

FANfare



Friends And Neighbors Women's Club

January 2022

FAN General Meetings

FAN typically meets on the *first* Tuesday of each month at 10:00 a.m. **except in January 2022**.

Faithbridge Church
18000 Stuebner Airline Rd.
Spring, TX 77379

Social Hour begins at 9:30 a.m.

The next General Meeting is Tuesday, January 11, 2022.

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I can't believe I'm writing **2022**! What happened to 2021?

WE'VE DONE GOOD... I think 2021 ended quite well. We moved from General Meetings via Zoom to meeting in person. We had very good attendance at our September, October and November meetings, and we had great programs. Our Holiday Charity Luncheon was a great success. The preliminary calculation of funds raised promises a more than "respectable" donation to The Living Legacy Center. The Cookie Exchange was so much fun; and I brought home an amazing assortment of cookies (my husband says thanks!). We had an outstanding bus trip visiting the painted churches in Schulenburg and several fun excursions including visits to the Cistern and the Museum of Fine Arts. Most of our activity groups are up and running. From the last membership roster released, we are only 10 shy of meeting our goal of 250 members. I look forward to continuing this momentum in **2022**.

THANK YOU!... The great success of the Silver Bells Holiday Charity Luncheon is due in large part to our Co-Chairs Carol Huddleston and Sue Behnke. I am so grateful to them for chairing this event and creating a beautiful, festive atmosphere for celebrating the holiday spirit with friends. I am also grateful to the 30+ volunteers who helped make this so successful by taking on whatever jobs needed to be done and contributing their time and effort to soliciting and donating items for the silent auction, raffle and cork pull. And, last but not least, I am grateful to all who attended and generously supported our charity.

HELP WANTED... As all of you know, FAN's fiscal year ends on May 31, so it is already time to start planning for the next. By mid-January I need to appoint a nominating committee which consists of two Board members and three from general membership plus two alternates. This committee, chaired by FAN Advisor Jennifer Banks, will select a slate of Executive Board candidates to be presented at our March meeting. I am looking for five energetic members who will say "yes!" when called to serve. Even better, I'm hoping at least five enthusiastic members will raise their hand and say, "pick me!"

HAPPY NEW YEAR... I wish you and your family a Happy, Healthy, Blessed and FANtastic New Year! See you on January 11 at our next General Meeting.

Kathy Court, President



EMPOWERING WOMEN



Jay Vinson, Financial Advisor and Owner of Vinson Financial Group, will be our presenter at the January 11 General Meeting. The topic of his presentation will be financial matters specific for women, from empowering them to live the life in retirement they want, to discussing inflation and tax issue solutions, and more. We will have **three** nice gifts to raffle off as well.

With more than 20 years of experience in financial services, Jay has dedicated his career to serving his clients and their families, helping them achieve their financial goals and pursue their desired lifestyles. Jay got his start in the industry in 1997 and, since then, has accumulated a wealth of knowledge and insight he uses to help provide peace of mind for his clients. By creating and managing financial strategies throughout all stages of planning, Jay can help guide clients toward their dream retirement. Jay is a financial professional who offers investment and insurance products and services.

Jay believes every person deserves access to sound, informed financial advice. Regardless of a client's situation, tolerance for risk, and goals, Jay and Vinson financial Group help their clients live a more confident financial future. They are committed to delivering easy-to-understand solutions to complex financial matters. That is why one of Vinson's primary goals is to develop a long-term, trusting relationship through transparent communication and putting their client's best interest first.

