

FANfare

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WOMEN'S CLUB



FAN General Meeting

**Our next meeting is
Tuesday, April 1st.**

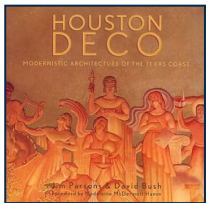
George H.W. Bush Community Center
6827 Cypresswood Drive

Coffee & Social Mixer Starts at 9:30 a.m.
Club Business & Program Starts at 10 a.m.

April General Meeting Program: Guest Speaker Jim Parsons with Preservation Houston

Sandy Darst,
*1st Vice President
of Programs*

Jim Parsons, a native of Baytown, brings his lifelong passion for history and architecture to his role as Programs Director for Preservation Houston. He leads the organization's



educational outreach and public programs, which include neighborhood walking tours, video presentations and lectures. Jim has co-authored several award-winning books on Art Deco architecture in Texas, including *Houston Deco: Modernistic Architecture of the Texas Coast*.



President's Message

Kim Gerrish,
President



Members embraced the *Let The Good Times Roll* theme at the FAN 46th Anniversary and Member Appreciation General Meeting in March, wearing green, purple, and gold, adorned with beads, and enjoyed yummy beignets. We hope everyone gets plenty of use out of their new FAN wallet!

The FAN Line Dancers impressed us with their exceptional dance moves. Also, it was an immense honor to present our charity, the Montgomery County Women's Center, with a HUGE \$11,000.00 check, thanks to your remarkable fundraising efforts this year. Guest speaker, Aline Myers, enlightened us on The Language of the FAN, and we practiced with our fans with one another.

Join your friends on April Fools' Day at the General Meeting to vote on the 2025-2026 Executive Board and Charity, and install the newly elected Executive Board. Plus, Jim Parsons, Director of Programs – Preservation Houston, will be our distinguished speaker! Don't forget to register for the April 25th Day Trip and May 6th *Amicizia* Spring Luncheon.

I promise to limit the **Jokes & Hoaxes** on April 1st.
See you later ...

Rays of Sunshine

Jennifer Banks, *Sunshine Chair*

*"Keep your face always toward the sunshine,
and shadows will fall behind you." - Walt Whitman*

Sunshine wishes were sent to quite a few FAN friends including **Donna Morris,** **Susan Kleimann,** **Lin Fish,** and **Sharon Crum.**

If you know of someone who could use little bit of "sunshine," email jennb6@aol.com.

Membership Updates

Gayla Baker, 2nd VP of Membership

Greetings Ladies,

As of March 11th, we had 302 paid members who renewed or joined for the 2024-25 Season of FAN. This is the end of our 2024-25 campaign, and we will start again in April for the 2025-2026 season.

At the March 4th General Meeting, 95 ladies attended, including 92 members and 3 guests, all of whom joined.

A hearty and grateful thank you to all the members who brought their friends and neighbors, and helped us reach our goal of having 300 members this year. Hopefully, you have all signed up to join the summer activities you are interested in. If not, please do so at the April meeting. There's more excitement and fun to be had, and we are continually adding new activities to enjoy.

We wish to extend a warm welcome to our newest members who have joined since the March newsletter:

- **Barbara Durr**
- **Donna Nichols**
- **Laura Galvez**
- **Evelyn Speruzzi**

Let all your friends and neighbors know about our club and encourage them to come to an activity to see what a great group we are!

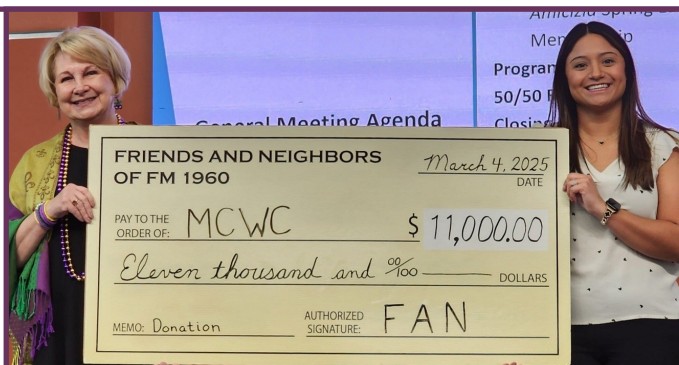
They can also check us out at www.fanwomensclub.com or email us at fanwomensclub@gmail.com.

