

# The Maranatha Village Trumpet



*“The Lord Cometh!”*

April – May 2018

Volume XXXII 3



## *A Dog's Life*



*Abby*

Pictured at the new Maranatha Village Good Life Dog Park are a few of the many residents of Maranatha Village Mobile Home Park who own a dog. Recognizing that a housedog can play a big part in life's satisfaction and health after retirement for many retirees, Maranatha Village allows one dog to be owned in each mobile home

in the mobile home park. While bringing pleasure to those who want to have a dog, a dog does require a lot of care to keep the animal healthy, happy, and not a problem to neighbors who do not want a dog.

With all volunteer help providing the materials and doing the work, a dog park has been built at the south end of the golf driving range. It is named the **Good Life Dog Park**. It is a place where dogs can be turned loose to run and get the exercise that we believe will contribute to healthier and happier animals.



*Otis*

The Good Life Dog Park comes with its own personal antique fire hydrant, donated and transported here from Greenville, S.C. Maranatha Village works hard to make life good for all residents,

and we believe this park will be a great addition to the enjoyment of our dog owners.

Note of warning: The golf driving range was there first and while few can hit the 200 yards needed to reach the dog park, there are a few golfers who can do it. Golfers, please be considerate and dog owners, please be alert when golfers are practicing. A big thank you is expressed to all who have made this park possible.



*Abby*

*Princess*

*Peaches*

*Lucky*

*Remi*

Carl Barton,  
Village Board President



## *The Administrator's Perspective!*

# *“Repetitio Mater Studiorum Est”*

*Jerry Webber, Administrator*



*Jerry*

No one is certain who said it first, but we know it was one of those Latin phrases carved in stone somewhere in the sprawling Roman Empire. In English, it has a more familiar ring to it:

“Repetition is the mother of learning.” Zig Ziglar, well-known motivational speaker, expanded on the concept to read, “Repetition is the mother of learning, the father of action, which makes it the architect of accomplishment.”

I say all that to justify what may sound like an echo. I’m referring to the Forward or Preface to the recent reprint of the Maranatha Village Guidelines/Policy Manual. If you are currently residing in the Village, you should have had a copy delivered to your door not long ago. It reads, in part:

Some of the darkest days in the history of the nation of Israel were in the time of the Judges, when “every man did that which was right in his own eyes.” Even today, whole cultures have run amok in the absence of discipline and decorum. Any group of people coming together in voluntary association will require at least a minimal amount of rules and regulations to ensure good relationships. A Christian retirement community is no exception.

The goal of this Guidelines/Policy Manual is to encourage smooth operation of the Village, and congenial relationships among residents.... Willing adherence to these policies, with a spirit of cooperation, is both necessary and greatly appreciated.

The next 16 pages that follow this statement are but an expansion of the core concept in this brief preface: “Any group of people coming together in

voluntary association will require at least a minimal amount of rules and regulations to ensure good relationships. A Christian retirement community is no exception.”

As I sit here at my desk, I can’t escape the impression that these words are worthy of repetition. They remind us why we have guidelines and policies, and why we should read, rehearse, and observe them. They remind us that rules and regulations are in place, not to oppress and deny us, but to promote a healthy environment where good relationships are the norm—where each neighbor is a good neighbor, and each one works to “esteem others better than himself” (Philippians 2:3).

As you peruse your copy of this slightly-revised manual (which I hope you will do forthwith, if you haven’t already done so), you won’t notice many changes, except for the inclusion of several guidelines either adopted or clarified by the Village Board over the past couple of years. Most of what you read will sound familiar, but it all bears repeating. If Zig Ziglar was right, that repetition is not only “the mother of learning,” but also “the father of action [and] the architect of accomplishment,” then it will be worth your time to read and heed what is written therein, repetitious or not.

If you didn’t receive a copy, give our office a call, and we’ll make sure you get one. (If you are off the grounds, and can receive it as an e-mail attachment, please let us know that). Remember, our objective is “to encourage smooth operation of the Village, and congenial relationships among residents.” That’s worth repeating!

