

During the month of May, Bob & I along with Whiskers and Minnie continued to settle down in our new home. The month of May naturally ends with the Memorial Day Celebrations, which we participated in here at our Lakeside Community. Once again I need to look in the direction of Nancy, our Activities' Director, seen at the top right. It is she who is largely responsible for putting on these big events. She is an easy person to work with and people are only too glad to volunteer their services to help her out during these events. What did I tell you about that smiling face? We all paid ten dollars a person which gave us all the food you could put away. Musicians were brought in for our party, and some folks took advantage of the dance floor inside the hall. People sat outside and socialized but ate indoors at tables in the large hall.

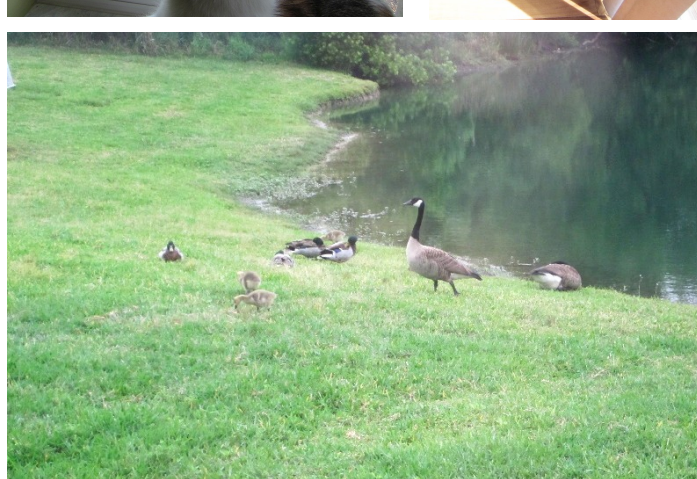
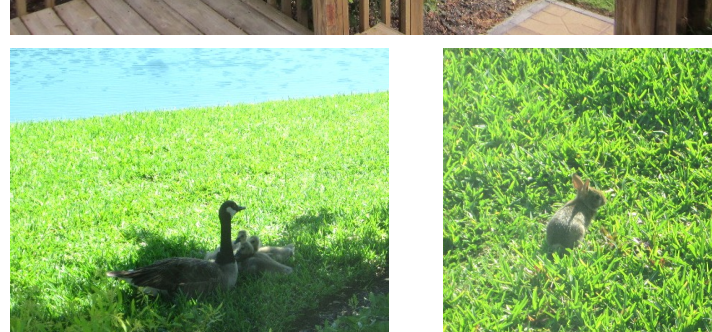
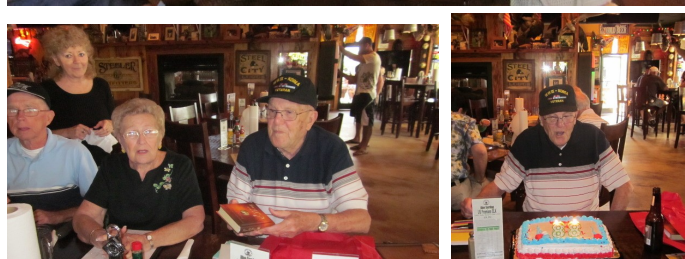
Prior to this we were invited to a surprise 88th birthday celebration for one of our neighbors, Charles Daughaday. Since it was a surprise, our next door neighbor, Trish Shumate was the one who had the job of inviting us. "Yours Truly" almost blew the surprise when talking with Charles one morning in his driveway, since I misunderstood part of what Trish said!! Bob tried to shut me up but even that went over my head! This was really the beginning of our relationship with our neighbors. The party was planned at a nearby restaurant, *Longbeards Restaurant and Grill*, a local favorite. We road with Trish & Don to the restaurant. See pictures on lower right. Doris & Charles are a very special couple! You have only to listen to Doris for a brief period of time to feel the genuine concern and care she has for the people around her. I won't talk any more about their age, but will say they have been married, I believe for about 60+ years. It is fun just listening to the two of them at our social gatherings. After this particular gathering, Doris invited me to come down and talk when I have time. I did so and do so enjoy spending time with her.

