

INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

January 2020



SEPO BOARD

Happy New Year and I hope everyone had a great Christmas.

Update on projects:

Shuffleboard court lighting: contractor estimate high, lights will be purchased and our employees will install at a much lower cost

Tennis court lighting: estimate of \$19,000 cost prohibitive, other avenues are being investigated

Storage yard paving (gate to driving net): estimate of \$14,000 cost prohibitive, other avenues are being investigated

Golf course: cart paths have been completed on holes 5 & 7, many thanks to John Whitley who offered to pay for the concrete on hole 5

Central area buildings: combination locks have been installed on all 3 buildings; code is same as front gate minus the “#” sign, as front gate changes so will door locks

Pool & hot tub: we have a new vendor for chemicals and service, a significant savings has already been achieved on chemicals, all chemicals are natural and remove the oils in the pool from sun screens and our bodies, the pool water is clearer and the discolor on the walls is already dissolving.

Thanks to the Women’s Club for purchasing new shuffleboard equipment. The old equipment was donated to the Habitat for Humanity resale store.

Suggestions are always welcome. And we are looking for projects for 2020.

Two items that appear to be an ongoing problem is the excess water from resident’s sprinkler systems and feeding of the ducks. Unfortunately, the problem continues due to a few residents not cooperating.

The two missing microphones have been replaced. Microphones will be kept in the office and signed out to residents.

It’s going to be a stressful winter with numerous contractors working. Trailers, trucks, cars walkers, bike riders, golf carts will be creating an obstacle course. Please be extremely careful while maneuvering the streets.

On January 6th, 2020 will have our Residents and Directors meeting, per our bylaws, in Retzlaff Hall at 1:00 PM. The primary purpose of this meeting is to nominate candidates for the election in February.

John Chajec – SEPO President

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SEPO Web site

As you all know, the "Resident's Only" section of the Web site is password protected. It has come to my attention that the current password should be changed in order to protect the confidentiality of this information. Therefore, on the morning of Sunday, Jan 5 the current password will no longer work. If you are a current homeowner, you will need to submit the following information **any time after Dec 31** to sunshinecountryclubweb@gmail.com: Say you are requesting new password, Resident Name(s), House No. & Street.

Thank you all in advance for your understanding with this matter.

Beth Parrish
SEPO Web site Admin
sunshinecountryclubweb@gmail.com
314-960-6710

Women's Club

Happy New Year! Hoping everyone had a wonderful Christmas and New Year with family and friends. It's hard to believe our winter season is half over. Our December was a busy month with many activities, a big thank you to Vickie Jones our activity director. Our thanks go out to Terry Debackere and her committee for decorating Retzlaff Hall and other areas of our community, it all looked so festive. Also, thanks to Deb Robbins and Terry Debackere and committee for hosting the Bake Sale/Craft/Raffle/Lefse event. Our thanks to Lenore Combs who once again chaired the Golf Cart Christmas Parade. Thanks to Vickie Jones for organizing the D J dance and Christmas concert. Lastly, thanks to Marian Young and committee for hosting Christmas Dinner. Wow, that was a busy month with many helping hands! If, I have forgotten anyone I am so sorry, but thank you! How fortunate we are to live in a community that so many will say yes, I can help!

Please check the Women's Club bulletin board in the library to sign up to help with one of our upcoming events. It's a great way to have fun and meet your neighbors. Our next Women's Club meeting is January 17th, at 9:00 am in Retzlaff Hall.

Eileen Anderson
President

Women's Club: New Homeowners' Event (01-13-20)

The Sunshine Women's Club hosts a NEW RESIDENT EVENING each January. This event will be held January 13, 2020 in Retzlaff Hall. In staying with the party's theme of "Hat's Off to the New Homeowners", please wear your favorite hat.

Social time begins at 5:00 pm, with dinner (taco salad) at 5:30, followed by introduction of new residents. The evening will conclude with a dance featuring Terry Porter Rowe. Some of you might remember him from a couple years ago. So be sure and wear your dancing shoes.

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The cost of this event is \$10. Virtual tickets will be available in the library starting Friday, Jan 3 thru Thursday, Jan 9.

Please join us for an evening of fun and fellowship.

Denise Utterback (Event Chairperson)

WOMEN'S CLUB: You, Me and Alexa (03-07-20)

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. Join the committee by signing up on Women's Club bulletin board or just come to a rehearsal (dates to be posted soon) 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!