Hugs 'til next month!



Shirley Bailey	4/2
Judy Wilson	4/2
Phyllis Doran	4/3
Linda Niermeyer	4/5
Gayle Fuchs	4/11
Maria Bocchino	4/12
Evelyn Speruzzi	4/13
Mary E. Golden	4/14
Lin Fish	4/15
Estela Nichols	4/15
Cindy Krueger	4/16
Ellen Peckham	4/16
Carolyn Davis	4/19
Ann Parker	4/19
Millie Jude	4/20
Sheila Gibbs	4/23
Sharon Glasgow	4/25
Joyce Uribe	4/25
Tina Snodgrass	4/27
Linda Vance	4/30

Mary Ales presented Linda Quiroz from the Montgomery County Women's Center with our donation check for \$11k!



March 50/50 Raffle

We choose 3 winners in the raffle to receive cash prizes!

Winners (each won \$49 x 3): \$147

FAN Funds: \$147

Total Collected: \$294



Mexican Train II

Randee Saber, Mexican Train II Lead

Our group is open to new members. Join us on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at 11:15 a.m. at Oriental Gardens. Please contact me for details.



Mexican Train III

Barbara Pack, Mexican Train III Lead

Our group is open to new members. Join us on the 4th Friday of each month at 11:30 a.m. at Las Mañanitas Restaurant. Please contact me for more details.



Ashley Campbell

Betsy Wilks had two lucky winning tickets!!



Friends And Neighbors Women's Club

EST. 1979

All New Members must complete this form.

Renewing Members use this form only to update changes to your directory listing.

2025-2026 Application: New Member ____ Renewing Member ____

Section 1: Member Contact & Personal Information (Please print)

Name (First/Last)			
Address			
City		HOME Phone Number	
Zip Code		CELL Phone Number	
Subdivision			
Email		Birthday (Month/Day)	
The Year I Joined FAN		Spouse's Name	

Section 2: Membership Information



Zelle

A.	Annual dues are \$25, covering the period of June 1 through May 31 . Payment options: pay via check payable to FAN, Zelle using the QR code shown, or pay via credit card on the FAN website (<i>fees apply for all credit card transactions</i>). Note: Membership dues are not deductible contributions.
B.	Membership information must be received by June 30 to be included in the directory.
a.	Sign here if you do NOT want your information in the directory. _____. Note: The Directory is not distributed to anyone outside of FAN.
b.	The Membership Directory will be available at the FAN general meetings. Directories are not mailed.
C.	Newsletters are available on the club website: https://www.fanwomensclub.com/ . An email with a link to the newsletter is sent to members when a new issue is posted.

Section 3: Volunteer Interests (check all that apply)

____ Assist at the General Meeting as a Greeter	____ Assist with Set-up for Special Events/Luncheons
____ Assist at the General Meeting Sign-in Table	____ Assist with Computer Skills – Word, Excel, Publisher
____ Assist at the General Meeting Hospitality Table	____ Assist with Event Planning / Organizing / Decorating

Return form to: Marybeth Magallanes at 4415 Sanctuary Halls Drive • Spring, TX 77388

Nominating Committee

Kathy Court, *Nominating Committee Chair*

The Nominating Committee is pleased to present the following nominees for election to the Executive Board. Nominations remain open until March 31st. At that time, if there are no other candidates, this slate will be put forward for voting at the April 1st General Meeting.



President: Sandy Darst

Sandy (Sandra Jane Ambrose Darst) graduated from the University of St. Thomas and received her Master of Education Leadership from Lamar University. She is a retired educator. Sandy has been married to her husband, Tommy, for 53 years and together they run a successful business. She is an active member of the community through her memberships and board positions in various organizations. Sandy joined FAN in 2019 and served two years as the Directory Chairperson before serving as 1st VP, Programs for the last two years. She is the First Thursday Lunch Bunch lead and plays Mah Jongg and Mexican Train. She is kind and compassionate and willing to serve our organization.

