

# Imperial Bend Review



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## **From the Editor**



As all of our “snow birds” begin planning their trips back north we all hope and pray everyone has a safe and enjoyable journey.

As you begin packing and closing up for the summer, remember to check and double check your list of “to do’s” before departing. Make sure your site is cleaned up, tidy and no possible flying items are left out.

We have a lot to look forward to already in the planning for the 2026-2027 season, so be on the lookout for information later this year!

This is the last Imperial Bend Review newsletter of the season! Farewell!

Thank you to all of the IBE RV, Coop and Villagers for your support and kind words on the newsletter. I truly appreciate you and all you do for IBE!

Debbie Howard, Editor

Newsletter link: <https://imperialbonitaestates.com/newsletter/>

*Quotes of the week: “God’s not done with your story.”  
Unknown*

*“Don’t be dismayed at good-byes. A farewell is necessary before you can meet again. And meeting again, after moments or lifetimes, is certain for those who are friends.”— Richard Bach*

## **FROM THE IBE RECREATION DEPARTMENT:**

- ✓ The next Recreation Department board meeting will be held on April 1st at 9:00am in the Conference room. Any chairpersons with questions or requests should plan to attend. If you are interested in getting more involved, come and see what we are all about.
- ✓ Congratulations to Dennis and Kathy Lewis on hosting their first Trivia Night! You did well! People thought the judges were exceptional – tee hee.
- ✓

- ✓ Thank you in advance to Howiee and the Spaghetti team for another delicious meal and opportunity to gather in friendship. There are hours of shopping and preparation before the actual dinner. Somehow, Howiee has convinced his crew that they are having fun.
- ✓ Another round of applause to all the hardworking chairpersons and volunteers. You are the heart of all the activities and events. Thank you for coming to sign up for next year! We have the start of a great line up for next season. Enjoy your summer!

Peggy Eilers, Director

**SUMMER PEOPLE** - the Rec Board needs to know who is going to chair the Memorial Day and Fourth of July parties. Let us know ASAP so we can plan your financial support. Feel free to attend the meeting on April 1st if you like.

## **FROM THE IBE OFFICE**

- ❖ The 2026 IBE Community Directory is **READY!** They are \$5 and can be mailed; you just have to pay for postage. Please confirm your mailing address with the office.
- ❖ Leases for the 2026/2027 Season are available. This includes boat and RV storage as well; reservations do not automatically renew.
- ❖ RV Leases are due by April 15, 2026. Site Change Requests are also available.
- ❖ Office hours will be 9:00am to 4:00pm Monday through Friday. Saturday and Sunday, we are open from 9:00am-3:00pm.
- ❖ Beginning Friday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, Fridays will be the only horticulture pickup day.
- ❖ **ALL Kayaks** on the racks by the river **MUST be removed** immediately. Kayak racks will be stored away shortly.

*Michelle Carver, property Manager*

\*\*\*\*\***RELIGIOUS EVENTS**\*\*\*\*\*

**Our IBE Community Church**



Thank you to everyone who attended our Sunday night church services which have ended for this season. A special thank you, to our greeters, those who helped with worship, communion and set up.

Larry and I are honored and blessed to serve here at IBE as your Pastors. Hope to see you next year. God bless you.

Starting March 29<sup>th</sup> through April 6<sup>th</sup>, the Holy Week prayer walk will be put up around the pond until April 6<sup>th</sup>. Visit at your pleasure. Just follow the prompting on the journey to the cross around the pond entering on Pauline.

Thank you.  
Pastors Larry and Susan Fannon -239-273-2089

**MEN'S BIBLE STUDY** - will be meeting every Monday at Founder's Hall from 9:00 to 10:30. All men in the CO-OP, RV Section and Village are welcome to attend. We are currently studying the book of Romans. Don't forget to bring your Bible. Hope to see you. Any questions contact Curtis Talley at [dugan1952@outlook.com](mailto:dugan1952@outlook.com) or 231-215-4859.