Questions – Call or e-mail Lassey Dahlstrom (ldahlstrom@gmail.com)

Women's Club: Resident Photo Directory

The Women's Club has been discussing creating a Resident Photo Directory in 2020. We are looking at creating a digital directory that will be placed in the Resident's Only section of the Sunshine Web site. The ability to print this directory from the Web site is being investigated. Look for more details about this project in the coming weeks.

Beth Parrish

SALVATION ARMY BELL RINGING (Report)

Report on recent Salvation Army bell ringing effort by Sunshine residents

The Salvation Army is synonymous with helping others. They are well known for helping the disadvantaged during emergencies and for their Christmas programs (Angel Tree) and bell ringing for needy families and their kids.

Sunshine has been blessed much over many years helping here in Harlingen with the Friday after Thanksgiving. A wonderful part of this is that **all the funds raised locally are used locally**. Bell ringing is a big part of raising the funds. We raised \$1,007.66 this year, more than any other year during the single day effort. The figures were broken down as Pharmacy door \$563.88 and \$433.78 on the grocery side. That is a lot of single dollar and small coin donations.

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A little factoid from the SA literature (Loan Star Christmas edition) says that one-hour volunteering ringing bells helps put food on the table for 13 people. Sunshine had 38 (2 couples did two shifts) people volunteer one hour each this year and using this measure, would feed 572 people.

We also had candy donations from some of our ringers and that was used to great effect.

Big thanks from the Salvation Army and me too. It is heartening to see the effort and willingness of our residents.

Now I'm asking for someone younger who is willing to take over my duties of organizing this? I just turned 87 and have done this for a long time. I am leaving this year and will turn it over to a willing person.

Arv Russell

Birding and Nature Group (01-07-20)

The Birding and Nature Group will not be having our monthly meeting in Jan 2020. Instead, we will be hosting a communitywide potluck, followed by a speaker from Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge. The potluck is on Tuesday, January 7th in Retzlaff Hall. Doors open at 4:30. Serving will begin at 5:00, followed by the speaker. Just so we know how many tables to set up, we request that you sign up on the sign-up sheet that will be posted in the library on Jan 1. There is no charge for the potluck. Hope to see you there. We will have a field trip to Laguna Atascosa in February.

Jean Burgoine

WALL OF HONOR (01-08-20)

This is a 2nd 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. The service wall plans are moving along. The wall display is to recognize residents living and deceased where the surviving spouse or other relation resides within the estates.

I will be available in the library on January 8th 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 in Retzlaff Hall to honor the golfing achievements. 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. Check with Valerie to get one, or see me. My information is below.

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The picture you provide for use will be copied and returned if you write in pencil on the back 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

Finger Lickin' Chicken (01-10-20)



Sunshine Neighborhood Watch – CERT Team (Est. 2008)
(Est. 2008)



SCCE - Harlingen's premier NW & CERT Team.
Lights On -- Lock Up and Look Out for each other!

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



Have I got a deal for you!

Finger Lickin' Chicken - Friday 10 January - fundraiser for Neighborhood Watch \$10.00 plate
Our world famous grillin' team will be out doing Finger Licken' Chicken.
Expect ETA about 4pm – Meet in Retzlaff Hall to Dine In or Take Out.

Sunshine NW - CERT Team has been faithfully serving SCCE for over 10 years – 365 days a year. We have open communication with the SEPO Board. We constantly have training and our valued partnership with Police, Fire and EMS is acknowledged and appreciated. Our rapport with them is indispensable. Volunteers don't get paid because their worth is priceless. We wish to have a fundraiser for operating expenses. This week batteries for the McGruffmobile were just installed. Our modest bank account is almost depleted. Monies are monitored and spent judiciously for our Patrol Golf cart and necessity items such as flashlights, batteries, First Aid equipment etc.

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So, please join us for a Finger Lickin' Chicken plate: \$ 10.00

½ slow cooked grilled chicken prepared on mesquite wood by experienced Firefighters.

Potato Salad, Cole Slaw, Fixins, Iced Tea, Coffee & Dessert.

Gameplan: When these big batches become done -

Volunteers will carry hot chicken in receptacles to Retz Hall

Volunteers will prepare To-Go Boxes or you may dine in.