1st Vice President, Programs: Ernestine Zawitkowski

Ernestine and her husband moved to Houston in 1990 from Washington DC. She was born and raised in the Texas hill country. She has two children and two grandchildren. Ernestine retired from the Federal Bureau of Investigation with 38 years of federal government service. Prior to the FBI, she worked for the U.S. House of Representatives and the Texas Department of Public Safety in Austin. Her work experience includes supervising a variety of investigative processes, plus financial, facilities, project and case management. Her leadership style includes transparency and clear and concise communications. She has a Master of Education from Liberty University and a Bachelor of Arts from St. Thomas University. Most recently she served on the Rock Creek HOA Board of Directors and St. Thomas University Alumni Board of Directors. She joined FAN in 2018 and feels that this group provides a great opportunity of empowering women through fellowship, networking, charitable contributions and the valuable programs. She believes in FAN and wants to help grow this organization, utilizing her work experience and leadership skills. She welcomes ideas and promises to have an open mind in developing meaningful programs that will benefit our members.

2nd Vice President, Membership: Marybeth Magallanes

Marybeth recently moved to Houston from Atlanta where she was active in a local women's club holding various board positions and volunteered at Forsyth County Alzheimer's Respite group. She grew up in Chicago, married and raised her two sons in upstate New York, and over the next ten years lived in Japan, Korea, Argentina and Mexico. She retired in 2013 after working 35 years for GE as a Human Resources Manager. Upon joining FAN in 2023, she quickly got involved as Secretary and in many activities. Her passion for community service and avid interest in reading and playing games makes her a great addition to FAN.

Secretary: Barbara Pack

Barbara is a retired Klein ISD employee where she served as a Special Ed secretary. She loves to crochet. She plays Canasta, Bunco, National Mah Jongg, and is the leader of Mexican Train III activity group. Barbara served for two terms as FAN Secretary. After completing her role as the Directory Chairperson this past year, she has accepted the nomination to once again serve as Secretary.

Treasurer: Laurie Nimberger

After graduating from The University of Texas, Laurie worked as a marketing specialist in the Oil & Gas industry for 24 years before becoming a local business owner. She enjoys decorating, traveling, family time, and being a Dog Mom to her two Labradors. Laurie loves playing Railroad Canasta, Mah Jongg and Mexican Train, and she co-hosted one of FAN's Spring Luncheons. She joined our club in 2020 and created a new FAN website while serving as the Social Media Chair (website and Facebook) for two years. She has most recently been the FANfare Newsletter Editor for the past two years.

Auditor: Idalia Skates

Idalia graduated from the University of Houston and retired from Aldine ISD. Her daily life centers around her grandchildren. She enjoys playing Mexican Train, supporting the Astros and the Texans, and working in her yard. She has been a member of FAN since 2011 and has served as Treasurer, Auditor and Historian.

Newsletter Editor: Tiffany Cady

Northwest Houston is Tiffany's long time stomping grounds. Tiffany has worked as a Marketing Manager, website designer and graphic artist. She has owned her dog grooming and boarding business since 2010. As President of the Houston Dog Park Association, she maintained their website and newsletter for 5 years. She was a member of Rotary for many years where she performed community service projects, assisted with event organization, and attended personal and professional development retreats. Tiffany has hosted a foreign exchange student from China, and she adopted her daughter from the Texas foster care system. She has a heart for engaging and helping others. Tiffany is a huge board gamer and attends 3 to 4 game nights per week to appease her hunger for gaming. In FAN, she hosts Theater Goers and Couples Social groups; she is co-leader for Rummikub activity group; and she has led American Mah Jongg and Mexican Train activity groups.

