

What to Know *Matlacha Hookers*

MATLACHA HOOKER BUSINESS



scan for website

Board meetings are the first Monday of each month. The board meets at 6pm, at Little Lilly's Island Deli. Financials, Agendas and Minutes are posted to the website for member access. Board meetings are reserved for the executive board and directors. Committee chairs are invited to update board regarding their fundraising efforts and general members are invited to "observe" a meeting if they desire. The request is made with the Madam President.

General membership meetings are the second Monday of each month. Site of the meeting will be announced at previous meeting and is included in the *newsletter along with being posted on the website calendar. You will have the opportunity to order beverages and dinner at the meetings. Financials, Agendas and Minutes are posted on the website for member access.

What to expect during General Membership Meetings:

Members are asked to "**Check-in**" with the membership committee for attendance, name badges and other meeting business.

Each meeting we collect donations for the Pine Island Food Pantry. Members are asked to participate by bringing a couple non-perishable items to the meeting. All donations are welcome, select items may be requested and those will be mentioned in the newsletter prior to the meeting. A collection "jar" is passed around for monetary donations.

Each meeting we have a 50/50 raffle that members are invited to participate in. The Board makes a recommendation for the organization that will receive the proceeds and general membership votes to approve the recommendation. Tickets are sold during the meeting and the winner is called before we adjourn. The winner of the night takes home their "HALF of the pot". Members are encouraged to take home their winnings.

Signup sheets for upcoming fundraising events and volunteering opportunities are passed around during the meetings for members to participate.

Matlacha Hooker Merchandise is also available for members to purchase before the start of each meeting. The current catalog of merchandise can be found on the website.

The meeting begins at 6:30 pm and is called to order by the Madam President. Members are encouraged to participate and ask questions during the meetings.

Dues and Elections for Board Officers and Directors:

Membership Dues are \$20/ annually. Dues for the upcoming calendar year are collected starting in August. For members to participate in Nominations, and Elections dues must be paid for the upcoming year. Nominations begin in September, once a candidate has accepted, they are introduced to the membership. Elections for upcoming board are completed in November. The new board is sworn in and will take office in January,

Hooker Heralds (Digital *Newsletter) : Newsletters are sent via email three times a month by the board. Please be advised that the newsletter is sent through the website and from this email address: MHWebmistress@pb02.ascendbywix.com - this is auto generated and may need to be added as a favorite in your email so that our newsletters don't end up in your junk/spam folder.

Matlacha Hooker Merchandise: Merchandise ranges from ladies shirts to tote bags, wine glasses and much more! Check out the latest inventory on our website. The merchandise committee arranges to have our merchandise at all of our functions including many of the local functions on the island. Our volunteers work to ensure that we have relevant merchandise to help our fundraising efforts! They are also always looking for volunteers to help!

Community Support Programs & Fundraisers

Outreach Program: The Matlacha Hookers' Outreach Program accepts referrals and requests for bill paying assistance due to temporary financial hardship. Payment for a bill is made directly to the invoice holder, never to the client. The person or family applying for help must have lived in the Greater Pine Island Area or Matlacha for at least one year and may apply once in a 12-month period. The Outreach Committee Chair works closely with the Beacon of H.O.P.E. and the Pine Island Cares member organizations and shares information in a confidential and professional manner.

Scholarship Program: The Matlacha Hookers' Scholarship Program for higher education is open to individuals who meet these criteria: High school diploma or equivalent plus one of the following – a) former P.I.E. student; b) Matlacha Hooker for at least one year; c) immediate family member of a Matlacha Hooker who has been a member for at least one year; d) resident of Greater Pine Island Area or Matlacha for at least one year. The application process begins in early February and ends in early April.

Beacon of HOPE Fundraiser (previously known as the Wine Event): An annual event benefits The Beacon of HOPE's senior programs. (February) A themed event that offers live music, raffles, wine and beer tastings, lite fare tastings, original confections from C.W. Fudge, Mystery Wine and much more.

Bag'N'Tag Rummage Sale and Pancake Breakfast: An annual event that benefits our scholarship program. (March) The rummage sale portion accepts donations for gently used items and clothing. Sales include \$5.00 to fill a bag full of clothes, Specialty Boutique with jewelry, furniture, household items, and so much more! The pancake breakfast is All You Can Eat for a suggested donation of \$7.00 includes, pancakes, bacon, seasonal fruit, coffee, or OJ.

Pine Island Elementary School Supply Drive: Every Summer our volunteers coordinate with the teachers on the needs of the students for the upcoming school year. A list is created and members place collection bins in organizations and participating businesses around the Greater Pine Island Area and Matlacha. At the end of the drive the school is presented with the collected items and any monetary donations our volunteers collect.

Pine Island Elementary Fishing Tournament and Derby: This annual November family event benefits the Pine Island Elementary School students and teachers. The tournament is a Catch Photo Release format that awards cash prizes for the Longest of each species (Snook, Redfish and Trout) and a Final Slam Cash Prize (longest combined length of all three species). Happening simultaneously elementary aged (grades K-5) students participate in a fishing derby. Students registered to fish are provided with a rod, reel and bait. Awards are given by division 1st, 2nd and 3rd places, along with the Grand Slam Trophy. Prizes, kids' activities, live music, raffles, Silent auction, BBQ lunch and more round out the day.

Around Town:

Ft. Myers ArtFest - Beverage Team: The Matlacha Hookers have been working with Artfest for many years. Our volunteers sign up for shifts throughout the weekend to run the beverage booths while we collect tips to benefit our Scholarship Program. (Early February)

Adopt-A-Road: The Matlacha Hookers maintain a portion of Pine Island Road through Matlacha. This trash clean-up occurs six times a year and sign-up sheets are sent around for members to volunteer at general meetings.

Blood Drive - OneBlood: Our organization coordinates with OneBlood to host blood drives in the Greater Pine Island and Matlacha Area six times a year. Dates are discussed at the general meetings, posted on the website calendar and are included in the newsletters.

F.I.S.H. School Clothing Drive: Our organization supports this fundraiser by purchasing clothing for students to have new clothes for the first couple days of the new school year.

The Matlacha Hookers are dedicated to making a positive difference in our community which requires active members. If you are interested in participating in any of our fundraisers or committees please reach out to the secretary via email: matlachahookers@matlachahookers.org.

Other Island Non-profit organizations request assistance from our members to help them with their fundraising events. These opportunities are announced and presented at the general meetings and if help is requested sign-up sheets will be passed around for you to get involved. (Events include: Mullet Toss, The Bobby Holloway Memorial Fishing Tournament, 4th of July Parade, Mango Mania, Stone Crab Festival and more!)

Mailing address: Matlacha Hookers, Inc. P.O. Box 111, Matlacha, FL 33993

Email address: MatlachaHookers@MatlachaHookers.org

Website: Matlachahookers.org

Members ONLY page access password: 20HMP22 (all caps HMP)

Vice Madam- Membership Committee Chair: Julia Gaylor

Please contact Julia for any membership related questions via email:

12thmadam.julia@gmail.com or by phone 239-298-1113

