

# FANfare

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WOMEN'S CLUB



## FAN General Meetings

Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 9th.

Note: This is the second Tuesday in January.

George H.W. Bush Community Center • 6827 Cypresswood Dr.

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



## President's Message

**Kim Gerrish**, *President*

December was a whirlwind! **Tina Snodgrass** led the **HUGELY** successful *Let's Jingle and Mingle* Holiday Charity Luncheon benefiting Camp Hope.

**Jennifer Banks** guided the ever-fun Cookie Exchange with a royally excellent Festivi-Tea. So many Activity Groups and friends celebrated in big ways, even the FAN Board got together for a yummy lunch and gift exchange!

And now...drums beating...presenting ...pause for dramatic effect...HAPPY NEW YEAR! And we are off...

The EXPO launches the January 9th General Meeting during Mixer Time starting at 9:30 a.m. to highlight FAN Member businesses and/or hobbies. Come early to see what **Kathy Court** has up her sleeve as you stop by each table. But wait, there's more. Our very own Boot Scootin' FAN Dancers, led by **Maggie Farhadi**, are going to amaze you with their footwork! Then, discover what the Montgomery County Women's Center does for domestic violence and sexual assault survivors.

And, of course, plan to sign up for **Carolyn Grimes'** next superb Day Trip on January 26th to St. Sava Servian Orthodox Church and Camp Hope!

## January General Meeting Program: Montgomery County Women's Center

**Sandy Darst**,

*1st Vice President of Programs*

Join us for our first meeting of 2024 as we welcome Linda Quiroz, Community Outreach Manager for Montgomery County Women's Center located in The Woodlands. Learn of the support Something Special, and MCWC give families in our area with counseling, clothing, emergency housing, and legal advice. Visit [www.MCWTX.org](http://www.MCWTX.org) to learn more.

### Something Special Store

Shop to help improve the lives of victims and survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault.

- *Shelter residents and their children receive shoes and clothing from our resale shop since these items are frequently left behind when they flee.*
- *Our transitional housing apartments are completely furnished with donated furniture and housewares from our resale shop.*
- *Shelter residents receive furniture and household items from Something Special when re-building their homes and lives.*
- *Revenue from the store helps keep the shelter open.*

The Montgomery County Women's Center serves and supports survivors with your donations of time, talents, and financial gifts. Many clients come to our shelter with nothing but the clothes on their backs. By donating items, you can provide women and children with what they need to rebuild their lives free from abuse and fear. You can donate clothing and other items in good condition, and they will be put to good use, helping families in our community.

## Membership Updates

Gayla Baker, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP of Membership



*"Wishing you peace, joy, and love for the New Year and always. May 2024 be full of light and laughter and making lots of new friends."*

Greetings Ladies,

At our Holiday Fundraiser luncheon, we had 150 members present and several gentlemen as our guests representing Camp Hope, our charity of choice this year. They told their meaningful stories, which enlightened us as to why Camp Hope is such a great organization to support. Many purchased baskets full of treasures and wine and made other donations for Camp Hope, and we are so grateful for everyone's generosity and attendance. Additionally, thank you to all who worked tirelessly to bring it all to fruition. This is why our club is so great. We are all a TEAM and support each other without hesitation.

So, in the new year, please tell all your friends, neighbors, and acquaintances about FAN and encourage them to come to an activity or meeting with you so they can see what a fun and friendly group we are.

They can also check us out on the website: [www.fanwomensclub.com](http://www.fanwomensclub.com), or email us directly with any questions at our email [fanwomensclub@gmail.com](mailto:fanwomensclub@gmail.com).