Sherry Dunn, 1st VP Programs

JANUARY BIRTHDAYS

Name	Birthday
Jeanne O'Sullivan	1/1
Leslie Pelezo	1/1
Judy Stacy	1/1
Jeanne Henderson	1/2
Teresa (Tee) McNearney	1/6
Patricia Broccard	1/11
Judie Plumlee	1/11
Marilyn Sigler	1/13
Ada Hart	1/15
Barbara Kerr	1/15
Dora Dean	1/17
Jacqueline Webster	1/19
Allene Bowden	1/21
Connie Reimer-Cobb	1/23
Loni Dennis	1/23
Jennifer Banks	1/24
Lena Habiby	1/24
Sharon Crandall	1/26
Mary Kay Dryer	1/27
Janet Gartner	1/28
Pat Prentice	1/28
Clarita Doussan	1/30
Ellen Payne	1/30
Sally Beirne	1/31

SUNSHINE

We have sent Thoughts, Prayers, Sympathy or Sunshine Wishes to these members:

Susan Busler had knee surgery.

Linda Comeaux's husband, Jay, is receiving stem cell treatments.

Carol Huddleston's husband, James, had heart surgery.

Thoughts & Prayers,
Shelley Gross, Sunshine Chair
 (Text 832-428-3027 for Sunshine needs)

GO FOR LAUNCH!

New Year!

New Website!



Our redesigned FAN website will be introduced at the January 11 General Meeting!



In December, 12 of the Original Lunch Bunch enjoyed a potluck lunch and gift exchange: **June McMillin**, left, **Jean Heineman**, **Sharlene Nelson**, **Jacque Stamates**, **Marilyn Ablard**, **Lu Ann Kubis**, **Brenda Hannah**, **Charlotte Bradbury**, **Sherry Dunn**, **Krystyna Warwick** and **Carol Huddleston**. Not pictured as she was the photographer, **Sue Behnke**.

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AWARD WINNING

A Dog's Life Pet Salon

7812 Louetta Rd., Spring, TX 77379
281-370-3657
adogslifepetsalon.com

Once upon a time ... After spending 20+ years in the dog grooming industry and a lifetime of showing dogs, Carol Fellbaum decided that she would put everything she had learned to the ultimate test...so on January 24, 2005, A Dog's Life was born. Thanks to the overwhelming support of their wonderful clients and surrounding community, they have been growing ever since.

Throughout the years, the A Dog's Life team has been privileged to groom countless dogs and cats, as well as to donate time and resources to select non-profits. They continue to participate in area events and festivals, and hold special grooming seminars for local and internationally recognized groomers.

A Dog's Life's daily mission is to provide a superior grooming experience for pets and their owners in a professional, pleasant and safe environment. They believe each pet deserves a positive, stress-free grooming experience with a well-trained, compassionate and skilled groomer.

Membership

"Getting to know new people and gaining new friends is one of life's greatest pleasures."

As of our Silver Bells Holiday Charity Luncheon December 7, we have the following membership:

239 Total Members

180 Renewing Members
59 NEW Members (25% of total)

Silver Bells Holiday Charity Luncheon Attendance:

140 Members (59% of total)
2 New Joining Members

Remember to tell your friends and neighbors about FAN and encourage them to come to an activity or meeting with you so they can see for themselves what a fun group we are!

If you have Directory information updates, please contact me at claudiagallagher@yahoo.com. You will receive an attachment to your FANfare with any updates, plus new member information!

Claudia Gallagher, 2nd VP
Membership

NOMINATING COMMITTEE



It's January and our thoughts turn to the new year. It is also when FAN starts forming a Nominating Committee to fill Executive Board positions. This organization does not run itself. It does take a group of dedicated volunteers to assist in being good stewards for FAN.

We are looking for eager volunteers to serve on the FAN Executive Board for 2022-2023.

If you are imaginative, organized and love to have fun, then you are the ideal candidate. The Executive Board consists of:

President

1st Vice President Programs

2nd Vice President Membership

Secretary — records minutes of Board Meetings and General Membership Meetings

Treasurer

Auditor

Historian — records the year in photos

Newsletter Editor

Advisor—typically a Past President

Please consider serving if asked. If you know someone who would be perfect for the job, ask her to consider it, then contact the Nominating Committee Chair with their name.

Jennifer Banks, Nominating Committee Chair

jennb6@aol.com

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Rena Malinowski

713-553-1380

bagspackedyet.com

Rena Malinowski is excited to be your **PERSONAL VACATION PLANNER!**

Travel is her passion, and her area of expertise. See how her experience, travel knowledge and preferred access to special offers can lead you to a stress-free vacation plan.