# A New Journey

Linda Peacock



Linda

As Doug and I approached the thought of retiring, we wanted to find a ministry in which we could serve. Leon Moody told us at a teachers' conference about the Village's need for young retirees. The Lord started to work in our hearts. The great advantage was that our dear friends, Charlie and Barbara Welner, were moving to the Vil-

lage also.

We had no idea what plans God had for us at Maranatha, but needs became apparent pretty quickly. In fact several people warned me to not take on too much. I usually responded that I was used to a very busy life. I began two areas of service in the Manor. I serve lunch once a week, and one day a week, Fran Weddle and I distribute the leftovers from the Manor to people in the Village. It is such a joy to see how helpful that is to elderly residents. The Manor residents have also become dear friends. Their lives of service are such an encouragement.

I help Elaine Edmonson with the Men's Prayer Breakfast. I have enjoyed getting to know the kitchen and learning how Elaine so successfully fills up all those men.

The first Home Fellowship we attended, the Schusters told us about Good News Club. Having taught for 34 years, working with children was something I was hoping to continue. This year Maranatha Baptist Church folks run the Avon Memorial Club; I help with the Avon Elementary club, also. I really enjoy teaching the lessons, and seeing the young people come to understand more about Jesus and God's Word. Next

year, I am hoping for more Maranatha Village people to help. Good News Clubs run from October to the first week of April. Maybe you can join us!

Rose Ertle decided it was time for her to step down from teaching Sunday school, so I was thrilled to be able to take over that ministry. There are not many students, but it is always a joy to teach these small groups. I was recently given a globe so I can now help them find Vermont, the state I served in for many years, and they can show me where they live.

Esther Barr is mentoring me to help with funerals and Christmas decorating. It makes it so easy when things have been carefully labeled and organized. I am thankful for the opportunities to be of service to people I have come to love at the Village. When Esther was away during Charlie Welner's funeral, I was wondering if I could handle my grief and still assist, but I think it helped me make it through the day.

When Charlie Welner took over morning chapel, he needed help with the sound system. Well, it was like old times being together early in the morning since he had been my school administrator for many years. Bob Watterson continues to help Dave Welshans and me do our best to make sure the speakers are "heard" in Hamman Hall.

I have enjoyed helping with some landscaping at the church and Prophet's Chamber. I have helped some with other yard work. As I learn what needs to be done here in Florida, I am finding it is a huge change from living in the Northeast.

Although I retired from full time Christian school work, I did not retire from the Lord's work. If you want to have a variety of areas that you can continue your service for the Lord, Maranatha Village is the place for you!

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## Morris' Answer!

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Mrs. Applebee, the 6th grade teacher, posed the following problem to one of her arithmetic classes:

"A wealthy man dies and leaves ten million dollars. One-fifth is to go to his wife, one-fifth is to go to his son, one-sixth to his butler, and the rest to charity. Now, what does each get?"

After a very long silence in the classroom, little Morris raised his hand. The teacher called on Morris for his answer.

With complete sincerity in his voice, little Morris answered, "A lawyer!"

# New Residents

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## Ron & Sandy Cornell



Sandy & Ron

We are Ron and Sandy Cornell, and are currently serving under Baptist Church Planters (BCP) Church Care Construction, as missionary builders. This is starting our eleventh year of helping to build Baptist churches across our great land.

I retired in 2006 after 30 years from my career as a maintenance electrician at a nuclear power plant (Nine Mile Point) in upstate New York, our home state (Fulton/Oswego area above Syracuse).

We have built churches in many states, such as New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Tennessee, Iowa, and Nebraska. We love the missionary builder ministry for we meet new people and make new friends along the way. We have three grown children (two boys and a girl), two beautiful daughters-in-law, and one favorite son-in-law, plus nine grandchildren. We were both

reared in Christian homes. I accepted the Lord as my Savior at the age of seven, when my dad led me to the Lord, and was baptized at age 11. Sandy accepted the Lord as a teen at a summer Bible camp.