\*\*\*\*\***REMINDERS**\*\*\*\*\*

- **TRASH SCHEDULE – Tuesday & Friday –**  
Regular trash, horticulture & Recycle (Please bundle/tie or bag horticulture) Nothing loose!  
***NOTE:** Beginning in April, Fridays will be the **only** horticulture pickup day for the summer months until otherwise notified.*
- Contact the IBE office if you have large items to dispose of to make arrangements.
- Please place your garbage bags in your trash cans with lid secured and place by the curb for pickup. Garbage should not be left in a bag at the side of the road.

**COMMUNITY SAFETY TIPS**

- **Walk left – Ride Right**

Use a **FLASHLIGHT(s)** **ESPECIALLY** at night!  
(Wear **BRIGHT** reflective clothing!)



**DRIVING IN THE PARK:**

SPEED LIMIT IS STILL **15mph** AS POSTED AND **10mph** IN THE RV SECTION FOR ALL VEHICLES WITH WHEELS.

\*\*\*\*\* **DID YOU KNOW?** \*\*\*\*\*

**WINDING DOWN FOR THE SEASON???**

Are you packing up and getting ready to head north? Did you know that when you leave your home or RV for the summer months and during hurricane season, you must store all of your outdoor fixtures which include: patio furniture, umbrellas, garden hoses, yard décor, plants, kayaks, etc. – anything that could fly during high winds and cause damage to your home or your neighbors around you?

Make sure you have left no perishable food items for bugs and rodents to feed on in your cabinets! Also, remember to notify the office of who your house watcher is, in case of emergency and let the office know when you're leaving. Again, this is for emergency purposes only so they have an idea of who is in the park so they know to search for you in case of bad storms and people become missing. It does and can happen! (Remember, I'm from Missouri where tornadoes are always a high possibility and people do get lost in the rubble.)

The practice of having a "house watcher" is highly recommended. If, for instance, your AC goes out and mold begins to grow in your home could be quite expensive. The house watcher could notify you of the AC not working and you can get someone called in for repair and avoid long-term damage. OR, we have rain and high winds and your roof begins to leak, the house watcher could catch that and notify you to call someone for repair.

**CO-OP OWNERS –**

It is your responsibility to maintain your yards year round (minus grass cutting/trimming). While you're away for any length of time it would be idea to have someone (your 'house watcher') taking care of and watching your home. Any weeds, flower beds, tree trimming, etc. is your responsibility even though you're not here.

*"Pull those weeds – Trim those trees! – Maintain and it's a breeze!"*

If you're unable to do this yourself, reach out to a friend or neighbor, I'm sure someone will be happy to help or find someone who can! There are several 'home watch' businesses in Bonita Springs and people in IBE willing to provide this service which you can hire. OR put a request "in search of" on one of our FB pages and someone will be happy to give recommendations.

**Walking in the park at NIGHT:**

Three reasons to carry a bright flashlight, with it on, when walking (your dog) or jogging at night:

1. So people can see you and your pet and don't run you over. (walk left, ride right rule)
2. So your dogs don't touch a poisonous Bufo Cane Toad (One touch can KILL your dog, big or small!!!!)
3. So you can find your dog's poo poo and pick it up and dispose of properly!



Thank you! Be smart and safe on the roads!

**IBE FACEBOOK PAGES:**

For all the latest information on activities and events, join the FB page "IBE Activities and Events". All you have to do is answer three questions. This FB group is intended for IBE residents in the Co-op, RV section and Village (but not for your friends and family). We want to keep it as an easy place to find out information about what is going on with activities and events (but not your personal life). For example, if something is cancelled or changed due to weather or a conflict, we want you to be able to access that information easily. Chairpersons are encouraged to share information regarding their activity on a regular basis.

