

**COVID-19 UPDATE:** Academy members have the option of attending the Academy onsite or continuing with online services. For more information about our Phase I Safety Guidelines on the Academy's website: [AcademySRQ.org](http://AcademySRQ.org). These guidelines have been established based on consensus by Academy members, staff and Board of Directors. They are subject to change at the discretion of the Academy community. These guidelines will be reevaluated on an ongoing basis and are subject to future modification. We Are Stronger Together.

## GLAD TO BE BACK OPEN



## LIVE FROM THE ACADEMY WED., AUG. 26, 7-8 P.M.

If you've been anywhere near the Academy recently, you might have noticed a buzz emanating from our building. Not to worry, it's just us, and we are super excited! This week marks the culmination of weeks of hard work and passionate pursuit as we plan and rehearse for our 2nd Annual Telethon, Live from the Academy, premiering on Wed., Aug. 26, at 7 p.m.

With the success of last years' seminal telethon, we knew we wanted to make this an annual event. But then, in the midst of a pandemic, we took pause to consider how we could safely pull it off while still showcasing the rapport and comradery for which the Academy has become known. In the end, we struck a balance between some prerecorded interviews and segments, safe distancing, and a bit of smoke and mirrors in the editing room. We hope that the fun of creating this program, and the joy of working together as a tight-knit community, still comes through to our viewers.

We're excited for our viewers to meet some of the members who lent their talents to the writing and producing of segments, composing original music, acting, directing, and more. If the thought of a program about mental health sounds sobering, we hope to surprise you. Despite the serious topic, we had a lot of fun making the program, and we think it shows.

We also have several special guests lined up.



Scene from the "Sieze the Awkward" film by the Multimedia team.

Among them, Joel Corcoran, Executive Director of our governing body Clubhouse International,



(left to right) William McKeever and Joel Corcoran

speaks about the philosophy of inclusion that shapes our culture, and our own Sarasota County Sheriff Tom Knight puts a fine point on why and how programs such as ours are necessary to reduce legal involvement for people with mental health challenges. Once again, this year's telethon will be co-hosted by our Ambassador Extraordinaire, the inimitable Stewie Bitterman, along with our own Executive Director William McKeever. So right there, you know it will be entertaining!

We are grateful to our friends at the Steinwachs Family Foundation who are providing a 1:1 match on donations raised. With COVID precautionary measures limiting on-site events, our fundraising opportunities have been reduced.



(left to right) Stewie Bitterman and Sarasota County Sheriff Tom Knight.

So, there is no better time to put your support behind the Academy. And it couldn't be easier! Simply visit [AcademySRQ.org/live](http://AcademySRQ.org/live) and click on the link to watch. No passwords or ID required! You're just one click away from the fun! See you on Wednesday at 7 p.m.!

**[AcademySRQ.org/Live](http://AcademySRQ.org/Live)**

# SOLIDARITY AMONG FLORIDA CLUBHOUSES

by Lori Wiest

For several months now, members of the Florida Clubhouse Coalition (FCC) have been meeting through Zoom. The FCC is a group made up of all the Clubhouse programs in Florida. We meet to discuss how to run our programs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Some Clubhouses remain closed due to the pandemic, but others, such as the Academy, have reopened. Some of the issues include outreaching and engaging members, precautionary measures to reopen, and funding. Clubhouses share what procedures and strategies they have implemented, how best to utilize technology, and how to improve access to Clubhouses for those who want to participate virtually. The Academy shared some of what we are doing: Fogging/disinfecting the building every weekend, screen-sharing between computers to ensure proper distancing, providing tablets for members to work remotely, rigorously disinfecting all high-touch areas throughout the day. Each Clubhouse sharing their individual knowledge will make us all stronger.



## Wellness

by Candy El-Azzaoui

During the pandemic, exercise can be challenging. In Sarasota, we also have the rainy and humid hours that make getting some fresh air difficult. During Wellness Wednesdays this month, we have been following along with various Yoga videos available online. Members and staff participate onsite and virtually through Zoom. We practice stretching and strengthening our core, which gives us more energy and vitality throughout our day.



(left to right) Patty Haltinner, Garrett Laue, Ben Burnside, Stephen Anderson and Rima Ghalieh.

HYBRID WORK-ORDERED DAY

All events take place on-site at the Academy and through the Zoom app.

Watch Slack for Meeting ID and Password.

### Monday, August 24

Morning Meeting - 9 a.m.  
Business & Tech/Arts Team Meeting - 9:45 a.m.  
Culinary Team Meeting - 9:45 a.m.  
Business & Tech/Arts Team Meeting - 1:30 p.m.  
Culinary Team Meeting - 1:45 p.m.

### Tuesday, August 25

Morning Meeting - 9 a.m.  
Business & Tech/Arts Team Meeting - 9:45 a.m.  
Culinary Team Meeting - 9:45 a.m.  
Academy Meeting - 1:30 p.m.  
Business & Tech/Arts Team Meeting - 2:15 p.m.  
Culinary Team Meeting - 2:15 p.m.

### Wednesday, August 26

Morning Meeting - 9 a.m.  
Business & Tech/Arts Team Meeting - 9:45 a.m.  
Culinary Team Meeting - 9:45 a.m.  
Newsroom Meeting - 11 a.m.  
Business & Tech/Arts Team Meeting - 1:30 p.m.  
Culinary Team Meeting - 1:45 p.m.  
Wellness Wednesday - 3 p.m.

### Thursday, August 27

Morning Meeting - 9 a.m.  
Business & Tech/Arts Team Meeting - 9:45 a.m.  
Culinary Team Meeting - 9:45 a.m.  
Business & Tech/Arts Team Meeting - 1:30 p.m.  
Culinary Team Meeting - 1:45 p.m.

### Friday - August 28

Breakfast Buffet - 8:45 a.m.  
Morning Meeting - 9 a.m.  
Business & Tech/Arts Team Meeting - 10 a.m.  
Culinary Team Meeting - 10 a.m.  
Employment Workshop - 11 a.m.  
Writing Workshop - 1:30 p.m.  
Business & Tech/Arts Team Meeting - 1:30 p.m.  
Culinary Team Meeting - 1:45 p.m.

## TO MAKE A DONATION

visit our website

[AcademySRQ.org](https://AcademySRQ.org)

and click on the  **Donate Now** button

*Thank you for transforming lives!*

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