



A MONTHLY PUBLICATION OF MWFPOA , PO Box 77-1896—OCALA, FL 34477

Neighborhood Snake Whisperer, Paul Gregorzek, At Your Service



Well, it's that time of year again, and maybe you have already seen one or two snakes in your yard or pastures. If you are anything like me, that doesn't bring great joy. It is amazing how many of us feel shivers down our spines at the sight of just one of these creatures.

I will admit, though, that I am much less terrified than I once was, thanks to having a son who has always been fascinated with "creepy, crawly" things almost since he learned to walk. He is 27 years old now. I'm a slow learner, when it comes to snakes. I now have a healthy respect for them and their role in the ecosystem, even though I'm not entirely desensitized to having them around.

Fortunately for all of us, we have a relatively new neighbor who is quite fond of snakes—all types, sizes, colors, and degrees of danger—Paul Gregorzek. He and his wife, Chris Banks, moved into their new home on Lake Wood Circle roughly 9 months ago. They explained that even their landscaping is designed with snakes' preferences in mind, maintaining an intermediate border between woodlands and open space. That space is where snakes can sun themselves and meander far enough to hunt for prey but still quickly escape to covered areas in the woods where they are protected from overhead predators swooping down on them.

Paul has been intrigued with snakes since he was very young, capturing his first garter snake when he was somewhere around the age of 5. He continued from there, capturing and releasing thousands of snakes and even eventually breeding a few different breeds of snakes. Chris doesn't seem to mind that he no longer breeds them, describing an experience with one of Paul's king snakes that escaped its tank and found its way under the kitchen sink before being recaptured.

continued on page 4

Upcoming Events

(subject to change)

Board Meetings

May 14, 2020

Association Meetings

May 21, 2020 elections

Minutes are posted on the website after all Board and Association meetings:
www.mwfpoa.com

Inside this issue:

President's Message	2
Association Info	3-6
Community News	7-8
Advertisements	9
Out and About	10
Membership Form— Join Now	11

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Page 2



Hello Neighbors—

I hope that our monthly newsletter finds you and your family safe and healthy. This virus has certainly changed our lives in so many ways. Wearing my mask and gloves, I don't recognize my neighbors at Publix anymore. We dart in and out with our hand sanitizer and Clorox wipes in hand.

What a strange world we now live in. On the bright side, if I ever had to "hunker down" anywhere, I'm so glad I live in Meadow Wood Farms. We are close enough to town and necessities, yet far enough away to feel safe and protected. We're even getting all those stay-at-home projects done.

MWF is really our sanctuary. It's also a neighborhood that has a lot of home building and buying going on. We're a hot little community. It is also time to send in your yearly dues to keep MWF neat and tidy. Your volunteer Board comes together to manage and pay the bills, including all five electric meters, as well as lawn maintenance at the front entrances and in the Park. The Board also pays the insurance, produces your free Newsletter, and the Directory (available to all paid members). When we get back to normal, we hope to sponsor our social get-togethers at the Park again, open to all residents. Our goal is to maintain our property values here, and it looks pretty good. \$55 a year is a good deal, but we need all residents to support the community. Please remember to mail in your check.

At this time, I don't believe we will be holding the Board and General Meeting at St. John's in May. So, we'll probably be seeing you at the Park. More information to come. Stay safe!

Leslie Pope-Hall
President MWFPOA

Officers of MWFPOA

President	Leslie Pope-Hall	352-861-3292	BLCTIE@aol.com
Vice-President	Heidi Boynton	253 347-3573	Heidi.boynton8@gmail.com
Secretary	Karen Reade	622-2030	at20146@earthlink.net
Treasurer	Lisa Yanes	291-0509	stokey@cfl.rr.com

Committees

Control	Chair: Elaine Hager Zach Zachary Dale Kennedy	857-4825
Directory	Chair: Toni Kimball	861-4934
Membership	Chair: Herb Albritton	954 260-2233
Newsletter	Chair: Sydney Smith Dorothy Henry	MWFPOAnewsletter@gmail.com
Parties	Chair: Connie Story Sandy Mollberg Dave Kane	369-0809 861-9622 509-7754
Refreshments	Chairs: Janice & Art Eide	861-8883
Sunshine	Chair: Jennie Adams	854-1914
Welcome	Chair: Lee Albritton	954 260-2223

Community Matters



The signs at our entrances were requested and granted by the Marion County Board of Commissioners in June 1994. The original document states: "Meadow Wood Farms is a rapidly growing community of mini horse farms and private homes. Its 17 miles of winding county roads is attracting many new residents because it offers the tranquility that only

mother nature can provide." Nicely written! That was written before our new roads existed.