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There has never been a better time to partner with Rena, who will bridge the gap between your re-emergence into the travel and the many daily travel industry updates and protocols. When working with Rena, you can expect highly personalized travel service and exclusive offers for the most desired luxury vacations around the world. She can create a bespoke travel experience that is anything but ordinary—by land or by sea—with your vacation tailored to your every whim at the level of service you deserve.

Are you planning on traveling in the next 6-12 months? Well, so is *everyone* else....When the light turns green to travel freely, there will be a huge rush to book long-lost and well-deserved vacations. Don't get lost in the madness—contact Rena to start planning!



Mexican Train players pause from building their trains after lunch: **Gail Stone**, left, **Etta Gager**, **Kathy Court**, **Mona Malone**, **Carolyn Grimes**, **Jackie Haskins**, **Jennifer Banks** and **Shelley Gross**.

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Forest Lawn Funeral Home

8706 Almeda Genoa Rd., Houston, TX 77075
713-991-9000
forestlawnfuneralhomehouston.com

Providing Funeral Services With Compassion and Integrity

Tom and Elsie Darst founded Forest Lawn Cemetery where it stands today on Almeda Genoa Road in Houston. Mom and Dad Darst and their 10 children thoughtfully created a serene and lush sanctuary for families to remember their loved ones. In 1999, Tom Sr. and Tom Jr. established Forest Lawn Funeral Home across the street from the family cemetery.

Today, continuing the family legacy, Tom still owns and operates Forest Lawn Funeral Home. From a tiny house to the beautifully renovated facility that now stands on the same site, Forest Lawn Funeral Home serves this community today with the same dedication to treating everyone like a friend. Tom Jr. and **Sandy Darst** are proud to support families in their time of greatest need with compassion and integrity.

Forest Lawn Funeral Home understand how difficult it is to accept that your loved one has passed away. Making the necessary arrangements with a heavy heart can even be more challenging.

They will give the support that you need during these trying times to help you say goodbye, find closure, and come to terms with the sorrow of losing a beloved.

For the past 60 years, Forest Lawn Funeral Home has been providing personalized support for the Houston community. Serving families of all faiths and cultures, their professional and compassionate staff will be there to support you — protecting the faith and trust you have put in Forest Lawn Funeral Home.

Reach out to their 24-Hour Contact Number to learn more about the funeral and cremation services they provide.

TECH SUPPORT



iPhone Class Coming Soon

From our survey of members who signed up for our group, one of the most requested topics was iPhones, so that will be our first class in late January. The exact date and location will be announced after the holidays.

Some iPhone topics we plan to cover include:

- Optional zoom and increased text size
- Utilizing Find My Phone
- Setting up Medical ID
- Setting up Emergency SOS
- Options for Ringtone volumes and LED flashing
- How to Use Calendar System & Pop-Up Reminders
- How to Program Alarms & Timers
- How to Use the Notes App
- How to Group Apps to Clean Up Phone Appearance

If you have other topics you would like covered, please email **Debi Swaney** or **Laurie Nimberger** and we will add them to our class itinerary. We plan to have Apple Watches as our next topic.

Debi Swaney, Tech Support Lead
Laurie Nimberger, Tech Support Lead

LINE DANCING

For all you cowgirls out there, we still haven't found a good place to dance. The Barbara Bush Library recently mentioned reopening meeting rooms to groups, possibly in January!

KEEP YOUR FINGERS CROSSED! As soon as I find us a home base, I will notify you.

Maggie Farhadi, Line Dancing Lead



EXCURSIONS

Time to see the sights in the New Year!



