

FANfare

FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WOMEN'S CLUB

General Meeting

Our next meeting is Tuesday, January 7th.

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

Coffee & Social 9:30 a.m. • Club Business & Program 10 a.m.

January General Meeting Program: Glenn Wilkerson, President of the Cypress Creek Cultural District

Sandy Darst, 1st Vice President of Programs



We are honored to present the President of the Cypress Creek Cultural District, Dr. Glenn Wilkerson. Glenn is a UT graduate, renowned author, former senior minister of Cypress Creek Christian Church, and also a former president of the Houston Northwest Chamber of Commerce, and current President of the Cypress Creek Cultural District.

Glenn is also the founder and President of The ARKGroup, a non-profit organization dedicated to helping adults nurture the emotional health of children by providing unconditional love that creates high self-esteem and elevates children's self-concept.

Dirt Divas: *Plants for All Seasons*

Etta Gager, Dirt Divas Lead

On **Thursday, January 28th** the Dirt Divas will visit Plants for All Seasons (Louetta @ 249). Sherri Harrah will give us advice on how to get our garden ready for a frost, such as which plants/shrubs need to be protected or cut back. **Pat Ramsey** is hosting the trip and will send an email in early January. For information about Dirt Divas, contact me at egager8@yahoo.com.



President's Message

Kim Gerrish,
President

December was full of jollies! **Carol Peterson** had us tossing snowballs at one another (okay that was fun) during the *Let It Snow* Holiday Charity Luncheon benefitting Montgomery County Women's Center. Later that same week, we hopped on the bus to tour TranStar and Houston Christian University Museums during an excellent Day Trip executed by **Carolyn Grimes**. Then, we had lots of yummy merriment at the *Glitter & Spice* Goodie Exchange planned by **Susan Butler**. The FAN Board lunched together with a gift exchange, and Activity Groups and friends celebrated in huge ways.



So here we are, already beginning the second half of the FAN year welcoming 2025 with a loud shout "Happy New Year" to each one of you beautiful women! Days change, months come and go while FAN just keeps growing stronger.

Revel in the New Year at the January 7th General Meeting. We are fortunate to welcome Glenn Wilkerson, President of Cypress Creek Cultural District as our speaker. And, of course, sign up for the next Day Trip on February 7th to George H.W. Bush Library & Museum.

See you later ...

In each newsletter, we feature FAN Directory advertisers.
Please give them your support.



Jeanne O'Sullivan	1/1
Leslie Pelezo	1/1
Judy Stacy	1/1
Carol Hug	1/2
Therese Keller	1/7
Mary Kay Moritz	1/8
Linda Bell	1/9
Nancy Eudy	1/9
Merry Keith	1/10
Patricia Broccard	1/11
Ida Spearman	1/11
Peggy Schneider	1/12
Susan Kleimann	1/14
Jan Deets	1/15
Ada Hart	1/15
Barbara Kerr	1/15
Marcy Epps	1/16
Jacqueline Webster	1/19
Cynthia Blackledge	1/21
Penny Elliott	1/23
Loni Dennis	1/23
Jennifer Banks	1/24
Lena Habiby	1/24
Cookie Long	1/25
Jan Bragg	1/26
Janet Gartner	1/28



Thank you for being an MS hero!



Team Audrey's Heroes is committed to raising money to fund research by participating in NMSS events across the country. If you are interested in supporting Audrey's efforts to end MS or to learn more about Multiple Sclerosis, scan the QR code or visit www.audreysheroes.org



Saving Lives ~1 Pedal~1 Step~1 Sponsor~1 Donation at a time.
Thank you for being Audrey's MS Hero!



Audrey Blank was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis in 2007. MS Fundraising Hall of Fame, National Bike MS Team Captain, National Ambassador for the National MS Society, Host/MC for the Texas MS150, and Daughter of FAN member, Sandy Darst.



LH WORLD TRAVEL

After being diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis Audrey Blank wanted to live life to the fullest and see the world. As a certified Travel Designer, Audrey can plan trips of any size and to any destination.

~Custom Destination Planning ~ Cruises ~ Safari Trips ~All Inclusive Resorts
~ Disney Vacations ~ Rail Vacations ~ Private Yacht Experiences ~ Short Hotel Stays
~ Group Trips ~ Expedition Experiences ~ Business/Corporate Trips

Audrey Blank
lhworldtravel@gmail.com

832-687-5141

#lhworldtravel



Audrey shares her passion for experiencing different cultures and helps others see the world. There is NO CHARGE to travelers for the Travel Design/custom vacation planning services provided by LH World Travel.