We know that many residents are self-employed and bring their trucks home at night. There isn't any problem with this. This doesn't apply to them.

As residents who appreciate our beautiful and expensive roads, we should be concerned with the big rigs that come in: logging trucks, heavy delivery trucks, moving vans, etc. They are **not** to remain here after they have delivered or picked up their load. And we need to watch how they park, especially on the roadsides where damage can easily be done to the curb area.

The County no longer guarantees our roads, only fixing potholes and patching. If you see a big rig parked as to damage our roads, please kindly inform the driver to maintain care while driving in MWF. You can also call code enforcement, if necessary. Let's all help to keep our roads in good shape.

Sunshine Report



If you are aware of someone who could benefit from receiving a card, please notify Jennie Adams at 854-1914.

Meadow Wood Farms Website

www.mwfpoa.com

If you live alone, you may want to be in contact with a neighbor on a daily basis, as a sort of virtual health & safety check. You can arrange with a friend on your own to call or text each day or, if you would like to be put in contact with a neighbor, complete the Phone A Friend form, found on our website.

- ◆ Phone A Friend Emergency Info Form: From main page, click on **Phone A Friend**
- ◆ The newsletter is available in **color** on our website: From main page, click on **Newsletter**, and then select the month

To join the Meadow Wood Farms email blasts and conversation, send a note to Meadowwoodfarms1@aol.com and ask the site master to add your email address. Please respect the rules... no politics, or religion, or any attachments or offensive material.

Thinking Ahead to Better Times: "Hot Rods & Horses" Christmas Parade

We live in such a beautiful neighborhood with beautiful roads and neighbors. How about a Christmas Parade right here in our wonderful neighborhood? I really can't believe it hasn't been done yet, or if it has, I've never heard about it. The roads are perfect for it.

The preliminaries are being planned. We have a tentative date set for **December 12, 2020**, to start at 2PM. The parade route would begin at Friendship Park and head up to Northern Dancer, onto Needles Drive, turn right on Hill Prince, right on Nashua Way, then back on Lake View Dr E. to finish at the park. The route is about 3 miles long and would take approximately 1 to 1-1/2 hours to complete. Our parade will consist of hot rods, golf carts, and riding and driving horses. It would be nice to make it an annual event with a homemade banner (*hint, hint*).

There are many details to be worked out yet, and everything is just preliminary at this point. We have Paul Gregorzek and his wife Chris Banks, Jim Thomas, and myself organizing so far. We will let everyone know how the details progress, and at some point we will be asking for participants interested in driving their hot rod, golf cart, or horse or riding their [bombproof] horse. Please consider whether your horse could handle a route this long with people, pets, and golf carts parked along the parade route. Sure would be fun, though, wouldn't it!

Dorothy Henry



Neighborhood Snake Whisperer (*continued*)

Chris isn't bothered by snakes due to the great education that she has received from Paul through the years. As she and Paul both explained to me, "the vast majority of snakes are good; they have a job to do." Chris reminded that very few of the ones we see are venomous, quipping: "If you bite one and you die, it was poisonous. If one bites you and you die, it was venomous."

Paul explained, "The most common snakes around here are black racers, rat snakes (in different shades of yellow, black, red, or green), and ring neck snakes." He added that the red rat snake is also known as a corn snake. Those of us with horses are very likely to see rat snakes, which help to keep down the population of mice and rats around our barns. If you have fruit trees in your yard, you are also likely to see rat snakes hunting the rodents that are attracted to the fruit. And unlike warm-blooded pests such as rodents and armadillos, snakes, which are cold blooded, normally do not transmit diseases to people. (Interestingly, armadillos are not only predators to snakes, but they also can carry bacteria that cause leprosy through contact. Those critters may have just surpassed snakes on my disapproval scale!)

Development in Ocala (and throughout the U.S.) continues to reduce the numbers and varieties of snakes that we encounter. For example, the eastern diamondback and indigo snakes are native to our area but are very rarely seen. (The indigo snake, bearing a beautiful purple-black color, is the largest snake in America, reaching up to 8 feet in length.) These and more than 300 other species of animals, insects, and vertebrates share space with gopher tortoises. Destruction of the tortoise holes due to extensive construction is devastating to more than just the tortoises!

