

INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

December 2019

MERRY CHRISTMAS

SEPO BOARD

It's going to be a stressful winter with numerous contractors working. Trailers, trucks and cars are creating an obstacle course. Please be extremely careful while maneuvering the streets.

We have a number of new projects under consideration and costs are being investigated:

- 1) improved lighting on the shuffleboard court
- 2) installing lights on the tennis / pickleball court
- 3) paving the entrance to the storage yard from the gate to the driving net

Lyn and Frank are working on the overflow from our sprinkler systems by retiming the sprinkling time on the golf course and the central area. The sprinkler system on the golf course is old and repairs are ongoing. The piping to the pond on hole # 4 has been repaired twice which was the cause of overflow onto Wisconsin Ave. The water is damaging our streets and standing water in the ditches along Minnesota and Iowa is creating other problems for our neighbors. Please help with this situation by checking your systems timing and possible leaks. I realize the water is "almost free" but the amount of water flowing down the streets in the morning is extremely excessive.

Our next Board Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, December 9th and will be held in the General Purpose Room at 1:00 PM. Anyone wishing to speak before the board should submit a written request by December 6th, 12 noon to be on the agenda. The Residents Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 10th in Retzlaff Hall at 1:00 PM.

Have a great Thanksgiving,
John Chajec
SEPO President

SEPO ELECTION

There are 4 board positions open for election in February 2020. The following board members are completing their first term: John Chajec, Dick Shelton, Lyn Swonger and Clint Wunderlich. Anyone interested in running for the board please contact our nominating committee; Neil Morehead, Jerry Drost or John Whitley.

WOMEN'S CLUB

Our season is filled with fun activities this year! Committees are busy with planning the upcoming events, please check the bulletin board in the library to sign up and help. It's a great way to get acquainted with your neighbors! Thank you to the Oktoberfest and Thanksgiving Day committees for the great job, great food and work that you did! Please watch for our December events, we have several in the planning stages.

We are so blessed to live in such a caring community with so many people willing to pitch in and help.

Our next Women's Club meeting is December 20th at 9:00 am in Retzlaff Hall. Coffee and apple fritters will be served. All women of Sunshine are members so hope to see you there!

I would like to wish you all a very Merry Christmas with many blessings!

Eileen Anderson
Women's Club President
507-317-0296

WOMEN'S CLUB ACTIVITIES

Wow! December is upon us and Women's Club has many activities planned.

First, I want to thank Cathy Chajec for chairing the Thanksgiving Day Dinner. I'm sure she and her committee prepared a feast for all those attending to enjoy plus the fellowship of being with many friends and neighbors.

The first event scheduled in December is the Craft and Bake Sale on Dec. 7th from 8-11 am. Terry DeBackere and Debbie Robins are chairing this event. She has sent out a plea for baked goods and gifts for the raffle that will take place that morning.

On the evening of Dec 7th will be the Annual Golf Cart Christmas parade. We will be joining our neighbors at Encore for cookies and hot chocolate after the parade. Lenore Combs is in charge of this event.

The next event will be on Dec. 11th., DJ Doug and His Lovely Assistant will be spinning the tunes for us from 7-10 pm. This event is just \$5.00 at the door, bring your own beverages, snacks and your dancing shoes!

On Dec 16th at 7pm we will be hosting a musical concert called "The H.O.P.E. Tour: Remembering D-Day. We will be taking donations at the door that will be donated to a local charity.

On Dec. 24th Mary Hendrickson will be planning a Scruffy Santa party. More details about this event will be coming soon.

We still need a chairperson for Christmas Dinner, so please consider chairing that event.

DECEMBER DATES

7 - Craft and Bake Sale (8 - 11am)
7 - Golf Cart Christmas Parade (dusk)
11 - Dance with DJ Doug (7 - 10pm)
16 - The H.O.P.E. Tour (7 - 9pm)
24 - Scruffy Santa (?)
25 - Christmas Dinner

If you have any questions please feel free to call me, Vickie Jones, Activity Director, 262-689-7068

WOMEN'S CLUB: Bake Sale & Craft Show

Just a reminder that the Women's Club will host a Bake Sale/Craft Show on Sat Dec 7th in Retzlaff Hall from 8 to 11 am. All kinds of yummy cookies, snacks, candy, home canned items for sale. Also, sweet rolls and coffee will be served for \$1.00. We will have door prizes every 15 minutes and raffle prizes too. Come join the fun and support the Women's Club. (Donations of goodies and raffle prizes appreciated)