Historian: Kathleen Court

Kathy grew up in rural Nebraska, lived in Miami, Florida, for 23 years, and finally landed in Houston, Texas, in 1997 thanks to her job at Texaco. She has been loving retirement since 2014. Her hobbies include cooking (especially trying new recipes), home organization and decorating projects, reading and word puzzles. Kathy joined FAN in 2018. Her passion for FAN is evident in her active roles as board member, activity group leader and participant. She has held the positions of 2nd Vice President of Membership, President and Advisor, each for two years. She is the group leader for Literary Review Book Club, 5th Tuesday/Summer 1st Tuesday Fun Days, and Classic Restaurant Lunch Group. She is a member of the First Thursday Lunch Bunch, Dragon Ladies Mah Jongg, Antiquers & Junkers, and Mexican Train.

THANK YOU!

Thank you to all of the FAN volunteers that make FAN the great club that it is. We appreciate you!

LET'S VOTE! FAN Charity Selections for 2025-2026

Mary Ales, *Charity Chair*

At the April 1st General Meeting, attending members will vote on FAN's Charity selection for 2025-2026. The Charity receiving the majority vote will be selected and announced at the meeting.



The three Charity selections are described below in alphabetical order:



BOYS AND GIRLS COUNTRY: www.boysandgirlscountry.org

Mission: Our mission is to change the lives of children from families in crisis by loving and nurturing them in a Christian home environment, and raising them to become self-sustaining and contributing adults.

Vision: That every child has a place to grow up and a sense of being home.

Boys And Girls Country is a licensed residential home that serves children ages 5-18 and young adults 18 and up. They use a trauma-informed care model to meet the physical, emotional and spiritual needs of each child with an emphasis on providing a stable, Christian home environment.



CAMP SHIELD: www.campshield.org

Mission: Camp Shield's mission is collaborating to empower women veterans – emotionally, socially and physically – to ensure she thrives after military service.

Camp Shield offers retreats, workshops, peer support and social activities. They strive to support the personal and professional success of veterans and their families by increasing resiliency, life satisfaction and empowerment. Camp Shield is filling the gap for the underrepresented women veteran population.



MOVING WATERS: www.movingwaters-houston.org

Mission: To improve the quality of life for the unhoused men and women in Galveston-Houston.

Moving Waters currently provides 600 showers a month at four weekly partner locations. They distribute hygiene supplies, clean underwear and socks to extend the dignity of those that they serve. Guests are provided with a 20-minute hot shower, and are able to complete all necessary self-care tasks on-site.

Moving Waters opened in 2021 and have provided over 20,000 showers to 3,400 individuals. They also work with The University of Houston's College of Pharmacy to collect data to determine mental health diagnoses and substance use that exists amongst the unhoused. This data is used to implement a program and reduce risk of overdose among these guests.

5th Tuesday Fun Day: BINGO!

Kathy Court, 5th Tuesday
Fun Day Lead



The next 5th Tuesday Fun Day is **April 29th at Spring Creek BBQ** (Rogers Rd. @ 249) starting with lunch at 11:30 a.m. If you have not signed up for this group activity, look for the sign-up sheet at the April 1st General Meeting. If you have questions, call/text me at 713-385-7419.

In each newsletter, we feature Membership Directory advertisers. Show them your support!

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Railroad Canasta

Kim Gerrish, Railroad Canasta Lead

Next date: Tuesday, April 8th
\$2.00 + cost of lunch

Would you like to join? Trained players get together on the 2nd Tuesday of each month. If you need training or want to be added to the contact list, just email kimgerrish@yahoo.com.

March Winners:



3rd Place
Kaye Neiss

2nd Place
Shelley Gross

1st Place
Etta Gager

Literary Review Book Club

Kathy Court, Literary Review Lead

Date: April 23rd
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Hostess: **Margaret Burgess**
Discussion Leader: **Kathy Michalski**
Book: *Lady Oracle*
Author: Margaret Atwood



SAVE THE DATE

Mark your calendar for these upcoming FAN events!

April 1: General Meeting featuring Jim Parsons, Director of Programs at Preservation Houston

April 25: Day Trip: Harisumiran Mandir and St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Church

May 6: Amicizia Spring Luncheon

Note: After April, our General Meetings will be on summer break until September. Most Activity Groups will continue to meet throughout the summer, but verify with your Activity Group Lead.



FAN Activities News!

