

## ZSC GIVERS

After reading some of Earl's 2004 articles regarding another club, it got me to thinking about our own situation we had back in 2007, our first year as the **Zephyrhills Shuffleboard Club**.

There is absolutely no doubt that when Bob Perkins purchased the Shuffle Club property from the Tourist Club, that year, it ultimately became one of the most magnanimous contributions imaginable for all ZSC members. The Tourist Club members voted to sell off the shuffleboard courts in order to reduce debt and raise money for needed repairs on the dance hall building. Our property was just about to be listed by a Real Estate agent, when Bob stepped in. If it wasn't for this most gracious gift, it's hard to imagine we would have the Club we all enjoy today.

The Tourist Club considered the shufflers as "**takers**" and very little money was allocated for court or building maintenance, although our member's dues and tournament receipts went directly into their general fund.

But now, we now had a facility crying for repairs, that needed to be addressed. Our members definitely turned into "**givers**" and stepped up to the plate in a very big way.

We certainly needed to raise revenue quickly to bring the property up to the standards we envisioned and after the new Board was elected, the first order of business was to generate funds.

As Treasurer, I remember Pete Lothrop coming to me and saying he was on his way to the bank to give us \$100. When he returned a little while later, he presented me with 10 -\$100 bills. This was the beginning of a tremendous fund raising drive. The late Pete Romano donated another \$1000, Earl Ball and Henry Strong each gave an incredible \$5000, and we were well on our way. These were just a few of the larger contributions but our 107 members worked for and contributed over \$25,000 that first year. Almost everyone turned into "**givers**" in some way.

We now had the capital necessary to start some much needed projects at the Club. More members stepped up and began donating their time and talent to completing the appointed tasks.

A new restroom and court refinishing were at the top of the improvement list that first year. The new roofs were completed in 2009 and many, many other improvements have been completed since then.

Today, our membership is very strong with 158 paid members and they continue to be "**givers**" by volunteering with everyday Club chores, large turnouts on work days and some still giving monetary contributions. That's how it's been weather it comes to raising money or just rolling up your sleeves and going to work, our people give what they can, one way or another.

We have a tremendous Club with fantastic members and we should all be proud of the accomplishments we've achieved. Thanks to all the **ZSC "givers"**.