RSVP: place your orders ASAP. **I need to place the chicken order by Monday 6 January.**

Envelopes will be in the Library. I will gladly take phone orders with an IOU. You may pay cash or write a check to Neighborhood Watch. We have 306 homes in Sunshine and we look forward to everyone's support.

Sincerely, Lenore Combs, NW-CERT Coordinator

Woodworkers' Club Report

Activity at the Woodshop is finally picking up as the late snowbirds make their migration south. At the most recent meeting, the Woodworkers' Club elected new officers for 2020. They include Cathy Chajec, Treasurer; Marian Young, Secretary; Jack Berning, Vice President; and Suzie Sawyer, President. The term of office begins on January 1, 2020. A heartfelt thank you to Chuck McEvoy who served as the Woodshop Secretary for 4 years.

The membership was recently presented with a proposal to investigate the possible purchase of a miraculous table saw called SAWSTOP. If you google it, you will see that somehow the whole table saw shuts down in a flash if flesh or dampness touches the saw blade. A demonstration of the SAWSTOP was held on Tuesday, December 17, and over 30 woodworkers attended. All were amazed at the split-second response of the table saw that eliminates the hazard of being cut by the saw. At the January 10 meeting, the membership will consider purchasing a SAWSTOP from the treasury and having a fund-raising effort to purchase a second SAWSTOP. The technology is available to end the possibility of serious injuries on table saws, so the matter is worth addressing. We encourage woodworkers to attend the January 10 meeting at 1:00 p.m. at the Woodshop to vote on this matter.

It is our hope that SEPO residents will once again support the Woodworkers' Spaghetti Dinner scheduled for Tuesday, January 21. Cathy Chajec is again heading up the event and will need several 9x13 cakes, cooks, servers and a clean-up crew to provide a nice evening at Retzlaff Hall. Tickets will be on sale starting January 6 and can be purchased from members of the Woodworkers' Club. Securing help for the spaghetti dinner will also be an item on the agenda at the January 10 meeting.

Wishing everyone the best of the Christmas season and a Happy New Year.

Suzie Sawyer
President
573-216-4792

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WOODWORKERS ANNUAL SPAGHETTI SUPPER (01-21-20)

The woodworkers will hold their annual spaghetti supper on January 21st from 4:30 to 6 p.m. Tickets will go on sale January 6th and will remain \$7. Supper includes delicious homemade meat sauce, garlic bread, salad with dressing, and your choice of homemade cake.

This is our annual fundraiser for the woodshop, which helps with tool purchases, repairs and general maintenance. The shop is proud to say its members' hard work and diligence takes care of the shop so as not to be a burden on SEPO. Tickets are limited to the first 270 people, and tickets can be purchased through several of our woodworker members. Further email and notices will be posted the first week of January. As always, thank you for your support.

Cathy Chajec, 708-280-8910
Chairperson of Spaghetti supper

Las Vegas Scramble and Potato Bake (01-24&25-20)

NEWS FLASH FROM WOMENS GOLF

Mark your calendars for January 24&25, 2020. Women's golf will be hosting a Las Vegas Scramble and Potato Bake. Open to all SEPO residents, renters and guests.

More details to follow:

Joyce Smith—Scramble
Glenda Wetherbee—Potato Bake

STAINED GLASS (Thursdays – Jan thru Mar 2020)

Stained glass will begin again in January through March. Anyone interested is welcome to join us to see what it is all about. This is for beginners and seasoned artists alike. No experience necessary. We will meet every Thursday evening in the wood shop from 6:30 till 8:30 p.m. Bring your gate clicker to get into the storage area. There are no fees. All materials will be provided for your first project. Hope to see many of you there. If you have any questions, call Cathy Chajec, 708-280-8910.

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35th Annual Good Neighbor Golf Tournament 2020

Thursday, February 6 through Saturday, February 8, 2020

Gift Baskets



Hello Sunshine Estates Friends:

The **Good Neighbor Golf Tournament (NGGT)** is a 35-year tradition of Sunshine Estates Country Club.

This article is to let new, as well as “old”, (not taken literally,) residents of Sunshine Estates, be aware and encourage the participation in this fun 3-day event. For non-players, “participation” also includes providing support during play. Registration for players will be 9 AM to 1:00 PM, January 9th through the 11th in the Library of the Office.