**Hugs 'til next month!**



Jeanne O'Sullivan	1/1
Leslie Pelezo	1/1
Judy Stacy	1/1
Cheri Bell	1/7
Karla Brownell	1/7
Merry Keith	1/10
Patricia Broccard	1/11
Ida Spearman	1/11
Susan Kleimann	1/14
Jan Deets	1/15
Ada Hart	1/15
Barbara Kerr	1/15
Christy Spies	1/15
Jacqueline Webster	1/19
Loni Dennis	1/23
Connie Reimer-Cobb	1/23
Jennifer Banks	1/24
Lena Habiby	1/24
Janet Gartner	1/28

## Railroad Canasta

Kim Gerrish,  
Railroad Canasta Lead



No Railroad Canasta for Tuesday, January 9th. Hoping to see all our card shark players at the FAN General Meeting on January 9th instead!

Would you like to join? Trained players get together on the 2nd Tuesday of each month (unless a FAN General Meeting is scheduled). If you need training or would like to be added to the contact list, email [kimgerrish@yahoo.com](mailto:kimgerrish@yahoo.com).

**1st place:**

Donna  
Morris

**2nd place:**

Debi  
Swaney

**3rd place:**

Elizabeth  
Fisher



## National Mah Jongg Groups

Tiffany Cady,  
Tile Twisters and Joker's Delight Lead

**For Trained National Mah Jongg Players**

### TILE TWISTERS:

We meet at 1 p.m. on the second Friday of each month.

### THE JOKER'S DELIGHT:

We meet from 1-5 p.m. every Monday.

Anyone with playing experience is welcome to join. Both groups meet at the George H.W. Bush Community Center at 6827 Cypresswood Drive. Also, we do not play for money. Text me at 281-658-9661 for more information!



## Holiday Charity Luncheon

**Tina Snodgrass,**  
*Holiday Charity Luncheon Chair*

I want to thank once again all the FAN members who volunteered their time, talent, and effort to help make our 2023 *Let's Jingle and Mingle* Holiday Charity Luncheon a BIG success for Camp Hope!

You all are amazing and very much appreciated! Many of our FAN members stepped up and gathered donations from local businesses, providing an abundance of wonderful raffle and silent auction items. One hundred fifty ladies attended the luncheon at Augusta Pines, Mingling and Jingling all the way! Helping contribute to the success, ladies bid on silent auction items, bought raffle tickets and participated in the Wine Pull. Thanks to every member who attended, made donations and participated in the luncheon events.

A **big thank you** to the following ladies who worked hard to make this event a success:

Gayla Baker • Susan Butler • Betsy Calabro • Emily Carter • Linda Comeaux • Kathy Court  
Lin Fish • Claudia Gallagher • Kim Gerrish • Merry Keith • Harriette Kinkade • Susan Kleimann  
Rena Malinowski • Donna Morris • Laurie Nimberger • Jeanne O'Sullivan • Barbara Pack  
Mary Papageorge • Dorothy Parmenter • Karren Sims • Gail Stone • Debi Swaney • Linda Young



## Let's Jingle & Mingle

HOLIDAY CHARITY LUNCHEON  
BENEFITING CAMP HOPE



**Lu Ann Kubis** and **Sylvia Davila** checking out the famous bowl of money on our raffle table! **Marianne Steinbacher** (below) putting her raffle tickets in, hoping for a win!



**Valerie Minyen** enjoying a Candy Cane Cosmo.



**Emma Rice** and lunch Chair **Tina Snodgrass** smile while enjoying the wonderful holiday charity luncheon.



**Carolyn Grimes** and **Idalia Skates** looking festive in their holiday attire.



Cheers from **Kim Gerrish** and **Dorothy Parmenter**.



**Susan Kleimann** and **Claudia Gallagher** lend a helping hand.





**Gayla Baker and Linda Young** working at the Wine Pull table. **Merry Keith** and **Mary Papageorge** worked with Gayla to organize this.



**Lin Fish** smiles as the delicious meal is served at Augusta Pines Golf Club.

*Many Thanks to Our Generous Raffle & Silent Auction Donors*

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 TINA SNODGRASS · MARIANNE STEINBACHER  
 DEBI SWANEY · JOYCE URIBIE

*And thanks to those who donated wine!*



## FAN EXPO featured at the January General Meeting

**Kathy Court,**  
 EXPO Event Coordinator

Be sure to visit the EXPO tables at the January General Meeting. Members who visit all the tables before the business meeting starts will be eligible for a prize drawing.