Donna Morris,
Activities Chair

Please sign up at the April meeting at the Activities' tables for these groups:



- The Rummikub activity group now has co-leads **Tiffany Cady** and **Traci Weirich**. The location will be Whole Foods Vintage Park. The group will play in the cafe upstairs on the 3rd Tuesday of every month. They will arrive and eat from the hot food bar and salad bar at 11:15 a.m. and begin play at 12 p.m. The location is not currently handicap accessible because the elevator is broken. If you need access, please call the store and voice your accessibility concerns.
- **Tiffany Cady** is gearing up to begin the 'Bring a Guest' activity group. This was originally named the Couples activity group. FAN wants to include and welcome ANY guest to join in these activities. Some potential activities for partners, friends, family and couples to enjoy together are: Pedicures, Movies, Dinner, Top Golf, Potlucks, Plays, Game day, Poker, Painting or Pottery. If you have ideas of for places for us to attend with our guest or to join the group please text Tiffany.
- **Phyllis Doran** will be leading our Chair Yoga group. Sign up for this new group!

Please note: If you signed up for a group in the past, you do not need to sign up for THAT specific group again. Thanks!

Nature Walkers Group

Jacqueline Webster,
Nature Walkers Lead



Come and join the FAN Nature Walkers to enjoy the tranquility of walking along a forest path, to notice the natural beauty of the area surroundings, to listen to the sounds of nature, and to be in the serene atmosphere of nature. We meet twice a month, on days weather permitting, and walk at a pleasant pace for about 60 to 90 minutes in various locations of our Precinct 3 parks. Submit your name and email address to jcwebster1@sbcglobal.net to be put on the walkers list.



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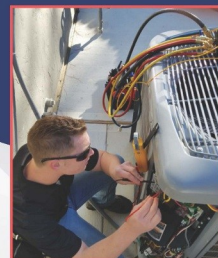
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Theater Goers

Tiffany Cady,
Theater Goers Chair



The new Theater Goers Activity Group had a very enjoyable first outing. On March 3rd we had 13 FAN members and 1 guest attend the comedy musical *The Wedding Singer* at Stageworks Theater. Our next activity will be to see *The Odd Couple—The Female Version*. This comedy is also at Stageworks Theater. We will attend on May 4th at 2:30 p.m.



Thanks to Susan Butler for proofreading the FANfare newsletter each month!

FAN Day Trip: 'Harisumiran Mandir and St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Church' on Friday, April 25th, 2025

Carolyn Grimes, Day Trips Chair

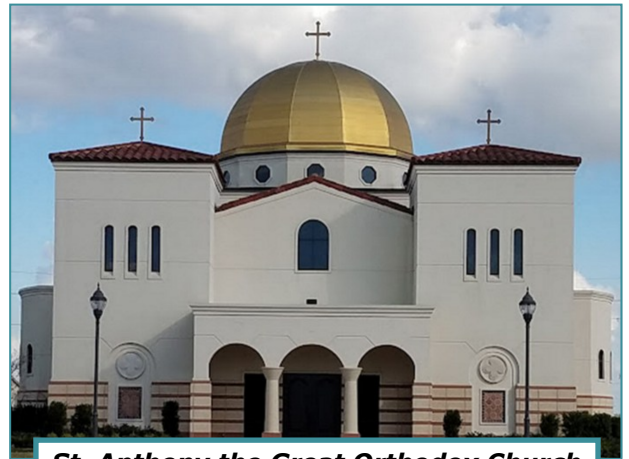
We have reservations to tour the Harisumiran Mandir, a Hindu Swaminarayan Temple at 10:00 a.m. followed by Chai Tea and Samosas. This is a new temple that opened in our area in August 2024.

We will have lunch at Luby's Cafeteria.