Ready for something fresh in the New Year? Sign up today for FAN's Excursions, carpool trips to visit interesting, sometimes new, venues in town. Simply email me at linden7723@att.net and you'll be on "the list" for emailed details on upcoming excursions, to places such as:

- ◆ [Post Houston](#), a new shopping & dining venue in the former U.S. Post Office building.
- ◆ [Calder-Picasso](#) exhibit at the Museum of Fine Arts, Houston, through January 30.
- ◆ [Incomparable Impressionism exhibition at the MFAH](#), an embarrassment of riches, some 100 significant paintings and works on paper on loan through March 27 from the famed French Impressionist collection of the Museum of Fine Arts, Boston.
- ◆ [Ramses the Great and the Gold of the Pharaohs](#), Houston Museum of Natural Science. Discover 181 priceless Egyptian artifacts when we travel back 3,200 years to the Ancient Egypt ruled by the most celebrated builder in the country's storied history. Experience the golden glories in this world-premiere exhibit with FAN.
- ◆ [Buffalo Bayou](#) ... by boat!
- ◆ [San Felipe de Austin](#), Stephen F. Austin's restored settlement just west of Harris County, where Sam Houston made a pilgrimage to seek Austin's support in the war for Texas independence. We'll visit in April, the month of that independence!

And, of course, we always make time for lunch!

Lin Fish, Excursions Chair



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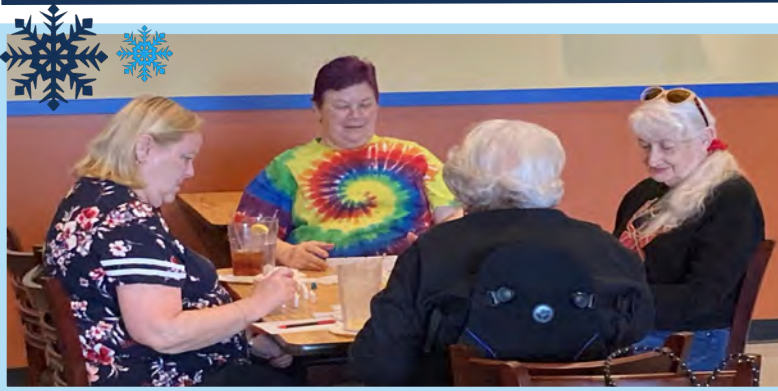
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NATURE WALKERS

You won't find WiFi in the forest, but you will make a better connection with FAN Nature Walkers! Unplugging from all of our electronic activities can be difficult. With smart phones, computers, laptops and TVs, many of us spend too much time in front of screens. Consider spending time in nature for a great opportunity to recharge (so to speak). Join FAN nature walkers and take that walk in the woods. We meet twice a month and walk about an hour+ at a comfortable pace. Send your email address to jcwebster1@sbcglobal.net to be put on the walker's email list. I looking forward to meeting you on our next walk.

Jacqueline Webster, Nature Walkers Lead





Mexican Train players plot out their next moves: **Susie Cody**, left, **Tee McNearney**, **Frances Elmore** and **Claudia Gallagher**, facing away.



BRIDGE ANYONE??

Beginning in January 2022, the Bridge group for beginner and intermediate players will resume playing. Anyone who plays at this level is welcome to attend. We will be playing on the first and third Thursdays beginning January 6. The plan is to play from 10:00 until around 3:00, with the cost remaining at \$2 from each player for each session.

Because there are so many food allergies and dietary restrictions, we agreed that each member would bring her own lunch each time. The hostess will provide drinks (iced tea, water, etc.) and a light dessert.

Our January 6 meeting will be at my house, and my contact information is in the Directory. At that time, we will make our final plans for Spring 2022. Please email, text or phone me to let me know that you plan to attend.

I look forward to seeing our previous players again as well as our newly-trained players. We are a fun group who likes to laugh and "talk across the table," so please come join us.

Sherry Dunn, Party Bridge VI Lead

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TEXSUN MISSION

A progressive company providing professional, honest and courteous services to pool and spa owners.

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- Retail
- Service
- Renovations
- Pool Inspections

♠ ♦ ♣ ♥ Railroad Canasta ♥ ♣ ♦ ♠



December Railroad Canasta Winners: **Tina Snodgrass**, left, 1st Place, and **Kim Gerrish**, 2nd place.