Terry DeBackere & Deb Robins

WOMEN'S CLUB: Golf Cart & Bicycle Parade



- Golf Cart & Bicycle Parade -- Saturday 7 Dec 2019
- 4:30 Line up – behind Friendship Hall – at Encore for judging etc.
- 5:00 pm Christmas Tree Lighting and start of Golf Cart Parade
- Contact: Lenore J. Combs 956 245 1276

We welcome everyone. You are all cordially invited. Come one, come all – decorated cart or not. Just join in on the festivities and have fun. If you wish to not be in the parade – be a great spectator! Gather your buddies, grab a lawn chair and enjoy in the merriment. The Parade route (both Encore & Sunshine) will be posted in the Library. The improved route is under construction and is more inclusive as we shall devote more time to this per your request.

Harlingen and Combes Police Department will lead out followed by Neighborhood Watch Captain and assorted Golf Carts. The Harlingen Fire Truck will bring Santa.

End up at Encore Rec Hall for refreshments etc., photo op with Santa and awards.

Sunshine Women's Club provides 1st, 2nd and 3rd Place prizes for best decorated SCCE Golf carts as Encore will provide their three Prizes for their entries.

There is a sign-up sheet in our Library for the Parade (decorated or not)

Recommended Parade safety tips: Be sure your cart is fully charged. Lights are needed for night driving. Be sure your bicycle has safety lights. No walkers as we will be moving briskly. Keep up with speed - Pull over if a problem – NW escorts will assist you.

WOMEN'S CLUB: You, Me and Alexa

In March we're putting on a show. Music, singing, dancing and goofing around. Who knows what'll happen. We're going to need lots of help. So far we've got several returning artists ready to go, but we really also want to welcome all you new music lovers to join us. I would ask you personally if I knew who you were, so please don't be shy. Sign up on the bulletin board or just come to a rehearsal and see if it's something you'd have fun doing.

The second part of the show is the presentation of our video of Sunshine that we've been slowly putting together for a year or so. Boy, does that ever take a long time!

I'm having the first get together to preview the show, and see where you'd be happiest working or performing, on Dec. 6th, Friday morning 10 o'clock at my house - 4113 N. Minn. St. Hope you can make it! Lassey ldahlstrom@gmail.com



WOMEN'S CLUB: VETERANS DAY 11 – 11 – 11 NOVEMBER

Dear Friends,

Thanks to all who supported our salute to our Veterans on 11-11-11. Our committee members worked hard to put this patriotic program together to remember the fallen and honor those who have served, are serving and their families. Thanks to: Heidi sang the National Anthem for the U.S. and for Canada. Helen recited "In Flanders Field Where Poppys Bloom". Jean gave us highlights on the 75th Anniversary of Iwo Jima and the Battle of the Bulge. Caroline Clements related her brother's story on his Battlefield Commission during the Battle of the Bulge. Also, Caroline provided Veterans patches for us. Sally and Lenore performed the Flag Folding Ceremony and Cathy Chajec read the script. Ron presented the Folded Flag for the Missing Man Table while John read the significance of the items on the table. The American Flag and the Canadian Flag were posted. Our Branch Flags were proudly carried by our Veterans and/or their families. Marian, Karen and Share helped with all facets including Pot Luck.

Had you noticed - Veterans Day has no apostrophe – that's because we celebrate and honor all Veterans. There are about 18 million living veterans who served in at least one war - 9% are Women veterans. Stats show that +- 7 million served in Viet Nam, 3 million served in Korea and 7 million served during the Persian Gulf.

From the Revolutionary War on and including our I/A Vets – Iraq/Afghanistan Veterans – 18 years in the making. Most U.S. citizens celebrate Veterans Day on November 11th as a matter of historic and patriotic significance. President Gerald Ford signed PL 94-97 which returned the annual observance to its original date. November 11th, 11th day, 11th month, 11th hour – WWI was a multi-national effort, so it makes sense that our allies also wanted to celebrate their Veterans on November 11th. The name of the date and the types of commemorations differ, however. Canada and Australia call it Remembrance Day and observance is pretty similar to ours and they wear red poppy flowers to honor their war dead. We will also honor our Canadian Veterans. Colonel McCrae, a Canadian physician distraught over caring for so many war dead, wrote Flanders Field depicting the red blooms in a war-torn field – the only signs of life after dreadful bombardments.