This is our third winter season at Maranatha (our first was back in 2013/14), when we ran out of churches to work on during winter. We live in a fifth wheel RV full-time and are located at number 10 spot in the RV Park. We have just purchased a mobile home at 226 Maranatha Blvd, from former residents, Bob and Phyllis Sparks.

We first heard about Maranatha from Wes Halstead whom we met when we were on a cruise together in 2008. We have fallen in love with Maranatha Village. We love the people we meet and the volunteer spirit of working together for the common good of the Village.

Our future plan, as the Lord leads, is to keep building with BCP for another two and a half years till age 70. Then we will retire down here as the typical snow-birds (winters down here, summers in NY).

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## ~ A Full Time Volunteer ~

Dick Fleser



Dick

I am a full time volunteer for Maranatha Village. My main duty is carpentry work, but I also do a little basic electrical work and some plumbing.

My wife, Cheryl, and I have three children, three grand-kids, and a great-grandson. We are nearing 52 years of marriage. We are both from Michigan, and I am starting my tenth year here at Maranatha Village.

We started volunteering for the Lord in 2001 with CBM (Continental Baptist Missions). We sold our place and bought our home on wheels. We traveled many states on various projects and that is how we got

to Florida and Maranatha Village. In 2009, we sold our home on wheels and moved into Maranatha Village to volunteer.

Jerry Webber was administrator for Continental Baptist Missions when I started, and now I am under the administration of Jerry Webber once again. (You'd think I would learn).

I want to thank my Lord and Savior for good health, safety over all our travels, and the ability "to do the task set before me."

I thank Him for allowing me to serve Him these last 17 plus years. As 1 Thessalonians 5:24 says, "Faithful is He that calleth you, who also will do it." He IS faithful!

# New Residents

## Earl & Sue Barton



Earl and Sue Ellen Barton both grew up in cold winter states, Michigan for Earl and Ohio for Sue Ellen. Growing up in a Christian home, Earl was saved as a child. On the other hand, Sue Ellen accepted Christ as her Lord and Savior

as a young adult. They were married 30 years ago and raised five daughters in Temperance, Michigan.

Earl, a graduate of Tennessee Temple and Eastern Michigan University, worked in the juvenile court system as a juvenile probation officer, and then as superintendent of the Monroe county juvenile detention home. To support a growing family, Earl left social work and became a supervisor at North Star Steel Company until retirement. Sue Ellen retired after a 46 year career in nursing, 30 of those years treating cancer patients. After retirement, she was recruited

as a flight nurse with Pilots for Christ, International, whose mission is flying needy children to and from Cincinnati Children's and Shriners' Hospital in Cincinnati. All five daughters are married to fine Christian men and are raising their five grandsons and one granddaughter.

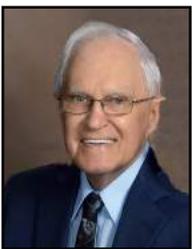
Last winter they came to Maranatha Village at the invitation of Earl's brother, Carl Barton. And here they are again, recently purchasing a mobile home at 219 Timothy Road. Earl and Sue Ellen are thanking God for all His blessings and count Maranatha Village as one of the best at this time in our lives.

An added note. Earl and Sue Ellen have gone to church in Cadillac, Michigan, by snowmobile, in Cincinnati, Ohio, by car, and in Sebring, Florida, by golf cart. And, they have concluded that driving and riding in the golf cart to Maranatha Baptist Church is the best.