Helping to maintain natural symbiosis is one reason that Paul is anxious to make his services available to any MWF neighbor that needs them. Irrespective of the type or size of snake that you may encounter, if you prefer not to have it in your yard, **please call Paul (706-889-3861)**. He is more than happy to identify and remove and re-home the animal, as well as educate you on the specific type of snake and its habitat, all at no cost. He would much rather that you call him to relocate the animal than that it be killed. Free removal AND education! You can't beat that.

Sydney Smith



Corn snakes



Ring neck

Do you know of a Meadow Wood Farms neighbor in need? The Meadow Wood Farms Angels is a group of anonymous volunteers who are ready to help with those small, one-time projects that our neighbors cannot do by themselves by reason of age, illness, disability, or lack of funds.

To submit a request for assistance, email: MWFAngels@gmail.com or call Jim Bain (352) 615-2572. The Angels will contact you and obtain additional information in order to evaluate the request.



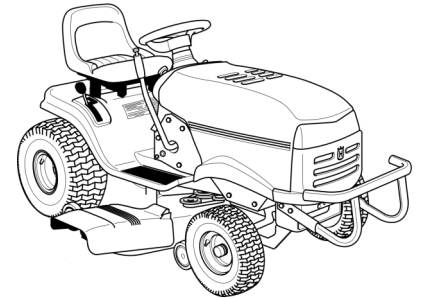
MWFPOA Request for Bids—Lawn Service

Meadow Wood Farms Property Owners Association requests proposals for a yearly contract for lawn care maintenance. Required services include mowing and trimming grass, blowing all hard surfaces, trimming shrubs at front entrances, and removing small tree limbs and trash before mowing.

Service addresses include the front entrances at 1 Meadow Wood Drive and 1 Wood Ridge Drive, as well as Friendship Park at 73 Lake View Drive East. Timing of services includes 14 cuts per each location, adjusted seasonally. Additional cuts may be required.

All proposal submissions must be presented to the Executive Board by **May 13, 2020**. Bidders will provide own equipment and proof of liability insurance.

Contact: Leslie Pope-Hall, President MWFPOA at 352-861-3292 or mail proposal to P.O. Box 77-1896, Ocala Fl 34477.



Still Seeking Executive Board Candidates

In preparation for our annual Board elections in May, we are still seeking nominations and volunteers to serve as President, Vice President, Secretary, or Treasurer.

Note: All Executive Board positions are officially available. However, the current Secretary and Treasurer are interested in remaining in their Board positions for the 2020-2021 fiscal year.

Our current President (Leslie Pope-Hall) and Vice President (Heidi Boynton) are both stepping down, so we would especially like to see other Association members step up and into these positions. The newly elected officers' term will begin June 1, 2020, and extend through May 31, 2021.

Any Association member in good standing may serve on the Board. If you are interested, contact Sydney Smith, Election Chair, care of mwfpoanewsletter@gmail.com. You can read the Duties of the Officers in our By-Laws, available in your Directory or online at www.mwfpoa.com.

Elections are scheduled to be held at the May Association meeting. Nominations may also be taken from the floor at that time for any member in good standing. Thank you!

Sydney Smith
Election Chair



Line Dancing at Friendship Park!

Join our Line Dancers at the park on **Saturday mornings at 10 am** and **Wednesdays at 7 pm**. We maintain our distance from one another but can still enjoy great exercise and fun outdoors! As needed, we walk through with instructions before each dance.

There's Gold in Them Hills (Maybe!)



Tired of being stuck in the house, bored to death, kids driving you crazy? Then it is time to “Treasure Hunt” in Meadow Wood Farms! For less than \$100, you can get a pretty good metal detector from Amazon or other online retailer and have it shipped to your home—no trip to town needed.

My grandkids and I go treasure hunting throughout our 6 acres, and we always find something. Just about always, it is a worthless item but the thrill of digging up an unknown object makes the hunt worthwhile. You never know when that mystery item might just be the lost gold shipment rumored to be in our area.

Over the years of treasure hunting, we have found mining tools, wagon parts, stove parts, many unknown items, and the dreaded rusty nails. We even found old pottery and glass while digging up metal items. And yes, sometimes we find money, so far 76 cents of current money. To add to the excitement of the hunt, I sometimes pre-bury some old Mexican coins for the grandkids to find and tell them it is old pirate treasure. They think it's great!

