, November 15 -- *Life's a Trip* -- **$99.00**

Join us as we travel to Dade City, FL for a fabulous day in this quaint little town. You will be pleasantly surprised at the unique atmosphere, wonderful food and the amazing experience of possibly the closest thing to an African Safari when we visit the Giraffe Ranch. I know you will agree that "it's worth the drive".

Our day begins with Lunch on Limoges; a charming little family owned restaurant that has been delighting patrons near and far for more than 100 years. Our lunch choices are: Tarragon Chicken Salad with Fresh Fruit Salad; Greek Chicken Salad with Fresh Fruit Salad; Turkey and Bacon Croissant Sandwich with Potato Salad; Pecan Chicken Breast with Seasoned Potatoes and Fresh Veggie. Everyone gets yummy homemade muffins and fruit butter, coffee or tea. **Please make your selection at time of reservation.**

After lunch we travel a few minutes to the Giraffe Ranch where you will experience firsthand, the lives of giraffe and 70+ other species from around the world living under huge live oaks and open grasslands in a setting that is right out of Africa. Giraffe Ranch is a licensed working ranch that specializes in exotic and domestic species. Learn about these animals from an expert guide from the comfort of a custom 4-WD vehicle. Giraffe Ranch is a hands-on real working game farm and wildlife preserve where animals have room to roam free.

The cost of this trip is $99.00 per person. Trip includes transportation, lunch and safari tour. Payment due at time of reservation.
To make a reservation, call Life's-a-Trip-Tours at407-855-9732, or email Barbara@lifes-a-triptours.com. Payment due at time of reservation. Make checks payable to Life's a Trip Tours and mail to P.O. Box 590066, Orlando, FL 32859.

Deadline for cancellation with a refund is October 16.
Activity Level: Moderate

1st pick up: **Lowes in Mount Dora** at 9:00 a.m. Park close to 441 away from Bldg.
2nd pick up: Leesburg (corner of Main and Lee, behind law office) at 9:45 a.m.
We will return around 5:30 p.m. & 6:00 p.m.

BOK TOWER
Sunset & Symphony Concert
Saturday, December 7 -- *Life's a Trip* **-- $89.00**

Capture the holiday spirit and celebrate "family traditions" at Bok Tower Gardens. Stroll through the gardens and view one of the greatest achievements of noted landscape architect Frederick Law Olmsted, Jr. This lush garden is filled with many sensory delights for personal renewal and enjoyment.

This year's concert will feature the award winning Orlando Philharmonic Orchestra. The concert begins at 6:00 p.m. with a pre-show at 5:00 p.m. Our group will have reserved seating. Shuttle service is available via golf carts through the evening.

Your boxed meal is provided by the Blue Palmetto Café. Meal choices are as follows: Chicken Blueberry Salad (homemade chicken salad with mixed greens, feta cheese, candied pecans, strawberries, served with blueberry pomegranate dressing); Turkey & Smoked Gouda cheese, sweet & tangy mayo, lettuce and tomato on Multi-Grain Bread; or Vegetarian Wrap (Provolone and cheddar, lettuce, tomato, cucumbers, greens, red peppers, hummus and olives in a tomato-basil wrap, served with chipotle ranch dressing). **Please make your selection at time of reservation.**

The cost of this trip is $89.00. Trip includes transportation, admission ticket, concert, boxed dinner and driver gratuity. Trip is based on a minimum of 35 people.
To make a reservation, call Life's-a-Trip-Tours at407-855-9732, or email Barbara@lifes-a-triptours.com. Payment due at time of reservation. Make checks payable to Life's a Trip Tours and mail to P.O. Box 590066, Orlando, FL 32859.

Deadline for cancellation with a refund is November 7.
Activity Level: Moderate

1st pick up: Lowe's in Mount Dora (Park close to 441 away from Bldg. at 1:30 p.m.)
2nd pick up: Leesburg (corner of Main and Lee, behind law office) at 2:00 p.m.
We will return around 10:30 p.m.

To make day trip reservations, please contact Rick Reed at 352-787-0403 or Barbara Mills at Life's a Trip Tours at 407-855-9732. Payment is due at the time of reservation. Please make checks payable to Life's a Trip Tours. Mail checks to: Life's a Trip Tours, PO Box 590066, Orlando, FL 32859-0066 Deadline for cancellation with a refund is 30 days prior to the trip.

LUNCHEONS

***** Luncheons are $10-$12 *****

Entertainment subject to change
Please RSVP by calling 787-0403 or for more information.

OCTOBER

October 10 – Thursday – 11:30 a.m.