• **Burn Ban in Effect!**

Officials ask all residents to be mindful of conditions and use good judgement. Outdoor ignition sources banned:

- Campfires
  - Bonfires
  - Trash Burning
- (From Lee County – leegov.com)



**2025-2026 SEASON EVENTS**  
**At A Glance**

**March**

- 27- Spaghetti Dinner- 5 & 6:30 seatings RH (ID badges and pre-purchased tickets required)
- 28- Donuts- 8-9:00 RH
- 28- 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Poker Run- 10-noon
- 28- Dee & Pauline Social gathering – 5:00

**SOME ACTIVITIES CONTINUE into April:**

- Mahjongg** (Dottie Lange)  
Tues – 10-12:00 (Beginners)  
Wed – 1- 3  
Thurs 10-12

**Horseshoes** – daily at 9:00am (as long as there are players) (Michel Laporte)

**Bridge** – Mon. 1-4:00; Thurs 1-4:00  
beginners Wed 11:30-12:30 (as long as there are players)

**\*\*\*2026-2027 UPCOMING EVENTS\*\*\***

**2026-2027 SEASON EVENTS TO COME!**

**NOVEMBER**

- 18- Co-op Board mtg
- 21- Donuts
- 26- Thanksgiving Dinner

**DECEMBER**

- 2- Rec Road mtg
- 9- Rec Dept Gen Mtg
- 12- Pancakes
- 14- Prom Night "One Enchanted Evening"
- 16- Co-op Board Mtg
- 18- Holiday Parade/Cookies & Cocoa afterwards
- 19- Donuts
- 24- Luminaries
- 25- Christmas Dinner
- 31- New Year's Eve Dance

**JANUARY 2027**

- 1- First official newsletter published
- 13- Welcome Back dinner/dance
- 20- Dance – Pirate theme!
- 21- Ohio Day – Roaring 20's theme
- 22- Trivia Night

**FEBRUARY**

- 10- Shuffle Derby
- 17- Dance – "Music of the Decades" theme
- 19- Trivia Night

**MARCH**

- 17- Dance/parade – St. Patrick's Day theme
- 19- Trivia Night

## **SOMETHING NEW FOR 2026-2027**

Save the Date: Monday, December 14, 2026

Our own IBE Prom is coming next season! The theme will be "One Enchanted Evening"! Be prepared for an evening of enchantment, elegance and a great time! So, ladies start shopping for your prom gowns and let's dress to the 9'ssssss!

Watch the "Imperial Bend Review" and the IBE Activities and Events Face Book Page for more information.

## **2026-2027 DANCE SCHEDULE:**

Jan. 20 - PIRATE THEME featuring Jacob's Ladder

Feb 17: MUSIC THROUGH THE DECADES THEME featuring Limited Edition (dress in your favorite decade style)

March 17: ST PATRICKS THEME featuring Kickstart

## **IBE CHOIR: 2026-27**

Come join us on Mondays beginning January 4th from 4:30-6:00 at the Rec Hall. Concert on March 13th at 4pm. Looking forward to working on a medley of Jersey Boy tunes.

## **BUTTON BOUQUET CLASS**

Come join us in 2027 for a fun day making button bouquets! Buttons and wire are provided. If you prefer, you can also bring your own buttons. Bring small pliers and a vase and join in the fun!



## **\*\*\*\*\*SUNSHINE REPORT\*\*\*\*\***

I continue to send out cards during the spring, summer and next fall to people that have a home in IBE. If you know of anyone in IBE that needs a "get-well, "sympathy" or "thinking of you" card, please text or email me with their name and full mailing address. I also need to know something about why you want me to send the card. So far this season I have sent:



Jan – 6 sympathy    4 get well    1 thinking of you  
Feb- 2 sympathy    3 get well  
Mar- 2 sympathy    2 get well

Thank you to all of you that have given me names and information about a reason to send the card. Conni Chapin, [Connijohn66@gmail.com](mailto:Connijohn66@gmail.com)  
OR 320-894-7150

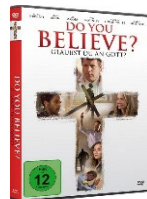
## **\*\*\*\*\*THE FUN STUFF\*\*\*\*\***

### **MOVIE NIGHT – "Do You Believe"**

TONIGHT -- Friday, March 27th at 7:15pm.

***Do You Believe?*** is a 2015

American Christian drama film directed by Jon Gunn and stars an ensemble cast featuring Ted McGinley, Mira Sorvino, Andrea Logan White, and more. When a pastor, Matthew, is shaken to the core by the visible belief of a street-corner preacher, he and others come together to start to question what their religious beliefs really mean.