So get yourself a metal detector and get out of the house, and find the rest of the missing gold!

Bill Lammers

Directory Updates and Corrections

The 2020-2021 Meadow Wood Farms Telephone Directory is now available and was distributed with the April newsletter. They will also be available to members at the next meeting, or you can contact Karen Reade to request a copy (at20146@earthlink.net). The following are corrections to the directory:

- ◆ **Camp**, Carolyn's name is misspelled (There is no “e” at the end of her name.)
- ◆ **Corso**, Tom and Vickie's email is Thebestofocala@aol.com
- ◆ **Henry**, Dorothy and Buddy's phone number is 352-817-7494
- ◆ **Kalberkamp**, Mark and Beverly is incorrectly listed as “Balberkamp,” and their email is Kalberkampb@gmail.com
- ◆ **McGinnis**, Marilee's phone number is 561-723-3615
- ◆ **Moats**, Mark's email is markmoats60@gmail.com
- ◆ **Rufus**, John and Grace's live at 4 Never Bend Drive
- ◆ **Smith**, Tim's email is tscruisr@gmail.com

- ◆ **Cicerone** family at 43 Lake View Drive West has moved
- ◆ **Cosentine**, Jerry and Jill are *new* owners at 58 Lake View Dr W, 352 401-0369
- ◆ **Diamond** family at 18 Never Bend has moved
- ◆ **Pritchard-Jones** family at 3 Lake Wood Circle has moved



Swamp Fever, a Deadly Equine Pandemic in the '70s

Elaine Hager recently shared her memories with me about a terrible viral disease that swept through the U.S. horse population in the 1970s. At the height of infection, **10,371** cases were detected, many of which exhibited severe symptoms and resulting in a number of animals that died. Some know this virus as “swamp fever,” as it occurs most frequently in areas of high heat and humidity. Most horse people today know it as Equine Infectious Anemia or EIA.

Through research at that time, EIA was found to be a blood-borne disease. In 1970 during his research at Cornell University, Leroy Coggins DVM, PhD developed a test to help find horses that were carriers. (The test checks for antibodies in the blood.) At the time, the Coggins test was aggressively used to locate and euthanize sick horses in order to protect the healthy ones.

Originally, mosquitoes were thought to spread the disease, but researchers found that a mosquito could not carry enough blood to transmit the disease. Horseflies and deer flies, however, can carry infected blood from one horse to another. (These pests can only fly up to 600 feet before the blood dries, which means they cannot carry the disease beyond that point.) Other transmission occurred as veterinarians and horse owners often used the same needle, syringe, and bottles of vaccine on all of their horses, essentially infecting their own animals.

Three clinical forms of EIA have been identified:

1. **Acute**—This form of the disease is the most damaging and the most difficult to diagnose because the signs appear rapidly. In mild cases, the initial fever may be short lived (often less than 24 hours). While horses may develop severe, acute signs of disease and die within 2 to 3 weeks, they often recover and continue to move freely in the population. The first indication of exposure may be a positive result on a routine annual test.
2. **Chronic**—If a horse survives the first acute bout, it may develop a recurring clinical disease with multiple symptoms: fever, depression, weight loss, swelling under the skin in the legs and under the chest and other underbody surfaces, and anemia.
3. **Inapparent**—These horses show no overt symptoms as a result of infection, but they survive as reservoirs of the infection. The inapparent form may become chronic or acute with severe stress, hard work, or the presence of other diseases.

Horses that have been infected with any of these three forms of EIA are thought to remain virus carriers for life. The majority of horses found with the infection today are inapparent carriers, showing no outward signs of illness. There is still no cure or vaccine available for EIA; horses that test positive must either be euthanized or permanently isolated and quarantined.

Fortunately, horse population losses have dropped from thousands a year in 1975 to negligible losses today. During 2018, a total of 1,187,536 EIA tests were conducted in the U.S., resulting in detection of 51 positive horses. In Florida, 106,833 tests were conducted, resulting in 1 positive horse.* Research now is focused on creating a faster, more accurate test to replace the Coggins test.

Sydney Smith

* From the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (www.aphis.usda.gov/animal_health)

A Cat Named Sue (Feeding from the Heart)

My husband brought home a stray cat. The cat was orange with big golden eyes. He was dirty and had fleas, and a piece of his ear was missing. We named him Sue. This was when the song “A Boy Named Sue” was popular, sung by Johnny Cash.

