



INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER December 2022

SEPO Board

FROM THE PRESIDENT

As I write this, we are approaching Christmas and a week later, New Years. This is a busy time for your corporate Board of Directors. We are in the process of making changes to our governing documents to be in accordance with the law. We also have been busy preparing changes which we have agreed will benefit our community and that you will have the opportunity to vote on in February. At least one, if not more, informational meetings are planned to explain these possible changes and I urge you to be as fully informed as possible **before** you return your ballot. I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Blessed New Year.

- Share Nelson, President

SEPO BOARD REGARDING COMMUNICATIONS

Your SEPO Board does NOT sanction the Facebook page titled "Sunshine CCE Residents". And it was NOT created at the request of the Women's Club. It is a private group created and controlled by a resident. The Board is looking at developing something, i.e., a Facebook page, to meet Sunshine residents needs of announcing social events in and around Sunshine. And to wish your friends Happy Birthday, Happy Anniversary etc. A fun place to post.

As a final Note: Any new communications channels DO NOT take the place of current SEPO communications channels; emails, Web site and Newsletter.

(<https://www.sunshinecountryclub.com/communication-guidelines>).

Stay tuned for more to come concerning this.

- SEPO Board

COMMUNICATING OFFSITE ACTIVITIES

A few days ago, the SEPO Board created a new area on a bulletin board in the library where offsite activities can be posted, and signup sheets displayed. This bulletin board is located just to the right of the Women's Club activities committee signup area. This area can be used by an individual who is attempting to get a group together to attend an offsite activity. It should not be used for simply advertising something that is taking place outside the SEPO grounds. Those types of items will be removed by whoever is monitoring this board. Jean Burgoine will be the monitor for now.

Each offsite item posted must include who is organizing the event, location, cost, date and telephone number of who to contact for more information. And please remember to remove your poster etc and your signup sheet once the activity has occurred.

- SEPO Board

Women's Club: From the President

Happy New Years Everyone!

Women's Club had some exciting events this season.

- December's Women's Club meeting began with some snowball throwing and a bubble gun shooting. Then an Ugly Christmas Sweater contest and the winner was Geneva Carr. We had more people at this meeting than I had seen at a meeting before, somewhere around 50 people. I just want to thank everyone that came and hope the numbers keep growing.



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- December has been a busy and fun month, with a lot of things going on.
 - December 10th > Bake Sale & Raffle > Hosted by Terry DeBackere and her team. Lots of participation from the residences with donations, helping, buying and bidding.
 - December 12th > First Breakfast of the year > Hosted by Pam Adams and her hard working elves. They sang Christmas Carols and even had the cutest little dance. The days went very fast with great food!
 - December 20th > Valley Voices > Hosted by Jill Ventrello / This event was well attended by our residences and with all of the clapping going I think everyone enjoyed it. Very professional performance!
 - December 22nd > Christmas Caroling > Hosted by Pam Lacy > The singers have had several practices and the elves will be entertaining the crowd.
 - December 25th > Christmas Dinner > Hosted by Lenore Combs > The plans are set and everyone is looking forward to a great meal, good company and a Christmas skit by Nancy Steele to top the day off.
 - December 31st > Hosted by Beth Parrish / Denise Utterback > The plans are coming together and it sounds like it is going to be a lot of fun for all.

I just want everyone to know none of this is possible without all of the help from our residents.

We had a few new people host some of these events this month and they survived it and said they would do it again.

I just want to say thanks to everyone who hosted or helped with all of these events.

Women's Club President

- Vicky LeRoy Krueger

Women's Club: Christmas Dinner

Dear Sunshine Residents and Friends-

Sunshine Christmas Dinner was the greatest thanks to all our friends and guests and to our hard working Elves before, during and after the event. There was a magnificent effort put forth from all. Therefore, as of this notice you are all put on the *NICE LIST* which will be sent to Santa for 2023.

Thanks again to everyone – far and wide who played a part to make it a big success. Lupe was also very grateful to find the place in its impeccable, original condition considering all the decorating, food shuffling, furniture manipulating and cleanup involved.

From our committee to all – May you all have a healthy Happy New Year.

- Lenore J Combs and Santa's Elves

Women's Club: Christmas Play - Santa Flunks Retirement

Thanks to our creative Sunshine Actors, Actresses and Stage Hands for a wonderful presentation on a real life possibility of Santa retiring. And how many of us sometimes feel like throwing in the towel at work?



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The Play opens with Santa contemplating retirement – Christmas presents, the Elves, Donna and Blitzen et al – the whole deal. Just give it up! Santa’s Fairy God Mother desperately tries to encourage Santa to change his mind but he is still down in the dumps. “Everyone is ordering on the internet – who needs Santa ????? anyway”. The Elves have even written letters of justification for why we need Santa.

Well, finally after days of listening and consoling Santa, - a miracle – Santa changes his mind. So that’s the end of the story.