BTW – this is the 75th Anniversary of Iwo Jima and the Battle of the Bulge.

The monument at the Marine Military Academy is the shell for the Monument in Washington D.C. Also, a young man and graduate from Weslaco HS, Harlon Block, helped place our Flag on Mt. Suribachi and is one of the soldiers depicted on the monument. Both the Japanese and the US valued this island for strategic purposes. It was a critical landing area for our planes to carry supplies and refuel. The Battle of the Bulge (the bloodiest battle of WWII) followed the Normandy invasion. The Allied Armies forfeited any further chance of prolonged resistance by German troops. Congress signed the Uniform Holiday Bill in 1968 to ensure a few federal holidays - Veterans Day, would be celebrated.

SEPO COMMUNICATIONS

I hope everyone is keeping up the activities going on around Sunshine these days. I know I've been getting lots of e-mails full of information to distribute to the community. And thanks to all of you who helped get some more of our residents on the e-mail distribution list. However, we're still not at 100%.

I've also been spending a lot of time working on the Web site (www.sunshinecountryclub.com) and trying to keep the info updated so that everyone can find answers to questions they may have about activities, meetings, rules etc. I hope you are utilizing the Web site as well as reading the e-mails. If you

CRAFTY CREATIONS CLUB: January Class Info/Registration

Hey there!

Due to the holidays, sign-ups for January's class will begin on
Wednesday, Nov. 27th and end on Friday, Dec 6th.

NOTE: The information has been put on the Web site for you to view/download. ***You can also see the January poster and sign-up using the form in the Library.***

- Poster of items you can make in January is:
https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/2851bf_92696ee1692240ff8ff86b1d9ce4e3d5.pdf
- Registration Form is:
https://static.wixstatic.com/ugd/2851bf_725629e72b7f4f878446f279cef74ebf.pdf

Thanks oodles!!!

***Happy Thanksgiving
and
Merry Christmas to All!!!***

-heidi dill =0]

WOODWORKERS

Our Tool Committee has evaluated the drills within the shop and are giving away the items in the pictures below. If you want a drill, some with batteries or chargers and some without, visit the Woodshop and select the tool you want. If they don't find a new home by December 6, they will be disposed of.



THE WOODSHOP WILL BE CLOSED ON THANKSGIVING!

It will also be closed on Friday, November 29, for maintenance.

We are still a little short of having enough monitors to keep the shop open from Monday through Friday from 9:00 a.m.-noon and 1:00p.m.-4:00 p.m. So, if you go there for some reason and it is closed, bear with us. Things will perk up after the holidays.

There will be a monitor class/refresher course on Wednesday, December 4 at 1:00 p.m. that will cover monitor responsibilities and some additional shop safety information.

Elections will take place at the December 13 meeting (held at 1:00 p.m. at the Woodshop) and there will not be a meeting on December 27. If you are interested in holding an office in the Club, please leave a message to that effect on 573-216-4792.

Suzie Sawyer
President

WALL OF HONOR

This is a call for all our residents who served in the armed forces of all nations and the men and women in our community who served as police officers, fire fighters and first responders. We are planning a service wall of honor to recognize residents living and deceased where the surviving spouse resides within the estates. I will be available in the library on December 3rd between 10:00 and 11:00 also 1:30 to 2:30 to accept pictures and applications. If you do not have a picture, I will be taking pictures at these times.

This will be a wall similar to the ones in place to honor the golfing achievements that are in Retzlaff Hall. It will have a title at the top stating the purpose. The name plates below containing the name of the honoree, the type of service and dates of service. Accompanying the wall, I propose having a pedestal, or shelf to hold a photograph album of the honorees.

If residents want their picture or their spouse's picture included on the wall, they will need to fill out an application form. These forms are available in the office, just ask Valerie for one.

The picture you provide for use will be copied and returned if you write in pencil on the backside of the picture the name, address and phone number of where it is to be returned.

All name plates and pictures that are placed on the wall and in the book should remain there indefinitely.

Any questions contact: Jim Tennant, 4161 N Missouri, 616-866-9960, email jimbuck1050@yahoo.com.

THE GATHERING

ATTENTION ALL SUNSHINE ESTATES LADIES!!!! A NEW ladies group "The Gathering" is now in session!!!
"YA ALL COME" TO THE FIRST MEETING....TUESDAY....JANUARY 7, 2020....10:00 AM - 11:00 AM....IN THE CARD ROOM! Come and get better acquainted with your Sunshine friends and neighbors!