Rays of Sunshine

Jennifer Banks, *Sunshine Chair*

**Keep your face to the sunshine
and you cannot see a shadow.**

Sending caring thoughts and condolences to **Mary Papageorge** on the passing of her brother.

Continued Sunshine to our friends dealing with family and personal health issues.

Antiquers & Junkers: *The Heights*

Etta Gager, *Antiquers & Junkers Lead*

The January outing for Antiquers & Junkers will be **Wednesday, January 15th** with a trip to The Heights. The trip is hosted by **Shelley Gross** and **Gaye Ires** and they will send an email out the first week of January. We do not have a Precinct Bus reserved for this trip so everyone will need to carpool. Contact egager8@yahoo.com for any questions.

Let It Snow Holiday Charity Luncheon

Carol Peterson,
Holiday Charity Luncheon Chair

Our Annual Holiday Charity Luncheon was a huge success this year. We had 197 ladies celebrate at the gorgeous Northgate Country Club. The theme was "Let It Snow," and although it failed to snow on the day of the party, we made up for it by having a huge snowball fight at the end.

Our tables were decorated with red, gold, and white ornaments in glass cylinders on top of sparkling white tablecloths. Each attendee received a souvenir red or gold snowflake ornament with a customized ribbon and two fake snowballs.

The ladies were offered a drink ticket for a "Tippy Reindeer" and enjoyed a scrumptious lunch of chicken with pomegranate sauce, green beans with red peppers, and mashed potatoes. For dessert, we had yummy cheesecake.

Linda Quiroz, from Montgomery County Women's Center (MCWC), gave a short speech explaining how FAN's donation would be utilized through the many services offered for abused and battered women.

We raised money for MCWC with a Silent Auction, Raffle, and Wine Pick throughout the event. The Woodlands Show Choir was the entertainment. This large group of ladies sang an array of holiday and popular songs in perfect harmony. My personal favorite was Leonard Cohen's "Hallelujah."

I want to thank so many people who assisted me in making this function successful. **Linda Comeaux, Gail Stone, and Claudia Gallagher** designed and put together the name tags. **Laurie Nimberger** designed and printed the programs. Thank you to all the activity groups, especially the leads, who donated money, baskets, and items for our silent auction. Thanks to **Tina Snodgrass and Donna Morris**, who created a beautiful table and took care of our Wine Pick. Thanks to **Karren Sims** and her crew who took care of all of the sales at the event, including FAN's new credit card reader. Thanks to **Kim Gerrish**, who organized the Silent Auction and Raffle, and allowed us to use her home to assemble everything. Thanks to **Gayla Baker** for being the best assistant in the world. Thanks to my many volunteers who were a great help before and during the party. And thanks to all of the businesses who donated items from their establishments. If I have forgotten to thank someone, I apologize. I really could not have pulled this off without all of you.

The total amount raised for MCWC will be revealed during the March General Meeting. I know this was a huge success, and I am so happy we had so many members and guests attend our function.

Happy Holidays and Blessings to All.



Kandy Riddle, Jeanne Remik, Mary Kay Moritz, Jeanne O'Sullivan, Frances Elmore and Susie Cody getting ready to enjoy the wonderful lunch prepared at Northgate Country Club.



Carol Peterson, Holiday Charity Luncheon Chair, and **Joanne Elliott** smiling in front of the many beautiful Christmas trees.



MCWC's Linda Quiroz with Charity Chair **Mary Ales**.



Eddie Pratz with a Reach Unlimited ornament she won in the raffle.



Nametag crew: **Noemi Sirisaengtaksin, Gayla Baker & Linda Comeaux**.



Rena Malinowski with the bowl of cash she won in the raffle.



Beautiful ladies in red: **Maybelline Carpenter, Lena Habiby and Sue Mason**.



Mary Ellen Cox and Jennifer Banks looking festive!



Ann Parker, Patricia Natole, Sharlene Nelson and Shelley Gross making their bids for the silent auction.



Debbie Little looking beautiful in her holiday attire!