Sue was an okay cat, but he didn’t compare to my beautiful Siamese cat, Tiki. Tiki had very long legs and an even longer tail, and her eyes were so blue they were purple.

I was very upset when Sue got Tiki pregnant. I asked the veterinarian if she could have an abortion, and he said that it would be very hard on the cat, and she would not be able to have any more kittens. So, I figured this would be a good learning lesson in genetics for my young children, then 10 and 9 years old. Well, I was the one who got the lesson. The kittens were so beautiful, with white stripes on their faces that looked like an artist had painted them with a brush. We didn’t have enough kittens to give away.

One day I came home and found Sue lying on the floor, looking up at me with those huge golden eyes, and I knew he was dying. It was then that I realized that I had been feeding Sue with my hands, but not with my heart. I took him to the vet, who said he was anemic from the fleas. I asked what we could do. He explained that Sue could get a transfusion. I asked how much that was going to cost, and he answered, “Fifteen dollars.” Even in those days (about 1971), that wasn’t very much. So, Sue got a transfusion.

The vet said we could pick him up the next day. However, within only a few hours, we got a call from the vet saying that Sue had made a remarkable recovery, and we could pick him up at that time.

After that, we did get rid of the fleas, and I learned the difference between feeding with my hands and feeding with my heart. I learned to do a lot of things from then on, with my heart.

Joni Kimball (written 11-22-2012)



Recipe: Parmesan Crusted Chicken

- 1/2 cup real mayonnaise
- 1/4 cup grated parmesan cheese
- 4 boneless, skinless chicken breast halves
- 4 tablespoons Italian seasoned bread crumbs

Combine mayonnaise with parmesan. Arrange chicken on baking sheet, and top with mayonnaise mixture. Sprinkle with bread crumbs. Bake at 425 degrees for 20 minutes or until chicken is thoroughly cooked.

**St John's United
Methodist Church of
Cotton Plant**



12390 W Hwy 328, Ocala, FL 34482

A Place to Call Home

Love God, Love People, Serve our Community

St John's UMC Cotton Plant is NOT closed. Please join us Sunday mornings on our Facebook page or stjohnscp.com for our full worship service.

St John's is here to provide help and hope!

Please pray with me "Lord we lift to you our leaders, our healthcare workers, our first responders, our truckers and our law enforcement and those putting their health on the line to keep the stores up. We lift to you all those affected in any way by the coronavirus. We know you are our hope and our rock in times of trouble. Heal our land Lord as we humbly seek your presence. AMEN!"

ALL are Welcome!

www.stjohnscp.com

352-237-5777



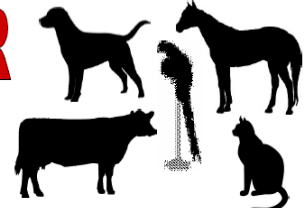
Critter Sitter

Meadow Wood Farms pet
sitter since 1997
SANDY MOLLBERG
861-9622
lenelew@aol.com

PET SITTER

Pamela Hebert

**Fully Insured/Bonded
Dogs, Cats, Horses, Birds,
Exotics. Feed, clean, get
mail, water plants, etc.**



1-410-708-6475

pam@ezsignsonline.com

OCALA, FL

Years of horse & vet tech experience.

M.W.Farms Resident

**I come to your house.
Less stress for your pets!**



Dorothy Henry

352 817-7494

Pegasus Realty & Assoc. Inc.
5685 W Hwy 40, Ocala, FL 34482



MWF 4 BR 2 Bath home
2 + car garage on 4.4
acres
Fully fenced elec gate
Salt Pool + Jetted tub
Quiet Street



MWF Custom brick 4 BR 3 1/2 bath
home. Oversized 2 car garage. Split
BR floorplan with 2 master en-suites
WIC in every BR. Fireplace Don't miss
this Country Charmer! Call me today!



MWF 3 BR 2 Bath
home
FULL 2 BR
APARTMENT
On a quiet side street.
Fully fenced 3 acres

ALMOST 10 ACRES OF VACANT ACREAGE IN ROMEO MEADOWS WITH WELL & ELECTRIC \$115,000

I WORKED WITH 10 BUYERS & SELLERS IN MEADOW WOOD FARMS FOR SUCCESSFUL CLOSINGS IN 2019!

I AM A DEDICATED MWF RESIDENT & I AM READY TO HELP YOU SELL OR FIND YOUR PERFECT HOME.