FAN Railroad Canasta will not meet during January. Come see everyone at the January 11 General Meeting!

Kim Gerrish, Railroad Canasta Lead



THANK YOU

to our FANfare proofreaders
Lin Fish and **Laurie Nimberger**

BOOK CLUBS

Cover Girls — Searching for a Lead

Open Group

Date: 4th Wednesday

Time: 1:00 p.m.

No meetings until further notice.



Literary Review

Open Group

Date: January 26

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Hostess: **Kathy Michalski**

Book: *Unsheltered*

Author: Barbara Kingsolver

Discussion Leader: **Kathy Michalski**

Kathy Court, Literary Review Lead

kacourt@att.net



Page Turners

Date: January 12

Time: 1:30 p.m.

Hostess: **Adrienne Juno**

Book: *In an Instant*

Author: Suzanne Redfearn

Discussion Leader: **Adrienne Juno**

Adrienne Juno, Page Turners Lead

ahjuno@gmail.com



LADIES NIGHT OUT

FAN Ladies Night Out is off to a successful start! I've challenged our members to think of a fun name for our group. We will vote at our next gathering on January 20. There are a few openings left (we don't want it so big no one can talk and visit). And did we talk and visit! I think I know more about each person than before. OK, OK... I know I know more.



Karren Sims, left, Debi Swaney, Helene Levar, Rena Malinowski, Cathy Harrison, Tanya Russell and Kim Gerrish

If you signed up and have not been contacted, or are new and want to join, send an email to rena.malinowski@gmail.com.

Rena Malinowski, left, Jacqueline Webster, Debi Swaney and Kim Gerrish

Rena Malinowski, Ladies Night Out Lead

GARDENING FOR FUN



Christmas Cacti? Poinsettias?

OH MY!!! How do I care for these???

According to The Old Farmer's Almanac, Christmas cacti are very long-lived and may produce beautiful blooms for 20 or 30 years.

But how to get Christmas cacti to flower?

Provide the cacti with long nights, starting around October 1. You may have to put it in a closet or cover it with a box. Subject it to cool night temperatures of 50 – 55 degrees, starting in early November.

Poinsettias are another plant we need help nurturing. We usually receive them in full bloom...beautiful reds, pinks and whites. But what do we do with them when they start to wither and wilt?

What should you do after your Poinsettia fades away?

Move it outside after night time temperatures stay above 50°, and prune to keep it bushy and compact. It will continue to grow and by October, you can start the flowering process by giving it completely dark nights from about 5:00 p.m. – 8:00 a.m. by covering the plant with a box and watering sparingly. When buds form in early December, stop the dark treatment and you will soon be rewarded with beautiful blooms! You can re-pot and bring them indoors or train them to become a shrub.

If you would be interested in more plant tips like these, join GARDENING FOR FUN! We will share plant cuttings, grow tips, & fun garden design projects while enjoying the beauty of local gardens and nurseries.

The first meeting will be in mid-January, so sign up at the January 11 General Meeting, or send an email to fan.maggie48@gmail.com to be on the contact list.

Maggie Farhadi, Activity Groups Chair





SILVER BELLS CHARITY LUNCHEON

A big thanks to all who attended the Silver Bells Charity Luncheon to support FAN, as well as The Living Legacy Center. This event could not have happened without the help of many hands. Committee Chairs for this event were priceless. A special **“Thank You”** to:

Marilyn Ablard: Registration

Linda Comeaux: Name Tags and Charity Liaison

Kathy Court: Our esteemed President

Sherry Dunn: Cork Pull

Claudia Gallagher: Silent Auction, Raffle and Name Tags Assistance

Kim Gerrish: Creative Program Design

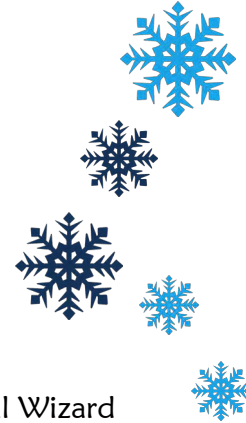
June McMillin: Fashion Show

Sharlene Nelson: Reservations and Table Seating Requests

Jacque Stamates: Fashion Show

Marianne Steinbacher: Greeters

Debi Swaney: Raffle Ticket Sales, Silent Auction Payments, and Financial Wizard



MANY committee members participated to show everyone a great time. They are too many to name, but each one of you is appreciated.