Kim Gerrish, Marianne Steinbacher and Sally McClellan enjoying seeing their FAN friends at this annual event.



The FAN Treasurer **Karren Sims** (left) and her treasury Elves **Sandy Guilbeau**, **Emma Rice**, **Laurie Nimberger** and **Barbara Pack** helping out with the financial transactions for raffle tickets, Wine Pick tickets, and Silent Auction items.

Cynthia Overstrom looking festive!



Tina Snodgrass and **Donna Morris** coordinated the Wine Pick and sold 46 bottles. They set up a beautiful tablescap too!



Sharon Glasgow and **Carolyn Grimes** enjoyed a wonderful holiday event!



Jacqueline Webster helped with setting up the auction items!



The Woodlands Show Chorus was so talented and entertaining!



Vernadine Shouse looking sharp.



Happy Holidays

Claudia Gallagher & Doris Rimmer were all smiles for the party!

Many Thanks to Our Generous Raffle & Silent Auction Donors

A SPLASH OF SASS
 ADRIATIC CAFÉ ITALIAN GRILLE
 BLACK WALNUT CAFÉ
 F.A.C.E. / THE CENTRUM
 FIRST WATCH
 GRAZE
 HOUSE OF COLOUR - CENTRAL KLEIN
 HOUSTON ZOO
 KENDRA SCOTT
 KM NAILS
 LES GRANDEUR MED SPA
 MARYANN LUCAS ART
 ORIENTAL GARDEN CHINESE RESTAURANT
 PERRY'S STEAKHOUSE & GRILLE
 PLANTS FOR ALL SEASONS - 249
 SALATA
 STAGEWORKS THEATRE
 STILLWATER CREATIONS
 TASTE OF TEXAS
 TOTAL WINE & MORE
 VENETIAN NAIL SPA

ANTIQUERS & JUNKERS ACTIVITY GROUP • JENNIFER BANKS
 SUSAN BUTLER • BETSY CALABRO • LINDA COMEAUX
 PAT DALBERG • MARY DEWITT • DIRT DIVAS ACTIVITY GROUP
 DRAGON LADIES MAH JONGG ACTIVITY GROUP • CHARLOTTE DUFF
 FIRST THURSDAY POTLUCK LUNCH BUNCH ACTIVITY GROUP
 KIM GERRISH • KATHY GHISELLI • SHARON GLASGOW
 SUSAN KLEIMANN • COOKIE LONG • DEB LOVRAC
 RENA MALINOWSKI • MEXICAN TRAIN II ACTIVITY GROUP
 MEXICAN TRAIN III ACTIVITY GROUP • MARGE MITCHELL
 DONNA MORRIS • LAURIE NIMBERGER • CYNTHIA OVERSTROM
 MARY PAPAGEORGE • DOROTHY PARMENTER • CAROL PETERSON
 PAT RAMSEY • KANDY RIDDLE • YVONNE ROGERS
 THE DAZZLERS MAH JONGG ACTIVITY GROUP
 THE STONE FAMILY • LIZ TOWNS • JOYCE URIBIE
 WRIGHT-PATTERSON MAH JONGG ACTIVITY GROUP
 AND THANKS TO THOSE WHO DONATED WINE!



LAS MAÑANITAS

MEXICAN RESTAURANT

FAMOUS FAJITAS, JUMBO MARGARITAS, AND GOOD TIMES!

FAJITAS



MARGARITAS



TACOS



VIEW OUR MENU:



BREAKFAST / BRUNCH:
SATURDAY & SUNDAYS
9AM - 2PM

HAPPY HOUR:
MONDAY - FRIDAY
3PM - 6PM

WE CATER!
CORPORATE EVENTS, BIRTHDAYS,
WEDDINGS & MORE!
CONTACT US FOR MORE INFO!

(832) 698-2620

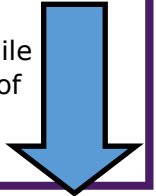
8921 Louetta Rd.
Suite 200,
Spring, TX 7737



Mary Ales, Charity Chair

Montgomery County Women's Center is a charity for women and children who are dealing with domestic and sexual assault. It provides 24/7 help and counseling through crisis intervention, assistance advocacy, and empowerment.

See the Save the Date below, grab your friends and join us for amazing food, while helping our charity continue its mission of helping women and children...we are women helping women.