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## ~ "Active" or "Couch Potato?" ~

Rev. Gary Hanson



Gary

Have you seen a number of the ads for Florida retirement communities? They say "Active Lifestyle." Does that appeal to you? Which do you like better, "Active" or "Couch Potato?" Personally, I enjoy staying active. Naturally, there is more than one way to do that. One way is to "play" a great deal. Another way is to "make a difference." Would you believe those two can be combined? About seven years ago, after being on maintenance staff for about eight years, I decided to become a volunteer on the paint crew. I had some painting experience during my 40 years in the pastorate. It appealed to me as a way to make a difference. When we moved to Maranatha 16 years ago, every villa was painted beige, no exceptions allowed. Try imagining it. Then several years ago, the Village board decided that a little color was in order. So each winter, we have put color on six or

seven double villas, and you are now living in the difference. Sound like a lot of work? It's only work to an extent. As painters, we only work three days per week, four hours a day - mornings only. I work outside in the winter months, when the temperature is more conducive, inside in the summer with the air conditioner on. It does make a difference, and I find that satisfying.

There are many other needs for volunteering. I used to do a good deal of leaf-raking. Due to a recent injury, I can no longer handle that. But it is still there to be done, and it does make a difference. I have recently been encouraged to watch others doing it. There are a number of other volunteering needs. I saw a volunteer pulling weeds in a common area today, Saturday, as I am writing this article. There is considerable work being done by volunteers! It IS making a difference!! It is part-time. Actually, you set your own schedule. It still leaves time for playing, whether golf or something else. Interested? If so, welcome to the club.

# Let's Go Fishing!

## Maranatha Village Men



The Maranatha Village fishing trip was a great success on Monday, March 5, 2018. Those who participated were: **Don Laven, Kent Lake, Ken Cook, Charlie Ladd, Bruce Soulsby, Tom Moen, Joe Festa, Bruce Hendsbee, Dick Sweezey, and Terry Dale.**



The group left Maranatha Village at 4:15 a.m., so as to arrive at the Dolphin Deep Sea Fishing dock in Tarpon Springs for an 8 hour fishing trip. It was a perfect day for fishing in the Gulf of Mexico. The wind speed was only 5 miles per hour, full sun, cold morning

temperature, and 70 degrees at noon-time. **We caught 200 fish!** What a terrific and wonderful time we had catching the different kinds of fish. About 90 percent of those caught were Grunts. Others caught were Grouper, Snapper, Puffer, Hog Fish, and Porky. We had to throw about 30 fish back into the Gulf because they were too small or out of season. The best keepers were Grunts and Hog Fish. The best fishermen were Bruce Hendsbee (most fish caught) and Tom Moen who caught a Hog Fish. This fish is an unusual delicacy, which is good eating. Wow! Everyone had a terrific time with such a beautiful day, great fishing, and good fellowship.



### Dolphin Deep Sea Fishing



## Cook's Korner

### Molasses Crinkles

3/4 cup softened shortening  
1 cup brown sugar, (packed)  
1 egg  
1/4 cup molasses  
Mix well the above ingredients.  
Sift together:  
2 1/4 cups all purpose flour  
2 teaspoons baking soda  
1/4 teaspoon salt  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/2 teaspoon cloves

1 teaspoon ginger  
Stir together with first ingredients.  
Chill dough 2 hours or overnight.  
Roll into balls and then in granulated sugar.  
Place on a greased cookie sheet, 3 inches apart.  
Bake in a preheated 375° oven.  
Bake just until set but not hard.  
**DO NOT OVERBAKE**  
Time: 8-10 minutes  
Makes about 4 dozen 2 1/2 inch cookies

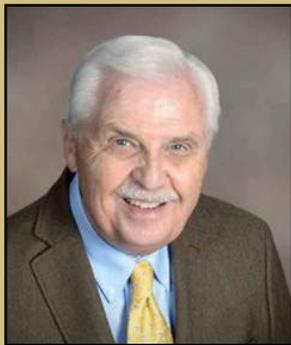
Jeanette Thorp





## Historical Files Reveal Blessings!

Gerry Carlson, Growth & Development



Gerry

***“It is more blessed to give than to receive”***

God has supplied for Maranatha Village down through the years in various ways and by various means. When we look around the grounds of the Village, we see many evidences of God’s provision. Recently, it has been my privilege to

delve into a file cabinet in the Village office to examine some of the historic memorabilia that has accumulated over the years. It is so interesting to see how God has used different individuals in so many ways over the years to bless our Village.