Talk about strange times! Here we are in the second month of a “stay at home” order, and I’m trying to write a column called ***Out & About***. Those of you who know me know that silence is not my strongest suit. I think the only time I’ve been quiet for more than a few minutes was the year I played a clown for a Halloween party. I just wandered around the party and squeaked my little bicycle horn. No one could believe it was me. So, in keeping with my usual personality, I’d like to share a few thoughts about our current situation. In order to do that, please allow me to resurrect some of what I wrote for this newsletter back in November of 2011. It seems even more pertinent now.

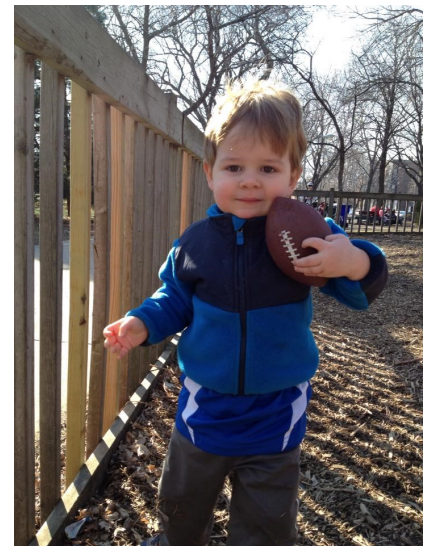
For those of you who either don’t know where we live, haven’t passed by our home, or just haven’t noticed, we put up a new front fence a couple of weeks ago. We make a BIG DEAL out of fences here in Meadow Wood Farms. I was reminded, both quickly and gently, that one must get approval from our Control Committee to erect ANY frontal fencing (which I subsequently did, by the way). So... I got to thinking about fences.

A Land Remembered, by Patrick Smith, is a wonderful novel about the early history of Florida. It captures a time, beginning in the 1800’s, when cattle, Seminole Indians, and crackers roamed freely about Florida, grazing, living, and working anywhere there was open space and grass. It was a glorious time with... no fences.

We have left behind the time of no fences, no boundaries, and shared resources for a time of separating what is yours from mine, building fences, and far too often, staying confined behind them. After all, a fence can keep things out or keep things in. We like our new fence, not because it keeps anything out or keeps us in, but because it makes our small piece of this Earth look neat and orderly. Our fences help to define our place, geographically, economically, and in some sense, chronologically. They do not, however, need to define us socially.

Time spent chatting over the fence with neighbors and friends is time well spent. Inviting someone inside the fence is engaging. Venturing outside the fence is exhilarating. Mending a fence is therapeutic. There is no doubt that fences have a place and a use. Like many other things in life, both real and metaphorical, they need to be challenged every now and then...

We have thoroughly enjoyed our 13 years here in Meadow Wood Farms, meeting our neighbors, making new friends, and chatting over the fence. Given the current situation with “the virus,” if we choose to venture beyond our fences or invite our neighbors inside, we must be cautious and mindful of the recommendations to avoid spreading the virus. I encourage you to find ways to safely breach both the real and metaphorical fences we have been required to build. Enjoy our world, our community, and your neighbors. Life will be back to normal before we know it. We’ll all be better off for the staying connected.



Jim Bain



Membership Information

If you aren't a member, we would love for you to join us. The MWFPOA provides all kinds of services for your neighborhood (including this newsletter). Please use the form below to accompany your check.

Need to find out if you've paid? Contact Lisa Yanes at 291-0509 or email her at stokey@cfl.rr.com.

Your MWFPOA thanks you!

Please Join

MEADOW WOOD FARMS PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOCIATION, INC.

(Annual Dues Effective June 1, 2020, through May 2021)

Please send your check for \$55.00 with this form to:
Meadow Wood Farms Property Assoc., Inc., P.O. Box 771896, Ocala FL 34477

Please *print* to provide the information below :

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

YES **NO** Put my/our information in the directory.

YES **NO** Deliver my/our newsletter to my/our address.

(Otherwise, it is available on the website, which saves the Association printing and mailing costs.)

A directory is distributed to MWFPOA members at no charge. It may be purchased by non-members for \$5.00. Additional copies for members = \$2.00.

mwfpoa.com

Photos always look better in our online edition.

MEADOW WOOD FARMS
PROPERTY OWNERS ASSOC.
P.O. BOX 77-1896
OCALA, FL 34477-1896



May