### **THE 6<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL COVID POKER RUN**

Saturday, March 28, 2026, 10 am to 12 noon. This is similar to a poker run except you use your golf cart, bike or walk to the stops.



There will be four stops, which you can do in any order, at the horseshoe pits, tennis courts, bocce court and shuffleboard courts. If you draw a duplicate card, you must draw again.

Debbie & Dick Newton

### **FINAL, OR NEW, TRIVIA NIGHT**

There was fun at Saturday's final trivia for this season. Winning teams were 4th: HuManatee, 3rd: Leftovers, 2nd: Partial Postage, & 1st: IBE Refugees.

Mark your 2027 calendars with next season's dates: Fridays 1/22, 2/19, & 3/19.

We'll see you next year!

Kathy & Dennis Lewis

### **ATTENTION CRAFTERS!**

Before you head north for the summer, tuck this idea away: keep creating! The months ahead are a great time to craft, paint, sew, build, or design something special for next season's IBE craft show. We will have additional tables available and we'd love to welcome both returning favorites and new creative talents. Any questions or ideas, contact me anytime at:

[marilyndube13@gmail.com](mailto:marilyndube13@gmail.com)

Marilyn Dube

### **ATTENTION MILITARY VETERANS**

Next winter 2027, I will again be organizing some tours of the Naples Ferrari dealership. The last time we went, their crew was very welcoming and it

was quite the tour of their facilities and understanding the Ferrari concept. I was there last week as they're a consulting customer of mine and the manager asked if we were coming again some time. Layout is amazing, but I found amazing too was what people traded in for Ferraris. If interested, please email me your name, service branch, specific years of service, IBE address and contact info.

Ron Glasgow, [ron.glasgow1957@gmail.com](mailto:ron.glasgow1957@gmail.com)

### **VOLUNTEER LUNCHEON**

The Volunteer Luncheon was held on March 18th for over 250 volunteers. Leftover ribs were sold and generated \$210, which, along with some left over food, was donated to Cafe of Life in the name of IBE.

Thank you! Jim Wildonger

### **\*\*\*\*\* VILLAGE NEWS\*\*\*\*\***

We are updating our Villager contact lists, so if you'd like to receive email communications, including a copy of this newsletter, please let me know at the email address given at the end of this message.

Email to: [@hoamary.willoughby@gmail.com](mailto:@hoamary.willoughby@gmail.com)

The 2026-2027 Village Board members:

Butch Coleman, President  
Craig Jones, Vice Pres.  
Tracy Keegan, Treasurer  
Terry Arkwright, Member  
Charles Masi, Member  
Russ Baird, Member  
Judy Orr, Member  
Mary Willoughby, Secretary

### **\*\*\*STATES DAYS and BLOCK PARTIES!\*\*\***

#### **"PAULINE" & "DEE" DRIVE SOCIAL PARTY**

Saturday, March 28th  
Pauline and Dee Drives  
Happy Hour – 5:00 pm

Old Tiki Hut Area- behind the pool  
Bring hors d'oeuvres to share, your beverages  
And a chair

Thank you and we look forward to seeing you!  
Mike Morra – 401-487-5317

#### **NEW ENGLAD DAY PEOPLE!**

I personally would like to thank the New England Day Committee once again for coming together

making our day so much fun last January 25th. Let's do it all over again next year! Next year New England Day will be held on March 7, 2027. Wishing you a nice spring and summer season and see you back here at IBE next year! Safe travels and stay happy and healthy!  
- Gail Merrill

### **6 STATES DAY PLUS**

Hello everyone. Save the date for next year. Our party date for next year is March 14<sup>th</sup>, 2027. We have a good amount of time to get ready for it. Our theme will be dress as some Notable person from YOUR state from 1800 to 2000. We will have gifts for the best costume, 1st and 2nd place. While up north be thinking of door prizes and raffle gifts. We had such a variety of gifts this year, hopefully we can do it again next year. Everyone was so very helpful with everything. I can't thank all of you enough. More info to come next season. Enjoy the rest of this year. Stay safe and healthy. Safe travels for all who will be traveling. Looking forward to the new year.