**Business owners and hobbyists:** It is not too late to sign up. This is an opportunity to let fellow FAN members know about your business or your hobby interests. Contact me at [kacourt@att.net](mailto:kacourt@att.net) or 713-385-7419.

## Hand & Foot Canasta

**Tiffany Cady,**  
 Hand & Foot Canasta Lead

Would you like to join us our Hand & Foot Canasta group?

Here are the details:

- We meet at the George H.W. Bush Community Center at 6827 Cypresswood Drive in Spring.
- We meet on the 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month from 5-8 p.m.

Text me at 281-658-9661 for more info.



- Have you visited FAN's Facebook page? [www.facebook.com/fanwomensclub](http://www.facebook.com/fanwomensclub)
- Want to view meeting minutes, newsletters, and more in the member's only section of our website? Click on 'FAN Member Login' at the bottom of our website and enter password FANTASTIC (all caps).



## FAN Activities

**Mary Ales,**  
*Activities Chair*



We are **"Looking For A Few Good Ladies"** who would like to be leaders for FAN activities. Several of our groups are full and have a waitlist. (Mah Jongg, Mexican Train, Book Club, Bridge, etc.). If you enjoy activities, please consider leading a group. Contact me for information or any questions.

As always, please RSVP to your leader. They need to know who is attending.

If you are new or need any help with activities, please email, text or call me.

Looking forward to seeing you at our January meeting.

*Happy New Year to all the fabulous FAN ladies!*

## Dirt Divas: Plants for All Seasons

**Etta Gager,**  
*Dirt Divas Lead*



The next Dirt Divas outing will be a trip to Plants for All Seasons (249) on **Tuesday, January 23rd**. Sherri Harrah will be our guest speaker.

I will be hosting, and will send an email to all the Dirt Divas at the beginning of January with the specific agenda. Email me at [egager8@yahoo.com](mailto:egager8@yahoo.com) for details.



*In each newsletter, we will feature our Membership Directory advertisers. Please show them your support!*

## Sunshine and Clouds: Your FAN Friends Care

**Lin Fish,** *Sunshine Chair*

Just as we want to console our FAN friends in their darkest hours through a medical issue or the loss of a loved one, we also wish to celebrate joyfully with you! Do you have a big anniversary or something grand to celebrate? Share your news with me first to share it with our FAN friends! I'd love to brag about your exciting news. Please email me at [linden7723@att.net](mailto:linden7723@att.net) or text me (my number is in the directory).

## Let's Play Yahtzee!

**Barbara Pack,** *Yahtzee Lead*



FAN has a fun Yahtzee Activity Group. If you didn't sign up at the General Meeting, just contact me at 832-381-4468 and I'll add you to the email. We meet at 11:30 a.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month at Las Mañanitas on Louetta. The cost to play is \$2 and the prizes will be cashola. Let's get ready to rollllll!



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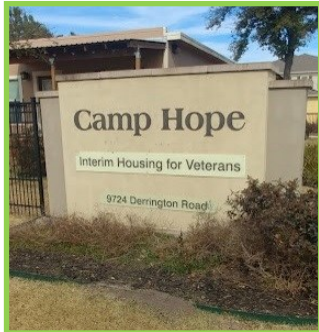


**Thanks to Susan Butler for proofreading  
the FANfare newsletter!**

# FAN Day Trip: 'St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church and Camp Hope' on Friday, January 26th

Carolyn Grimes, Day Trips Chair

We are scheduled for a 10:00—11:30 a.m. tour of **St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church in Cypress**. This church is known for the beautiful architecture and paintings inside. The parishioners will prepare a fish-fry lunch for us after the tour. This tour was recommended by some of our FAN members who have visited this church before. The pictures are fabulous!