SALVATION ARMY – LEESBURG – 2606 South Street Leesburg - **$10**

Once again, after a delicious buffet-style lunch, our program will be led by Stephen Griswold, a chaplain with the Fire Department, who is a trained fireman, policeman and paramedic. He will give an introduction into public safety and how it has changed since 9-11. One of our Life members heard him speak and said he gives a great program.

October 16 – Wednesday – 11:30 a.m.

LAKE TECH **-** 2001 Kurt Street, Eustis - **$12**

(About a mile north of US Highway 441 on Kurt Street)

Our lunch, prepared by Lake Tech's excellent Culinary Arts Program, is always a highlight. But you'll want to stick around for program. Stephen Griswold, a chaplain with the Fire Department, is a trained fireman, policeman and paramedic. He will give an introduction into public safety and how it has changed since 9-11. One of our Life members heard him speak and said he gives a great program.

NOVEMBER

November 14 – Thursday – 11:30 a.m.

SALVATION ARMY – LEESBURG – *2606 South Street Leesburg* ***- $10***

As usual we will enjoy a delicious lunch. Following lunch we will be entertained by J.P. Perry and his band. J.P. first entertained us two years ago as a solo act. He came back a year ago with a band. This was some of the finest entertainment we have had. And they're back again for an encore presentation.

November 20 – Wednesday – 11:30 a.m.

LAKE TECH **-** 2001 Kurt Street, Eustis - **$12**

(About a mile north of US Highway 441 on Kurt Street)

Our lunch, prepared by Lake Tech's excellent Culinary Arts Program, is always a highlight. But you'll want to stick around for entertainment. J.P. Perry first entertained two years ago as a solo act. He came back a year ago with a band. This was some of the finest entertainment we have had. And they're back again for an encore presentation.

DECEMBER

ANNUAL LIFE CHRISTMAS PARTY - COMBINED

December 12 – Thursday – 11:30 a.m.

SALVATION ARMY – LEESBURG – *2606 South Street Leesburg* ***- $10***

This is our annual Christmas Party. Follow a fine buffet-style lunch, we will move to the Salvation Army Chapel and will be entertainment by the 40-member Pennbrooke Chorus. The Pennbrooke Singers have been delighting audiences for more than 60 years, as they offer their special Holiday program.

Once again, LIFE will lend a helping hand to Advocating for Children, a community organization supporting abused, neglected and abandoned children in the Fifth Judicial Circuit. Please bring a new unwrapped gift for a child or a gift card from Target or Wal-Mart for a teen (mark the amount of the gift card on the outside of the envelope).

MISCELLANEOUS

A Letter Of Thanks To Rick Reed And The Life Group

Dear Rick and the Life Group:

We at "PAWS" want to thank you for inviting us to your Life Luncheon at the Salvation Army on Thursday, Sept. 12th and Lake Tech on Wednesday, Sept. 18.

Thank you for all the kind donations for our Christmas projects for the seniors in Nursing Homes and Assisted Living.

We truly appreciate your kindness.

Sincerely,

Ruth Hart, Correspondence Coordinator

LIGHTER SIDE

RULES FOR THE PERFECT MARRIAGE

By Red Skelton

1. Two times a week we go to a nice restaurant, have a little beverage, good food and companionship. She goes on Tuesdays, I go on Fridays.

2. We also sleep in separate beds. Hers is in California , and mine is in Texas ..

3. I take my wife everywhere, but she keeps finding her way back.

4. I asked my wife where she wanted to go for our anniversary. "Somewhere I haven't been in a long time!" she said. So I suggested the kitchen.

5. We always hold hands. If I let go, she shops.

6. She has an electric blender, electric toaster and electric bread maker. She said "There are too many gadgets,

SPIRITUAL GEM

Charles Spurgeon said, "There is as much joy in the heart of God when He forgives, as there is in the heart of a sinner. God is as blessed in giving as we are in receiving. Do you suppose we benefit the same way when we forgive someone?

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It doesn't matter how slowly you go—
as long as you do not stop.

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LIFE Mission Statement

"The goal of the LIFE Program is to create an environment of comfort and support for those who have experienced the loss of a spouse. By helping members redirect their grief to more positive avenues, the program instills a sense of self-confidence and purpose to those who may otherwise be feeling lost and alone. LIFE provides opportunities for enhancing the quality of life by encouraging members to learn, share, and reach out to one another."

Let us remember the businesses that support LIFE:

Claudia's Pearl Florist in Mount Dora, 735-0012
Miss Daisy Flower & Gifts in Leesburg 787-6806
Beyers Funeral Homes in Lake and Sumter Counties

GRACIOUSLY FUNDED BY BEYERS FUNERAL HOME AND CREMATORY
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