



MATLACHA HOOKERS
GENERAL MEETING MINUTES - MARCH 2023

DATE: March 13, 2023

House of Omelets, 900 SW Pine Island Rd Cape Coral, FL @ 6:30 p.m.

Call to Order by Madam DJ at 6:31 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance led by Madam DJ

Invocation by Tania Watkins

Guests – Functional Friends of Florida – Fundraiser in Massachusetts, friends of Rudy Cox
\$3,128

BOARD REPORTS

Madam DJ Ruscik

1. 50/50: Sam's Fans; PILOT (Pine Island Leaders of Tomorrow); American Legion Auxiliary - Girls State; Motion by Heidi Lutz to give 50/50 money to American Legion Girls State; motion carried.

2. Upcoming Events and Volunteers Needed:

a. Bag 'n Tag and Pancake Breakfast- DJ- March 18th at the Moose Lodge on Stringfellow Rd., SJC.

-Final sort and packing trailers is on Thursday, March 16th at the Maxwell House at 7830 Lobeau Lane, Bokeelia @ 9:00 a.m. Volunteers are needed.

-You can bring to the event prior to 8:00 a.m. please have items sorted by gender and size.

-Need volunteers 2-4 for the pancake breakfast to refill syrup, utensils, etc. and maintain the area cleanliness starting at 8:00 a.m.; we have 4 volunteers;

-Sign up sheets for Set-up, Hooker Hagglers, Volunteers and breakdown. Start setting up at 7:00 a.m. Need 2 people to cashier-Kim Graves and Deb Syring; items that don't sell will go to PICC.

b. GPICC Island Fest and Mullet Toss- Beth Sowers - Saturday, March 25th at Publix. We will have our merchandise booth. Need volunteers for registration area until 1:00; general runners throughout the day; helping at various booths;

c. P.I.E Derby- Julia- walkthrough is potentially March 21st around 5:00 p.m.; committee chairs email Julia let her know what time works best; walkthrough is what we can do onsite; fishing derby will be 9:00-1:00; we have food and music lined up; The event is on May 21st; parking will be an issue; we could potentially have a multi rider golf cart that can shuttle people from parking to Jug Creek; we will do a 50/50; maybe a few Hook a Basket; No silent auction; this is a trial run, if this goes well Jug Creek may let us do the event in

November at their location; April 2nd will be the date we start selling our Derby merchandise; a letter will be sent to sponsors to update them on the derby; we will tell sponsors we can carry their sponsorship to the next derby in November. We will keep the shirts at \$25.

- d. Pine Island Annual Shred Day- May 6th. Need volunteers; sponsored by the Elks; more information to follow
- e. Annual Postal Food Pantry Drive – Peg Crunkshank – May 13th – Volunteers need for pick up and sorting. Stamp out Hunger- Peg will be back at next meeting with sign up sheets.; Residents will receive a plastic bag and postcard in their mailbox; volunteers will go around with the carriers to pick up the food; we are the only ones in Lee County that keep the food on Pine Island/Matlacha; 2 shifts 9:30-12:30, light lunch 12:30 – 3:30 is the second shift; food gets weighed and volunteers will take items out of the bags and sort them; take the food to the tables by category. This will be at the Our Lady of Miraculous Medal.

3. Fundraising:

- a. Travel Raffle- Darcy- Drawing extended until all 250 tickets are sold! \$25.00 each; Hookers will get \$4,000 at the end of the raffle.

4. Hooker Business:

- a. Pine Island Cares/Hurricane Ian Recovery- Julia- We had a giveaway last Tuesday, our largest giveaway. \$40,000. Another giveaway on March 28th(potentially), another 1,000 sheets of drywall; cdx plywood, paint, Romex, totes, screws, etc. AmeriGas will be reaching out to the people we have identified who have RV's and do not have removeable tanks; free transportation will end at the end of March; Honey Wagon services will be ending March 28th. \$327,000 raised. Lee county started a long-term recovery group we joined them and will be on their committee of fundraising and warehouse. This is a new non for profit in Lee County. We feel that Pine Island needs to be represented at all levels;
A Big Thank you to all that are on the committee and have been helping at the supply giveaway; we were able to help 107 residents last week.; thank you to Brady Rau (Christy's husband) for doing the deliveries in Bokeelia;
 - i. This month is the last push for hurricane relief donations. Go Fund Me will end on March 28th.
 - ii. Business Grant-potentially \$1,000 to businesses that are currently open; criteria is being worked out.
 - iii. Pine Island Beautification Project- working on this currently
- b. Hooked on Education Scholarship- Currently accepting applications. Information on our website. Applications will be at the Pine Island Library and Beacon of Hope; Deadline April 14th.
- c. Bobby Holloway – We are a \$250 'Little Bobber Boat Sponsor' and will donate a Basket; Look out in the Herald for volunteer opportunities.
- d. Lee County Parks & Recreation – Requesting 'Gift Cards, Coupons, Free Passes to restaurants or fun places for middle school aged children and their families'. Suggestion a