After lunch we are scheduled for a 1:30 p.m. tour of **Camp Hope**. This is the charity that FAN has chosen to support this year.

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 from 8:45—9:15 a.m. and will depart at 9:15 a.m. We should return around 3:00 p.m.

**The cost for these tours including lunch is \$26.00.**

Sign up at the January 9th, 2024 General Meeting or by mail. **The deadline to pay will be Friday, January 12th, 2024 after which no refunds can be made.** Please bring a check for \$26.00 payable to FAN or cash to the General Meeting or mail it to Carolyn Grimes, 8838 Leaning Hollow Lane, Spring, TX 77379. Final details will be emailed to each participant by January 19th, 2024.

St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church



**RESERVATION FORM:** Mail to **Carolyn Grimes** at 8838 Leaning Hollow Lane, Spring, TX 77379  
**Friday, January 26th: St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church and Camp Hope**

Name (Please print): \_\_\_\_\_

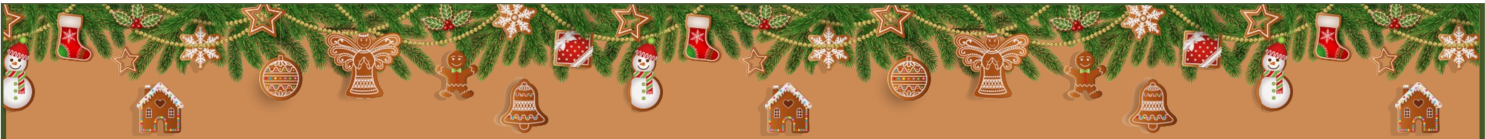
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Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





## Festivi-Tea and Cookie Exchange!

**Jennifer Banks**, *Special Holiday Event Chair*

Thank you to everyone who attended our fun event. And another big thanks to all of the committee who made the wonderful food, tea and sweets, and those helped with decor. Happy Holidays to you all!



**Dorothy Parmenter** and Festivi-Tea Chair **Jennifer Banks** getting everything ready for the event.



**Betsy Calabro** and **Lena Habiby** looking festive, with Betsy also looking regal, in front of the Christmas tree.



**Debi Swaney** and **Kim Gerrish** helping to set up the three-tiered trays with savory and sweet treats.



**Gail Stone**, **Gaye Ires** and **Linda Comeaux** were all smiles at this fun event.



**Heather Graham** having fun too!



The guests all brought wonderful Christmas cookies to share and enjoy!



There was an optional contest for cookie taste, best decoration and more.



Each table was decorated in a different theme such as Winter Greetings and Mad Hatter.



## Boot Scootin' FAN Dancers

**Maggie Farhadi,**  
*Boot Scootin'*  
*FAN Dancing*  
*Lead*



Put your dancing shoes on and bring a bottle of water because it's time to take a twirl around the dance floor!

**Meet us Monday, January 15th from 2-4 p.m. upstairs at the George H.W. Bush Community Center.**

**The Boot Scootin' FAN Dancers are looking forward to entertaining at the January 9th General Meeting. See you there!**

Contact me at 713-213-3178 for info.



*You won't want to miss our February 6th General Meeting when we celebrate FAN's 45th Anniversary and hand out a Membership Appreciation gift!*

## Literary Review Book Club

**Kathy Court,**  
*Literary Review Lead*

Date: January 24th  
Time: 1 p.m.  
Hostess: Kathy Michalski  
Book: *Straight Man*  
Author: Richard Russo

## Page Turners Book Club

**Adrienne Juno,**  
*Page Turners Lead*

Date: January 10th  
Time: 1:30 p.m.  
Hostess: Mary Taylor  
Book: *The Diamond Eye*  
Author: Kate Quinn



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## Antiquers & Junkers

**Etta Gager,**  
*Antiquers & Junkers*  
*Lead*

The January outing for Antiquers & Junkers will be **Wednesday, January 17th** with a trip to Old Town Spring.