SAVE THE DATE

CHARITY FUNDRAISER FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY WOMEN'S CENTER

Montgomery County Women's Center (MCWC) is a charity for women and children who are dealing with domestic and sexual assault. It provides 24/7 help and counseling through crisis intervention, assistance advocacy, and empowerment.

20% of meal donated to MCWC (beverages not included)

Please bring a copy of this Save the Date to show the restaurant that you want to donate a portion of your meal to MCWC.

Wednesday @ January 8 @ 11 a.m. to 9 p.m.

Las Mañanitas Mexican Restaurant
8921 Louetta Road #200 • Spring, TX 77379

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 Restaurant. Please contact me for more 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. If you don't know how to play Mexican Train, we can teach you, so don't worry. Please RSVP to let me know if you can attend and would like to be placed on my contact list.



Mark your calendar for these upcoming FAN events!

- January 7:** **General Meeting** featuring Glenn Wilkerson, President of Cypress Creek Cultural District
- February 4:** **General Meeting** featuring Tracy Bradford discussing 'Do Your Kinds Really Want Your Treasures?'
- February 7:** **Day Trip** to George H.W. Bush Presidential Library and Museum
- March 4:** **General Meeting** featuring Ailene Myers 'The Art of the FAN: Learn the Language of the Japanese Fan'



Many thanks to **Susan Butler** for proofreading the newsletter!

FAN Day Trip Review: 'Houston TranStar and Houston Christian University Museums'

Carolyn Grimes, Day Trips Chair

On December 6th, we enjoyed a very informative tour of Houston TranStar. This facility opened in 1996 and leverages the resources of multiple agencies to provide transportation and emergency management services to the Greater Houston Region. The City of Houston, Harris County, the Metropolitan Transit Authority, and the Texas Department of Transportation all benefit from the use of shared resources and eliminate costly duplication. It is the only one of its kind in the US.

We had a wonderful lunch at Cleburne Cafeteria.

In the afternoon, we toured the Dunham Bible Museum at HCU, which is dedicated to telling the story of the most important book in the world. It holds one of the most extensive collections of rare Bibles in the nation and includes ancient manuscripts, medieval scriptures, a working Gutenberg-style printing press, etc., all creatively displayed to show the Bible's history and impact on civilization and culture. We also toured the Museum of Southern History and the Museum of American Architecture and Decorative Arts.

Everyone had a FANtastic time. Consider joining us on a future trip.



The Traffic Control Room at TranStar



The Dunham Bible Museum

At TranStar – Ladies
in alphabetical order:

**Gayla Baker,
Linda Bell,
Emily Carter,
Claudia Gallagher,
Kim Gerrish,
Carolyn Grimes,
Susan Kleimann,
Cynthia Krueger,
Helene Levar,
Mary Lynn O'Brien,
Cynthia Payne,
Carol Peterson,
Linda Putback and
Betsy Wilks.**





Vinson Financial Group LLC



- ▶ Longevity Planning
- ▶ Retirement & Income Planning
- ▶ Legacy Planning
- ▶ Asset Management



281-895-2354

Call to schedule your **FREE** retirement income review

Just let us know you're a member of FAN!

www.vinsonfinancialgroup.com

8900 Eastloch Drive • Bldg. 305 • Spring, TX 77379

Investment advisory products and services made available through AE Wealth Management, LLC (AEWM), a Registered Investment Adviser. 02489295 - 07/24

FAN Activities

Donna Morris, *Activities Chair*

Thanks to the new leader for the Bunco group, **Charla Hannibal**. Bert Forbes will be greatly missed.

New FAN member **Liz Gilmer** would like to host a one-time activity for a free introduction to square dancing (about 1.5-2 hours). She is hoping for 25-30 people (3-4 squares) for this activity and would like to host it in January. Liz insists it is not hokey or pokey any more...they dance to modern music. Please contact Liz (lizgilmer@outlook.com) if you are interested or would like more information.

Tiffany Cady is interested in starting a Theater Goers group for a local theater. Please contact her if you are interested, and there will also be a sign-up sheet for this new group at the January meeting.

Happy Holidays!

Railroad Canasta

Kim Gerrish,
Railroad Canasta Lead



Next date: Tuesday, January 14th
\$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.