Please bring a favorite recipe to share, (all will be copied and given to ladies at future meeting)!
We'll introduce ourselves and discuss ideas for future activities! Look forward to having you join us!

Questions: 847 452-7804 (Sue) or 970 618-3635 (Nancy)

BIBLE STUDY/MOVIE GROUP

The Bible Study/Movie Group will startup in early January.
Watch the bulletin boards for details.
Warren Hertel 314 719 6532

BIRDING & NATURE CLUB

The Birding and Nature Group will be meeting on Monday, Dec 2nd at 7p.m. in the library. The meeting is open to all residents. Hope to see you there. We will be discussing our upcoming events - - including our community wide potluck dinner on Tuesday, January 7th. Be sure to reserve the date. A speaker from Laguna Atascosa will provide the program. A field trip to Laguna Atascosa will follow in February.

If you want to help with the Annual Christmas Bird Count, please, attend the meeting on Dec. 2nd. The Christmas Bird Count is conducted throughout the U.S. on the same date. This census information is used to determine bird population trends in our country. Birding identification skills are not needed. An "expert" leads each group. Help is needed to spot and count the birds.

KILLER BEES

Come and see what the Thursday morning quilting group - The Killer Bees - is busy doing! FYI...We are not your "Grandmother's quilting group!! Coming up in December we will be sewing a Poncho using fleece. We don't sew every Thursday, but we do have a very busy schedule with lots of fun and interesting projects to try. We start at 9AM in Retzlaff Hall with a very casual and short meeting reviewing what's coming up on our schedule, and then have "Show and Tell". If we do have a day of sewing, we usually sew into the early afternoon. Any questions??? then call Jan Baethke or Diane Tewell.

MEN'S GOLF LEAGUE

Men's League Golf will take two days off this month. December 24th (Christmas Eve) and December 31st (New Year's Eve) since both fall on Tuesday, when League Golf is scheduled. Men's League Golf will not be held on these days. League play will continue on Tuesday, January 7, 2020.

Hit 'em straight!

Steve Phillips

2020 SUNSHINE ESTATES GOOD NEIGHBOR GOLF TOURNAMENT

Just a quick reminder of the Good Neighbor Golf Tournament scheduled for Thursday, Feb 6th, through Saturday, February 8th, 2020.

One of the best deals in the valley! Sunshine has a great tradition in holding this event.

This will be the 35th annual Sunshine Estates Good Neighbor Golf Tournament (SSENGT).

The cost to register is \$50. This includes:

- 3 days of play at our golf course,
- liquid refreshments during the event,
- door prizes, which include gift baskets and golf equipment prizes,
- golf tournament cash prizes, and
- a great Awards dinner on Saturday evening.

Besides getting your registration money in early, players will be required to have a fun time.

The 3-day registration is tentatively scheduled to commence on Monday, January 6th, starting at noon in the Office/Library and will close at 4:00pm on Wednesday, January 8th, 2020.

Please register early, as last year we had a few Sunshine Residents who almost did not get to play, because we filled up the 160 available slots for this event very quickly. First come first serve approach to registration.

Hope to see all the SEPO golfers participating in this fun event.

Tony Tramel / 2020 Chairperson for Good Neighbor Golf Tournament / Cell 337-693-6344



Sunshine Neighborhood Watch – CERT Team (Est. 2008)
SCCE - Harlingen's premier NW & CERT Team.



Lights On -- Lock Up and Look Out for each other!

NL Article for DECEMBER 2019

Lenore J. Combs, Coordinator 956 245 1276 LCombs44@gmail.com

Dear Friends,

A bit late but Happy Thanksgiving and thanks for making Sunshine a great place to live. May you all have a blessed Christmas and Holiday season forever.

Our next meeting is Monday, 16 December 2019, 3pm Retz Hall – agenda under construction – open to ideas, maybe even an open orientation to our mission. Suggestions welcome.

The November meeting drew a focus to the community's AED and Stop the Bleed Bags. These items are becoming a common thing just like the Fire Extinguisher. Pete Moreno, Supervisor of STEC EMS - Harlingen, was originally scheduled, and was unable to be with us because he had been selected to be an instructor for the ALERT class for the City of Harlingen. (Auxiliary Law Enforcement Response Team). Training is about crucial support – non emergency - in the hours after a disaster - from assisting with some police tasks – traffic, etc. working with other volunteer groups, medical, animal control, supplies, sheltering and so on.