We thank our **“Friends of Fan”** who donated items for our silent auction and raffle. **Please remember these businesses when you are shopping and eating out.** Without their help, we could not have succeeded. Our contribution to The Living Legacy Center was due to the donations from these merchants.

A Splash of Sass

Arbonne Cosmetics / Nancy Schultz

Bleu Oyster Bar and Seafood Restaurant

Challenger Drilling / Susan and Jeffrey Lutz

Chico's

Chill Milkshake and Waffle Bar

Crust Pizza on Louetta

Donna's Home Décor & Gifts

El Palenque Mexican Restaurant

FACE / Centrum

Gary Green Realty / Barbara Cooper

Giuseppe's Italian Restaurant

Gleannloch Pines Golf Club

Hauté Boutique

Hearthstone Country Club

K Marie Boutique

Landing at Seven Coves

Legacy Mechanical Solutions

Lizzy G's Fine Gifts

Lynn's Table Restaurant

Mary Kay / Tanya Russell

Northgate Country Club

Organo Supreme Coffee & Tea / Kate Dotson

Salata Salad Kitchen

Scruples

Spring Monogramming and Gifts

The Chef's Table / Chef Paul Friedman

Torchy's Tacos

True Value Hardware

Venetian Nail Salon

Westbrook Jewelers



If you secured a donated item from a business or restaurant, **please send them a thank-you note** for helping FAN support The Living Legacy Center. Include a copy of the back of the program, showing they were acknowledged in our program. We are very grateful for their contribution to our fundraiser.

We also want to express appreciation to all of the FAN members who donated items or went out and found donations. **THANK YOU** for a great job.

We hope everyone had a good time. Until next year ...

Carol Huddleston and Sue Behnke, Charity Luncheon Chairs





SILVER BELLS CHARITY LUNCHEON

Program	
12:00 - 12:15	Registration
12:15 - 12:30	Prayer
12:30 - 12:45	Invocation
12:45 - 1:00	Prayer
1:00 - 1:15	Prayer
1:15 - 1:30	Prayer
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10:45 - 11:00	Prayer
11:00 - 11:15	Prayer
11:15 - 11:30	Prayer
11:30 - 11:45	Prayer
11:45 - 12:00	Prayer

Ye Ole Fashioned Christmas Cookie Exchange

As we think of the theme “Ye Ole Fashioned Christmas” it gives us pause to remember and to celebrate those memories. The décor created an atmosphere in which we could relax, make new friends, share memories and laugh/play/work together. Thank you to the 25 attendees who made this event possible this year. Surprisingly, most had never attended this event before, including members of the committee.



Christmas music filled the room as lunch was served. Later, the American Sign Language enactment of the Muppets 12 Days of Christmas proved quite entertaining. Prizes were awarded to those who ventured forth and participated in the games. The time flew by. Wishing everyone a very Merry Christmas came too soon. Don't forget to eat your cookies!!



Kudos to the entire committee that helped create and execute this fun event:

Jennifer Banks, June Carroll, Kathy Court, Sandy Darst, Lin Fish, Kim Gerrish,
Elaine Jones, Sally McClellan and Debi Swaney.



Helen Moorman, Cookie Exchange Chair



January 2022

Newsletter Editor:

Kim Gerrish
18318 Theiss Mail Route Rd
Spring, TX 77379-3941

FANfare

**FRIENDS AND
NEIGHBORS
WOMEN'S CLUB**

FAN 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.

EDITOR'S NOTE

All articles for the **February 2022** newsletter should be submitted before **January 14** to

Kim Gerrish @ kimgerrish@yahoo.com