December Winners:



1st Place
Mary Papageorge

2nd Place
Gayla Baker

3rd Place
Tina Snodgrass

Literary Review Book Club

Kathy Court,
Literary Review Lead

Date: January 22nd
Time: 1:00 p.m.
Hostess: **Christel Clark**
Book: *Table for Two*
Author: Amor Towles

Page Turners Book Club

Adrienne Juno,
Page Turners Lead

Date: January 8th
Time: 1:30 p.m.
Hostess: **Adrienne Juno**
Book: *Remarkably Bright Creatures*
Author: Shelby Van Pelt



FAN Day Trip: 'George H. W. Bush Presidential Library & Museum' on Friday, February 7th, 2025

Carolyn Grimes, Day Trips Chair

We have reservations for a self-guided tour of the George H. W. Bush Presidential Library & Museum in College Station starting at 10:30 a.m. George Herbert Walker Bush was sworn in as the 41st President of the United States on January 20th, 1989, and served one term until 1993. From 1981 to 1989, he served as the 43rd Vice President under Ronald Reagan.

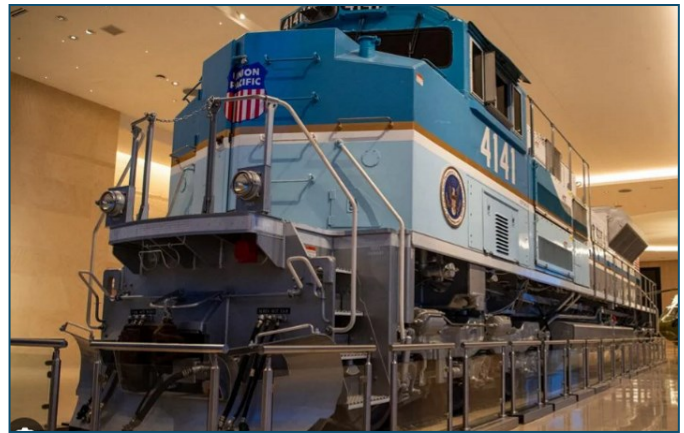
The library is filled with many exhibits preserving history and his legacy promoting public service. The newest addition is the 29,000-square-foot Marine One/4141 Locomotive Pavilion, which features a retired Marine One helicopter and the Union Pacific 4141 Locomotive.

We will have lunch at Billy's Grille & Bar in Bryan.

Depending on the weather, after lunch we will have some free time to browse/shop at some of the antique stores near the restaurant in Bryan.

The Precinct 3 bus will depart from the George H. W. Bush Community Center located at 6827 Cypresswood Dr., Spring. The bus will be available for boarding at 8:00 a.m. and will depart at 8:30 a.m. We will have a rest stop en route. We should return home around 4:00 p.m. or earlier.

Sign up at a General Meeting or by mail. The deadline to pay for this tour will be Friday, January 24th, after which no refunds can be made. Please bring a check for \$8.00 payable to FAN 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 January 31st.



RESERVATION FORM: Mail to **Carolyn Grimes** at 8838 Leaning Hollow Lane, Spring, TX 77379
Friday, February 7th, 2025: George H.W. Bush Library & Museum

Name (Please print): _____

Full Address (Street, City, Zip): _____

Email: _____ Cell Phone #: _____

Emergency Contact Name & Tel. #: _____

Check #: _____ Amount: _____ Date: _____

Holiday Goodie Exchange

Susan Butler,
Holiday Goodie
Exchange Chair

Thank you to
everyone who
attended this
event and a
special thank
you to the
committee that
helped put together
this fun day.

Merry Christmas!

(sitting) **Debi Swaney, Barbara Pack** and
Tina Snodgrass with **Susan Kleimann,**
Donna Morris...all dressed in glitter mode!



Cathy Harrison, Debbie Blailock and **Deb Lovrak** having fun!



Kandy Riddle and **Rena Malinowski**
sharing a smile.



Amanda Frueh, Marybeth Magallanes and
Merry Keith enjoy the annual FAN event.



Ashley Campbell, Gail Stone and **Dana Montroy**
getting to know new FAN friends.



Sandy Darst, Dorothy Parmenter, Gayla Baker, Marge Mitchell and
Barbara Alcamo around the Christmas tree.



The beautiful centerpieces
Gayla Baker created.



FRIENDS AND NEIGHBORS WOMEN'S CLUB

Newsletter Editor:

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



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.