BTW..... ALICE Training: – Alert --Lockdown --Inform --Counter --Evacuation is training for Workplace, schools, communities, healthcare, business, houses of worship, organizations etc. – proactive strategies to improve chance of survival during active shooter event. This class is for civilians and is coming to Harlingen.

Jerry Drost and Larry Leach have been graduated from the HPD Citizens Police Academy, a 40-hour class – Police Department operations and training, SWAT, K-9, Penal Code, Court Documents, Use of Force, Firearm safety – etc. Since several of us here are also members, we congratulate them, thank them for attending and will be anxious to have them participate in all our activities.

There is a NW-CERT bulletin board in the Library.

Sgt. Brooks has updated a NW Guide for us and is available at the meeting.

The 2019 – 2020 Welcome Letter is out for residents. A copy is available in the Office and on the Web site here: <https://www.sunshinecountryclub.com/nw-welcome-letter>

BTW – CERT will start up a class after the first of the year with Harlingen Fire Department. Instruction on Disaster Ops, Light Search & Rescue, Medical Ops, Disaster Psychology etc. very interesting. Sign up!

Thanks to Sally & Tom Hardy for volunteering to keep up with the Flashlight batteries in the McGruffmobile. Special Thanks to Ray Parker as he has done this job diligently and faithfully for the last several years as Bill Del Sardo before him. Simple but necessary job. Will need a volunteer or two for the Summer 2020 too.

McGruffmobile – please notify Lenore if there are any concerns with the golf cart or its equipment. Rich Debackere will be looking after mechanical needs etc. (tires, batteries, general condition etc.) McGruff gets “rode hard and put up wet”, so please take good care of it on Patrol.

Generator - This was a gifted item for NW in case of..... It needs to be cranked monthly. Wade has the key – he has done this service for the summer. Thanks to him for a job well done and appreciated. Dick & Linda Jones will check it monthly during the winter schedule. We are looking for someone to volunteer for the summer 2020 as well. (My philosophy – nobody should own a job forever, so your Neighborhood Watch needs all your help it can get)

Patrol Schedule: Linda Jones -December is out – January is in the works. Contact Linda if you wish to help. You will be fully oriented.

Holiday Season is here. Are you prepared for safety and security? Please take a personal inventory – there are forms on the NW bulletin board. Bad Guys are already making plans to have a happy holiday at your expense. Buzzers and solar lights..... still a good idea – some Sunshine areas are not lit up leaving these areas very dark. Hide your packages in your truck – lock your car doors – don’t leave TV boxes out in the street for all to see – makes a great invitation. Etc. etc.

VENDORS and CONTRACTORS – must report to Office for Orange Cards. It is each resident’s responsibility to make sure they report to the Office to register. Please call Lenore for concerns and questions - I can also get you these Orange cards. Emphasis – if there is a vehicle in here without ID – consider it suspicious. Inquire nicely as to the nature of their business – if it smells fishy – get the PLATE! And we have No Trespassing - No Soliciting signs all over.

Walking solicitors – even with shirts (fake or not) are not allowed – they could be up to no good.

Block Captains – who’s where? Would be nice to have a few volunteers per street to be eyes & ears..... Montana Nebraska Missouri Michigan Indiana Wisconsin Iowa Minnesota Kansas
Preferably one or two folks per street.

IR Sensaphone – Storage Lot – phone system for notification of breach in fence.....

Other stuff:



Finger Lickin’ Chicken fundraiser for NW expenses planned for 10 Jan 2019 – Friday
Our world famous grillin’ team will be out doin’ Finger Licken’ Chicken.
Expect ETA about 4pm – Meet in Retzlaff Hall to Dine In or Take Out. Game plan TBD.

Winter Texan Appreciation Day – January - Harlingen Convention Center - Monday 20 January 2020.
We will have a booth – please come and enjoy the day with us.

Women’s Club Commercial - EVENTS Board on Office wall – jump in and sign up.
It takes a village.....

FROM THE EDITOR

Thanks to all who submitted articles informing everyone of what’s happenin’ here at Sunshine. Sounds like another busy month coming up in December. Enjoy - Be safe and have a very Merry Christmas!

Beth Parrish SEPO Newsletter Editor 314-960-6710