There were some Christmas songs and Andrea, a new resident performed the lyrics in “sign” (language).
- Lenore Combs (for Nancy Steele)

Women's Club: New Residents Party

HOW SWEET IT IS!
New Residents Party

Join us as the Woman's Club welcomes the new residents of Sunshine Estates.

When: January 13th, 2023
Where: Retzlaff Hall
Time: Doors unlocked at 4:00 PM
Introduction of new residents at 4:30
Dinner: 5:00 P.M. The Koffee Klatch will be catering the meal. Dinner includes pasta, salad, bread and dessert. Tea, coffee, and water will also be served. BYOB
Music: 5:15 P.M. Music for dancing will be provided by DJ Doug and his lovely assistant.
We will also have a few door prizes for our new residents.

Cost: \$12.00 per person. Virtual sign up in the Library January 1st, 2023. Please sign up on the board in the Library and insert your payment into the box. This event is limited to 160 people.

RSVP: By Jan 10th, 2023

We look forward to a fun night of meeting new neighbors, dinner and dancing.

Sunshine Estates new residents committee
Lisa Perrier-651-485-7293
Pam Davis-214-516-4844



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Woodworkers: Spaghetti Supper

Tuesday, Jan. 24th, 4:30 pm to 6 pm in Retzlaff Hall. All proceeds go to the SEPO Woodshop.

Tickets will go on sale on Jan 9th.

Tickets are \$10.

Homemade spaghetti sauce & dessert, salad, coffee tea or water.

Carryout & delivery available.

We sell out fast, so contact your friendly wood worker ASAP.

Any checks should be made out to SEPO Woodworkers Club.

Any questions contact Cathy or John Chajec, 708-280-8910.

Killer Bees (Quilting)

The Killer Bees quilting group meets Thursday mornings in Retzlaff Hall at 9:30. We have a short meeting going over our schedule of sewing projects coming up along with Show and Tell. When we have a project scheduled (usually twice a month), we sew into the afternoon. Many of us are members of The Rio Grande Valley Quilt Guild which is having their annual quilt show on South Padre Island at the Convention center on February 10th and 11th. Mark your calendar to come and see so many beautiful quilts and more. Any questions, call Jan Baethke. Come check us out.

- Jan Baethke

Memorial Committee

There are many new residents in our community and you may not know what this group is about. When a present or former resident of Sunshine passes away, this committee sends a sympathy card to the family expressing our condolences. As an individual, club or group you can make a monetary donation in their name to Sunshine. The donation box and instructions on how to make a donation are in the library. We try to find a contact with the family so we can obtain an obituary and record it in the memorial book of Sunshine residents. Sometimes it is very difficult to obtain any information especially on former residents where we have no contact information for the family. So if you are a friend/relative of someone who used to reside in Sunshine, we would appreciate your help with locating an obituary. You could drop it off at the office or with any committee member.

The most recent purchase of the Memorial Committee is the Sunshine Country Club flag which flies out at the entrance. There are many Memorial Books which are located in the library and are labeled by year. You are welcome to browse through them at your leisure. Please do not remove them from the library. This committee does not meet on a monthly basis but only as needed. If you would like any more information please contact me or any other committee member. - Vickie Jones 262689-7068

Memorial Committee Members;

Eileen Anderson

Lois Bjornson

Vickie Jones

Marge Lehman

Mel Wendel



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Sunshine Garden Club

Sunshine Garden Club Get Together

Topic of the evening: My Favorite Native Plants

Please join us along with Janet Schofield, Cameron County Master Gardner, providing an educational class on Native Plants. You may ask yourself, why native plants for my landscape? Have you ever planted a beautiful ornamental or shrub in your yard and watch it slowly die.

The Rio Grande Valley suffers severe temperature variations. For example, Thursday, December 22, 2022, morning temperatures were 75 degrees. Same day at 8pm, temperature dropped 30 degrees with over 20 MPH winds dropping temperatures into the teens through the night. A week later, December 29, 2022 weather forecast, temperatures rise to 80 degrees. Plants get confused.

Janet provides information on the benefits of planting native plants, which help under these conditions. Landscaping with native plants can save you money, time, water and resources. They have better resistance to our weather; require less maintenance and sometimes no fertilizer or pesticides needed.

When: Tuesday, January 10, 2023

Where: Retzlaff Hall

Time: 6:30 pm - 7:30 pm

All are welcome. Come February we will plan a trip to a park which features native plants.

- *Sunshine Garden Club*

SCCE Fishing Association

On Wednesday Jan11 @ 5:30 in Retzlaff Hall the SCCE Fishing Association will having its monthly meeting for, participants and newcomers that may be interested in learning more about the many styles of saltwater fishing, tackle to use, places to go and everything related to fishing and outdoor activities in the RGA. This meeting we will be taking orders for shirts Hats and collecting the Lifetime due of \$10 for residents and renters. We are having a speaker, TPW game warden Levey of Cameron County. He will be answering questions and explaining TX wildlife & fishing laws and how they can affect us as fishermen. Also how and what we can do to be good stewards of our fishing environment. Please come and Join us. We would like your input for future meeting topics. Hope to see you there. All are welcome.