Thanks again, Lynn Giffi, Chairperson.

### **JOANN DRIVE**

Thank you Bonnie Akins for delivery of our newsletters.

Your Joann Drive Friends & Neighbors

### **GOLF**

The season is behind us and I want to thank all of you who stuck with us. I know the late tee times were an issue. I'll see if they can be improved, but no promises. We had our get-together on 3/23 and I want to thank the co-chairs John Blickenstaff and Marlene Diem for their assistance. Also my wife, Kathy, who cooked the southern pulled pork for all to enjoy!



As of now, the course has tee times through April. I'll probably play a few more weeks, so contact me if you also wish to get in a few more rounds. See you next year!

Dennis Lewis, 937-219-9498

### **\*\*SPORTS, GAMES AND EXERCISE\*\***

#### **FINAL WINTER 2026 BINGO NIGHT - 3/31/26**

Thanks to all the players and volunteers, Tuesday nights were filled with fun, friendship and the chance to dance with Lady Luck! Despite unusually cold weather, a nasty stomach bug and the worn-out Bingo board, almost 1300 players

turned out this season! The Rec Board's extra donation let us add bonus games and sweeten some jackpots. So... a big Thank You to the Rec. Board!

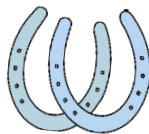
The winning was spread all around this week as one game saw 5 winners and there were many games with 2 or 3 winners. The big payouts to individual winners were \$30 for the Hit the Road, Jack game, \$38 for a combo Cookie Jar/ regular game, and \$50 for the Final Coverall. Thanks again to the volunteers! Safe travels to everyone leaving beautiful IBE!  
Kate & Heidi

**MONDAY NIGHT FUN SHUFFLE**

Monday, 3/30/26 we will have a FUN Beginners style tournament. Sign up at 5:45pm. Play at 6pm. COST \$1.00. We will play 4 shortened games. You will have a new partner each game. Winners of each game will report their scores. Prize money will be awarded to top scorers after the end of the fourth game. Awards will be dependent on the number of players. This will be the last official Monday Night Fun Shuffle until next season.

**FROM THE PITS**

We closed out the inter-resort league with a solid 9-7 victory over Corkscrew Resort. It's been a fantastic season filled with great camaraderie, plenty of laughs, and competitive spirit. Thanks to everyone who played and made it memorable. Special thanks to Ray for his leadership and great work as activity lead, and welcome Art as the new chair. We'll keep the good times rolling—join us daily at 09:00 for more horseshoes!



Michel Laporte, 613-305-2629  
265 Winnebago

**POOL LEAGUE**

It was another great season for the pool sharks on Thursday evenings at Founders Hall. This year's 1st place winner was Rocky Wiesman. Congratulations, Rocky, and thanks to all the participants for another great season.  
Lynn Coleman



**And the Winners are:::**

**BOCCE – 3/19/26**

| <u>GAME 1</u>   | <u>GAME 2</u>     |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Ed Haehn        | Ann Decoteah      |
| Julia Haehn     | Al Decoteah       |
| Path Hartmann   | Julie Haehn       |
| Randy Hudson    | Charlie Hawthorn  |
| Teresa Hudson   | Dale King         |
| Erna Jansen     | Marla Marsh       |
| John Jansen     | Judy Reising      |
| Barb King       | Natalie Reising   |
| Dale King       | Zach Reising      |
| Monique Mailhot | Brighite Spruyt   |
| Steve Meadors   | Gerald Spruyt     |
| Tom Marsh       | Robert Trotter    |
| Judy Orr        | jim Tucholski     |
| Jeff Pumphrey   | Wanetta Tucholski |
| Zach Reising    |                   |

**3/24/26**

|                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Birg Bertke      | Virg Bertke      |
| Bill Bosco       | Bill Bosco       |
| Ann Decoteau     | Bobbie Bosco     |
| Patti Hartman    | Ann Decoteau     |
| Charlie Hawthorn | Charlie Hawthorn |
| Erna Jansen      | Teresa Hudson    |
| Bob Mann         | Erna Jansen      |
| Tom Marsh        | Bob Mann         |
| Gary Polack      | Shirley McGough  |
| Liz recollect    | Steve Meadors    |
| Judy Reising     | Gary Polack      |
| Barb Schairbaum  | Liz Recollect    |
| Bridhite Spruyt  | Judy Reising     |
| Robert Trotter   | Barb Schairbaum  |
|                  | Robert Trotter   |