There are many prizes and awards during the dinner banquet on Saturday. Residents started a tradition of preparing gift baskets as great prizes during the banquet. These baskets have been prepared in the past with the donor’s hometown in mind and with new items valued between \$30 and \$50. We hope residents will continue this donation practice. The baskets do not, however, need to be from your hometown region. To lessen your costs, you might want to consider creating a basket together with friends or neighbors. We would also be grateful for separate gift certificates or items that we could assemble into joint baskets.

Janis McFee and **Eileen Anderson** have taken on the mission of receiving and storing gift basket donations for the **NGGT**. If you and or your neighbors would like to prepare and or share in preparing a gift basket, we encourage you to do so by providing them to Janis McFee and / or Eileen Anderson prior to the scheduled event dates.

Based on history, the recipients of these unique gift basket prizes welcome this approach and truly appreciate Sunshine Country Club’s generosity.

Get ready for registration and basket preparation!

Eileen Anderson
2024 W Montana Ave
507-317-0296

Janis McFee
2028 W Michigan Dr
651-271-8264

Tony Tramel
2020 NGGT Chairman
trtramel@gmail.com
Cell 337-693-6344
December 2019



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Neighborhood Watch – CERT Team



Sunshine Neighborhood Watch – CERT Team (Est. 2008)
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SCCE - Harlingen's premier NW & CERT Team.
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Lenore J. Combs, Coordinator 956 245 1276 LJCombs44@gmail.com

Dear NW-CERT Volunteers, Residents and Friends,

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and holiday season and we are “looking” forward to the 2020 New Year for another successful, healthy year. Perhaps a New Year’s resolution to ponder would be to consider becoming a volunteer. Offering your time and talent is a valuable asset. Giving back is among the most important and valuable things a person can do. You all have a great capacity to accept challenges and volunteering is a win-win for everybody. Helping others makes you feel good. Fulfilling a responsibility makes you happier and it is a fact that happier people give back more and giving makes more people happy.

Participating in a community event or a neighborhood organization builds a sense of community and provides valuable services to us. We all want Sunshine to be a safe place to live. Getting to know your neighbors also increases a sense of personal security and connection to those around us = critical support. A proven fact - giving and being unselfish can protect your health and prolong your life. Every day that goes by without helping another is an opportunity missed.

So, our next NW-CERT meeting will take place on Monday 20 January 2020 3pm Retzlaff Hall. Coffee’s always on. Our Sunshine community is always invited and especially the Board. An open line of communication is a 2-way process that establishes trust by listening, sharing and supporting. Please mark your calendars. This meeting will be committed to orientation and principles of practice of the NW-CERT Team.

As a reminder, the City of Harlingen will be having their Winter Texan Appreciation Day at the new Convention Center over by Sam’s Club – that program will just get you all warmed up for NW at 3pm.

Thanks again to each and every one who has made the Sunshine Neighborhood Watch and our CERT Team Harlingen’s premier group. Two of our residents and NW volunteers – Jerry and Larry just completed the 40-hour class for Citizen’s Police Academy at the Harlingen PD. Congrats to them.

Maybe it’s time to change the Front Gate Code - start the year off on a safe and secure note.

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SEPO COMMUNICATIONS

I hope everyone is keeping up with all 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. The e-mail distribution list is still missing quite a few residents, so if you know of anyone who you think would like to be on this list but aren't currently, please have them send their name, home address and e-mail to sepoenews@gmail.com.

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 ever find anything on the Web site that isn't working or I need to investigate for accuracy etc, please let me know.** Also – If you have any pictures or videos of events that have been held at Sunshine to date this season – I would sure appreciate you sending them to me so I can get them on the Web site. Remember one of the primary purposes of the Web site is to get outsiders interested in Sunshine and moving in to join our super fun community!!!

For anyone who isn't familiar with the Guidelines concerning the Sunshine E-Mails, Newsletter and Web site, you can find them listed under the Rules/Officers tab on the Web site:
<https://www.sunshinecountryclub.com/sepo-laws>

Please feel free to contact me at any time if you have questions concerning SEPO Communications.

Beth Parrish SEPO Communications (314-960-6710)

FROM THE EDITOR

Thanks to all who submitted articles informing everyone of what's going on here at Sunshine. Sounds like the second half of this season is shaping up to be busier than ever. Next month we'll be going back to our deadline of the 24th of the month for February Newsletter article submission.

Beth Parrish
SEPO Newsletter Editor
sepoenews@gmail.com
314-960-6710