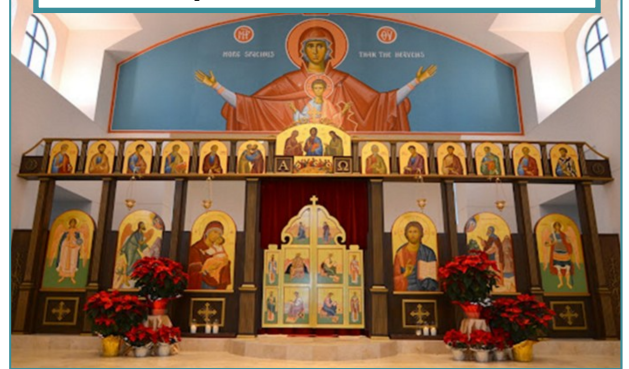
After lunch, we have a 1:00 p.m. tour of St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Church.

The Precinct 3 bus will depart from the George H.W. Bush Community Center located at 6827 Cypresswood Drive in Spring. The bus will be available for boarding at 9:15 a.m. and will depart at 9:45 a.m. We should return home around 2:30 p.m. or earlier.

Sign up at a General Meeting or by mail. The deadline to pay for this tour will be Friday, April 11th after which no refunds can be made. Please bring a check for \$2.00 payable to FAN or cash to the GMs or mail it to Carolyn Grimes, 8838 Leaning Hollow Lane, Spring, TX 77379. Final details will be emailed to each participant by April 18th.



St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Church



Harisumiran Mandir



RESERVATION FORM: Mail to **Carolyn Grimes** at 8838 Leaning Hollow Lane, Spring, TX 77379
Friday, April 25th, 2025: Harisumiran Mandir and St. Anthony the Great Orthodox Church

Name (Please print): _____

Full Address (Street, City, Zip): _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

Emergency Contact Name & Tel. #: _____

Check #: _____ Amount: _____ Date: _____

Dirt Divas: *Mercer Botanic Gardens*

Etta Gager,
Dirt Divas Lead

On **Tuesday, April 22nd** the Dirt Divas will meet at Mercer Botanic Gardens and then have lunch at Puffabelly's in Spring. Everyone will carpool. As we have not had the convenience of the Precinct Bus for several months, I've tried to keep our trips local. Hopefully, we will get back on the bus schedule shortly. The trip hosts will send an email in early April. For information about Dirt Divas, contact me at egager8@yahoo.com.



Tiffany Cady and **Gayla Baker** welcome our **300th** and new member **Evelyn Speruzzi!**

Sue Behnke (below) celebrating our Mardi Gras theme!



(right) **Dorothy Parmenter** had an amazing NINE wins in one day at her Wright-Patterson Mah Jongg group "The Dazzlers." What an exciting day for Dorothy!



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Conroe, TX

📍 6209 FM 1488 # C @ 2978
Magnolia, TX

Antiquers & Junkers: *Montgomery*

Etta Gager,
Antiquers & Junkers Lead



The April outing for Antiquers & Junkers will be **Wednesday, April 16th** with a trip to Montgomery. The trip hosts will send an email out the first week of April. As we have not had the convenience of the Precinct Bus for several months, I've tried to keep our trips local. Hopefully, we will get back on the bus schedule shortly. Contact egager8@yahoo.com for any questions.



Deadline to turn in form with payment OR to cancel is **April 20, 2025**.

Turn in the form below along with payments to reserve up to 10 per table.

Make Checks payable to FAN and Mail to: Kim Gerrish, 18318 Theiss Mail Route Rd, Spring, TX 77379

----- Cut along this line -----

1. Name _____	Cell _____	Email _____	Payment _____
2. Name _____	Cell _____	Email _____	Payment _____
3. Name _____	Cell _____	Email _____	Payment _____
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5. Name _____	Cell _____	Email _____	Payment _____
6. Name _____	Cell _____	Email _____	Payment _____
7. Name _____	Cell _____	Email _____	Payment _____
8. Name _____	Cell _____	Email _____	Payment _____
9. Name _____	Cell _____	Email _____	Payment _____
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FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WOMEN'S CLUB

Newsletter Editor:

*Laurie Nimberger
18506 Florence Bend Drive
Cypress, Texas 77429*



Friends And Neighbors Women's Club

EST. 1979

FAN's PURPOSE

- To provide an opportunity for members to become acquainted with others in the community in an atmosphere of friendliness, goodwill, and helpful information.
- To undertake and to promote charitable and humanitarian projects within the community.
- To form enduring friendships.