gift certificate to Carmen Kayaks for a family of four-five. Deb will look into the cost. Possibly a replacement for the Easter Egg Hunt for middle school aged kids. Motion made by Julia Gaylor to purchase a gift card for Carmen Kayak for 4 and \$100 gift certificate at a local restaurant; motion carried.

e. Pine Island Elementary Student – Aaron Thorpe 10-year-old 5th Grader – Selected from all of Lee County to attend the National Youth Leadership Forum – STEM in June. Needs \$3,100 for the five-day event in Miami. Motion made by Julia Gaylor for \$1,000. To help offset expenses; motion carried.

f. ArtFest – Lorie/Theresa – collected \$1700 in tips; \$4,000 online; minimum of 3 scholarships from Art Fest activities.

g. Luuu-Joanne- Thank you to all volunteers; next general meeting we will present the checks to Beacon of Hope and SJCC potentially each will receive \$10,000. i. Re-cap meeting on Monday at 5:30-7:00 at SJCC

Vice Madam Julia Gaylor, Membership

1. Membership Report: 187; 75 brand new members
2. Meeting Attendance: 57
3. New member swear-in: Tracy Taylor and Della Cruz
4. Call Girls Thank You and next month's volunteers: Tracy Chapple and Marian Horgan; Sandy Reynolds and Dell Cruz will be next month's volunteers.
5. Birthday celebrations!
6. Social Media- Julia and Tiffany Noel; have a campaign for Bag N Tag and Scholarships; posted twice a day. Outreach will be the next campaign. If you see the post, share it.
7. Website has been updated
8. Hooker Social Event- Carmen's Kayaking trip at Knights Landing on April 14th or April 15th;

Secretary, Carolyn Ryzanych

1. Review and approval of general minutes; Darcy Conner made motion to approve minutes; motion carried.
2. Mail – no letters

Treasurer, Deb Syring

1. Review and approval of financial reports; Motion made by Linda Bohacek to approve February financials; motion carried.
2. Annual Budget –will be discussed at the April board meeting then discussed at the April General Meeting

Chaplain, Tania Watkins

1. Chaplin Report
2. Outreach Report – None
3. Joke

EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES:

1. Fundraisers

a. Merchandise Report- Linda Bohacek – February 4 events- \$3,428.00. The online catalog will be updated; need models; new necklaces, stickers. Other items are back in stock. h. PIE Derby - Julia, Deb and Monica- See minutes above.

2. Community Support

a. Greater Pine Island Chamber of Commerce Island Fest and Mullet Toss on Saturday, March 25th at the new Publix. We will have our merchandise booth and they have asked for volunteers.

b. Pine Island Food Pantry needs – Needs are: bar soap, dish detergent, laundry detergent, canned diced tomatoes, instant mashed potatoes, jelly, elbow macaroni, penne or ziti pasta, egg noodles and saltine crackers. Check updates in Hooker Herald

b. Ladies Tarpon Tournament- 1st annual tournament on May 6th at Tarpon Lodge; sign ups by April 15th; \$500. Per boat; captain can be male but all anglers are female; raffle prizes; all proceeds will go to Matlacha Hookers; 50/50 drawing will go to the PIE Derby in November; need volunteers for the captains meeting and the event; sign up sheets will be at next month's meeting.

c. Beacon of Hope- Beacon Bites- Pine Island, Bokeelia and Matlacha; need a volunteer for the 4th Tuesday.

d. Special Hooker Herald will be sent out regarding the various sign-up sheets.

OTHER:

50/50 collected \$ 325.00 Tonight's winners: Monica Kochel; Tiffany Noel

Tonight's donation to Food Pantry \$ 103.00

Next Board Meeting: April 3rd at 6:00 p.m. @ TBD

Next General Meeting: Monday, April 10, 2023 6:30 p.m.; doors open at 5:00 p.m. @ American Legion in St. James City

Motion made to adjourn meeting by Sandy Reynolds

Meeting adjourned @ 7:59 p.m.