Many of the ways that our Village has benefited have been recorded and memorialized by plaques that adorn the grounds and name both the benefactors and the one that was honored in remembrance. At other times, financial gifts have been given that were designated for various projects that blessed the Village. Still, at other times, financial gifts have been given anonymously, or as part of a larger appeal, or project, or remembrance. All these gifts have been greatly appreciated and contribute a blessing and a benefit that we all enjoy today at Maranatha Village.

Also, many gifts have been given through the donation of time, skills, and effort to enhance and beautify the facilities, grounds, and quality of life of the Village. Maranatha Village could not exist without the countless hours of volunteer work that have been expended over the 45 years of its existence. Sincere thanks is given to all who have given and continue to give of their substance and service to make our Village such a special place.

Maranatha Village has truly been blessed over and over in being the recipient of numerous kinds of gifts. All of us who live at or visit Maranatha Village are truly blessed to be on the receiving end of others’ generosity. But those who have given have been blessed too – at least, God’s Word declares so! There is blessing on the giving and receiving end. We know that everything we have belongs to our great God. Participating in His work, His Village, and His ministry is a privilege that we can share through the stewardship of our time, talents, and treasure.

You can participate in the continuing blessing by giving to His work here at Maranatha Village. Attorney Joe Helm recently conducted a Stewardship Seminar at the Village, and he challenged those attending with several ideas of planned giving that can benefit both the giver and the Village. Contact us for information if you are interested.

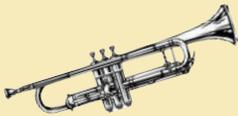
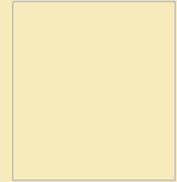
***Just Think About It!***

***“Because ‘God loves a person who gives cheerfully,’ giving should never be guilt-based or pressured (2 Cor. 9:7). But when we give freely and generously, we find that it truly is more blessed to give than to receive.”***

***Radio Bible Class***

# Maranatha Village

11 MARANATHA BOULEVARD  
SEBRING, FL 33870-6817  
863-385-7897  
fax 863-385-7954  
office@maranathavillage.org  
www.maranathavillage.org



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



## The “Michiganders” Picnic



The “*Michiganders*” had a cool surprise today from the North. Some were thinking perhaps we were being invaded by the Ohioans. This March has been cold in contrast to other years when the temperatures were in the 88 degree range. The date of the Michigan Picnic was on March 14th. The morning temperature was 42 degrees and later warmed up to the high 60’s. We had a good attendance of eighty-eight people. Yvonne White (Michigan organizer of the picnic/

reunion) spoke about how thankful we are to enjoy the fellowship of Maranatha Village, and how we are grateful to have so many people attend the picnic. She invited all to attend the Maranatha Summer Reunion, which is open for all to come from any state. It may be held in July, but Yvonne White will notify you of the exact date via Maranatha Baptist Church News Alerts e-mail, or you can call her at: 616-970-4948, or e-mail her at [mikeyvonnewhite@yahoo.com](mailto:mikeyvonnewhite@yahoo.com). The luncheon will be held at: Alpine Baptist Church, 672 Seven Mile Road, Comstock Park, MI 49321 (Comstock Park is a suburb of Grand Rapids). After the announcements, Carl Bronkema (resident of White Pigeon, MI) led in prayer. As usual, we all enjoyed a SCRUMPTIOUS potluck luncheon and great Christian fellowship. I suspect that many of you from other states wish that you were a “Michigander” - come on - move north to Michigan and winter at Maranatha Village.

*Submitted by Don Laven*