During the month of May, the Community had their annual yard sale. This was fun even though the temperature was up and not comfortable for walking around. We went back and got in our car. Needless to say, we did not have anything to sell, but was able to purchase a headboard for the spare bedroom and a bread machine for \$5.00. The big advantage for us was an opportunity to meet more of our neighbors. Remembering what names go to what faces is another story!!

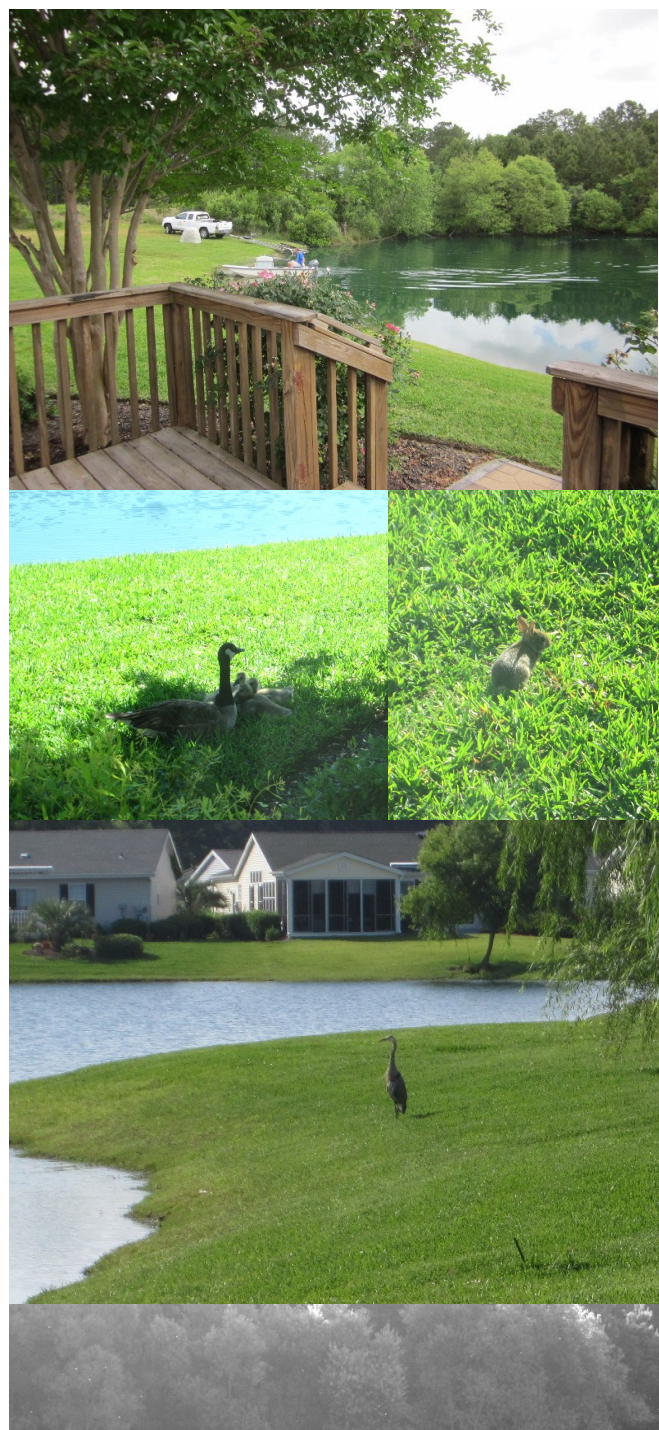
In the middle of all this we were able to appreciate our new home and the wonderful surprises 'Mother Nature' had in store for us. We were able to sit back and watch our two cats enjoy the local scenery and wild life around the Lake. I left some of the pictures for page two.



Happy Birthday, Charles!!



Here is a sampling of our "back yard adventures"! The management takes excellent care of the properties. The first picture represents regular maintenance of the lakes. An environmental person is getting ready to launch a boat to dispense fluids that will keep the mosquitoes down and protect the lake. Below are some pictures of adult geese and babies resting in the shade. I caught the bottom picture one morning when there was an early morning mist on the water. In the middle we have a lone blue herring resident. Yes, that is a 'bunny' in the grass and her name is 'Butter Cup". She appeared under our deck one day and stayed. Above, Minnie is fascinated by our resident gecko, "Harry", who appears to be teasing her from the outside of the window. You can see how exhausting her new territory is by her reaction!!



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