**BRIDGE – 3-19-26**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> – Fred Griffith
- 2<sup>nd</sup> –Carole Malone
- 3<sup>rd</sup> – Bill McLaughlin

**3-23-26**

- Carole Malone
- Fred Griffith
- Gene Buhrmeister

**BY GEORGE – 3-21-26**

| <u>Game 1</u>   | <u>Game 2</u>   | <u>Game 3</u>  |
|-----------------|-----------------|----------------|
| Ann Decoteau    | Ruthann Fenske  | Ruthann Fenske |
| Jean Hiltz      | Erna Jansen     | Jean Hiltz     |
| Ann Bensingier  | Ellen Bennett   | Ann Bensingier |
| Tami Busch      | Tami Busch      | Ed Haehn       |
| Tony Carver     | Mike Bensingier | Tony Carver    |
| <u>Game 4 -</u> | Erna Jansen     |                |

**CORN HOLE – 3-19-26**

- 34 Players
- 1st place: Dirk Ross/Richard Loiseau
- Tied 2nd place: Terry Fletcher/Reagan Smith & Bob Burger/Ralph Lentner
- 3rd place: Cathy Wonderlich/Randy LaRue

**CRIBBAGE – 3/24/26**

- 1<sup>ST</sup> Cheryl Cronin
- 2<sup>nd</sup> Suzanne Boulter
- 3<sup>rd</sup> Susan White

**DOMINOS – 3/27/26**

Table #1 Dick Newton; #2 Jim Wildonger; #3 Deb Wildonger;  
#4 Sue Taylor; #5 Shirley McGouch; #6 Ann Carver, #7 Bernie  
Lex; #8 Nancy Bertsch



**EUCHRE 3/19/26**

1<sup>st</sup> Pl: Don Recchiuti/Mary Malsch; 2<sup>nd</sup> Pl: Tracy Sinz  
Loners: Tom MFrank Catlin  
Low Score: Ann Decoteau

**HAND & FOOT – 3-19-26**

1 – Marilyn Dube  
2 – Erna Jansen  
3 – Bob Mann  
4 – Judy Reising  
Lo – Freda Belanger

**PINOCHLE – 3/22/26**

1<sup>ST</sup> – Kathy Lewis  
2<sup>nd</sup> – Brighite Spruyt  
3<sup>rd</sup> – Al Henkel  
4<sup>th</sup> – Judy Reising  
Low – Janine Lucht

**POOL LEAGUE (1) BILLARDS – 2026**

First of all, I would like to thank to my husband Luc for is help.  
On Thursday March 19th, we played the last game of the season  
We had three (3) players tied with a score of 26: Butch Coleman,  
Greg Katchmark and Rocky Weisman. They went to a tiebreaker and  
the winner was - Rocky Weisman 28

Here are the list of players positions: 2nd Butch Coleman 27, 3rd  
Greg Katchmark 26, 4th Tom Sayle 25, 5th Harvey Hans 24, 6th  
Steve Costa 22, 7th Luc Benoit 21, 8th Mike Bensinger 20, Rodger  
Lawson, 9th Leo Atkin 18, Curtis Tally, Monique Therrien

The substitutes:

1st Tom Werner 5, Jeff Nooran-Day 5, 2nd Jim Tucholski 4, 3rd Mark  
Velander 3, 4th Jim Butzer 1.

Big thank to all players and substitutes who supported me this  
season as chairperson. I hope to see you next year - 2027. Have a  
great summer and have a safe return – travel carefully.

**TEXAS HOLDEM 3/18/26**

1st Greg Katchmark  
2nd Tony Danforth  
3rd Michel Roy

***“Happiness is not a state to  
arrive at,  
But a manner of traveling.”***

***Safe travels to those of you leaving us!  
Until next season..... Farewell!!***