Shelley Gross and Gaye Ires are the Hosts, and will email A&J members at the beginning of January. Please contact [egager8@yahoo.com](mailto:egager8@yahoo.com) for any questions.



## Wright-Patterson Mah Jongg Training

**Lin Fish,**  
Wright-Patterson  
Mah Jongg  
Training Lead



**Sign up today for  
Wright-Patterson  
Mah Jongg classes!**

Class will meet every Thursday from 11:15 a.m. to about 3:00 p.m. into January 2024, with a few exceptions for holidays. Class meets at Crust Pizza, 11550 Louetta Road, and will break for lunch.

I've learned that we more easily retain the nuances and complexities of this fascinating game by playing every week until we understand the basics. I have taught more than 40 FAN members and friends to play the game over the past several years.

Students will need the rules book and the companion visual aids book. I have ordered the books from the Wright-Patterson Officers Spouses Club in bulk to save on shipping costs. The cost is \$16.00, payable by personal check or cash at the first class.

If you'd like to sign up, just email me at [linden7723@att.net](mailto:linden7723@att.net) that you want to join the fun that at least five groups of FAN members enjoy!

## 5th Tuesday Fun Day

**Kathy Court,**  
5th Tuesday Fun Day Lead

The next 5th Tuesday Fun Day is January 30th.

An email with details of what, where, time, etc. will be sent to activity group members when they are finalized. If you have not signed up for this group activity, look for the sign-up sheet at the January 9th General Meeting. If you're not sure, call or text me at 713-385-7419.



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**Mark your Calendar  
for these upcoming  
FAN events!**

**January 9th\*:** General Meeting / FAN EXPO  
(\*Note this is the 2nd Tuesday in January.)

**January 26th:** Day Trip to St. Sava Serbian Orthodox Church and FAN's Charity Camp Hope  
(sign up by January 12th)

**February 6th:** General Meeting and Membership Appreciation to celebrate FAN's 45th Anniversary!

**February 16th:** Day Trip to Fallen Warriors and the National Museum of Funeral History  
(sign up by February 9th)

# FAN Day Trip: 'Fallen Warriors and the National Museum of Funeral History' on Friday, February 16th

Carolyn Grimes, Day Trips Chair

We are scheduled for a 10:30 – 11:30 a.m. tour of the Fallen Warriors Gallery, followed by a tour of the Memorial. Ken Pridgeon, Sr. is the artist who paints portraits of those who paid the ultimate price for the rest of us who live in freedom. He works things into the foreground of the paintings that had meaning to these fallen heroes. We see them as individuals who played the guitar or football, as an example. Ken Pridgeon knows each fallen warrior as if they were his sons or daughters, and consequently, each of his paintings tells a story. Mr. Pridgeon will personally do the tour.

We will have lunch at a restaurant to be determined.

After lunch, we are scheduled for a docent-led tour at the National Museum of Funeral History, including the much anticipated new permanent exhibit 'The Most Famous Burial of All Time: The Shroud of Turin,' which opened in April 2023.

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 9:30 a.m. and will depart at 10:00 a.m. We should return around 4:00 p.m.

**The cost for these tours is \$21.00.**

Sign up ASAP at the January 9th or February 6th General Meeting or by mail. The deadline to pay will be Friday, February 9th after which no refunds can be made. Please bring a check for \$21.00 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 February 9th.

Ken Pridgeon, Sr. Fallen Warriors Gallery



Fallen Warriors Memorial



National Museum of Funeral History



**RESERVATION FORM:** Mail to **Carolyn Grimes** at 8838 Leaning Hollow Lane, Spring, TX 77379  
**Friday, February 16th: Fallen Warriors and the National Museum of Funeral History**

Name (Please print): \_\_\_\_\_

Full Address (Street, City, Zip): \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Emergency Contact Name & Tel. #: \_\_\_\_\_

Check #: \_\_\_\_\_ Amount: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_





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.