Bill Peterson President if you have any questions feel free to call me @ 309-945-2108

- *Bill Peterson*

Rock Painting Club

Contact: Karren Amos

Meets: 1st* and 4th Monday each Month from 1 PM to 3 PM (changes to the schedule will be communicated via Sunshine email distribution list). The next meetings are Monday,

January 9th, 2023, and January 23rd, 2023

NOTE: our first meeting in January is January 9th, instead of January 2nd, my arbitrary decision



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due to holiday schedules.

Time: **1pm to 3pm.**

Location: **Retzlaff Hall**

Participants: Open to all Sunshine Residents/Renters, men and women, and their immediate adult family members. Persons with no “rock painting” experiences and those with some “rock painting” experiences are encouraged to join us and have some fun!

Just a quick reminder – our rock painting club mission is to spread kindness!

Cost: In order to cover the cost of rocks and painting materials being supplied, there is a \$5 per participant fee per session. New members receive a “welcome kits” containing paint, paint brush, rocks, “chalk”, and a few other “must haves” for rock painters!

The Sunshine Rock Painting Club donated the remaining “Veteran's Rocks” to Vic Hilman who in turn, passed them onto the US Veterans Affairs.

- We will:
 - provide feedback on our January 7th visit to “San Benito Children's Home” and our the “rock painting class” there.
 - and, discuss preparing & painting Easter Rocks beginning with our January 9th Meeting, using both acrylic and puffy paints.

Come join the fun with Rock Painting Club members at a future meeting!

NOTE: Questions and suggestions for the Sunshine Rock Painting Club are always welcome via phone 309-781-3479 (call or text (with your name please), or by gmail karrenaamos@gmail.com.

- Karren Amos

Neighborhood Watch & CERT



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



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

Newsletter – January 2023

Lenore J. Combs, Coordinator 956 245 1276 LJCombs44@gmail.com

Sgt. Rebecca Cruz, NW HPD District Representative

Dear NW- CERT Volunteers, Residents and Friends,

As a reminder. *** January 2023 - the date * 16 January all day Finger Licking' Chicken (Fundraiser for NW). We will have a planning team called soon. Let me know if you wish to help. A Sign-up sheet will be posted in the Library after Christmas - in the library or please call me.

Here's wishing for a safe and blessed Christmas one and all. And wishing everyone a healthy, Happy New Year too.

The reason we celebrate Christmas on such a grand level every year is that our neighbors prepare for the festival way before everyone else does and makes us part of it.



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Food for Thought A Security survey revealed that about 49% of Americans had a package stolen in the last 12 months. Are you tempting the Porch Pirates?

At home — do you have window locks pins deadbolts dowels ?

Don't hide spare keys under the mat or in the flower bed

Use outdoor lighting as a deterrent - Bad Guys hate light

Trim trees, plants shrubbery. Overgrown foliage is a great hiding place

A Crown of Thorns can be a great deterrent

Lock your vehicle and don't leave valuables (visible or not)

What about strangers at the door? We have a NO SOLICITING policy and a sign at the Front Gate!

Use caution anytime there is a stranger knocking.

Be suspicious of any unexpected sales calls or deliveries - ask for ID (it should be visible by law)

Be aware of scams Bad Guys play (365 days a year)

Investigate charities before writing a check - where is the dough going?

What about leaving for the holidays?

Ask a trusted friend to watch your home etc.

Use timers for lights Leave a radio on

Make arrangements for your mail and newspapers to be picked up

Grinch proof your holiday light displays etc. Shut down display at night. Set up surveillance. Crime-proof your yard Bring valuable stuff in at night.

And after the holidays?

Don't advertise expensive toys, electronics etc. by leaving their boxes behind - compress their boxes for their disposal. The Porch Pirates will be out shopping.

Add new stuff to your home inventory (Operation ID) ask me. Take photos — make model serial number etc. (engrave them)

* Operation ID Forms are on the NW bulletin board in the library. HPD can help us engrave items. Call me.

FYI:

Harlingen Fire Dept will be monitoring the shelters in Harlingen. If any CERT member would like to volunteer, please call me. This opportunity is open to all who wish to volunteer.

FYI:

The AED will be at my house because of this temporary cold weather because cold weather can significantly affect its performance for a rescue.

(Lenore & John) 4137 North Minnesota Street 956 245 1276

The 3 STOP THE BLEED bags are 1. In the Library 2 Woodworkers Shop and 3 Worker's Shed.

*This notice does not replace your responsibility to call 911 if a situation arises.

- Lenore Combs

FROM THE EDITOR

Happy New Year to all. Shortly after you read this, it will be 2023. I want to thank everyone who has been providing such great information each month to keep the entire community informed of what has and is taking place. Let's keep that info flowing throughout the winter months.

Beth Parrish, SEPO Newsletter Editor, E-Mail: (seponewsletter@gmail.com), 314-960-6710