



The Golden Gazette

August 2023

Treasure of the Hills Senior Center

Volume XXXIII

Number 8

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

by Ellen Fannin

Whew! It has really been hot, and I sincerely hope everyone is staying out of the heat and drinking plenty of water. It is so important for you to take care of yourself! We value you!

We continue to have new members join us. We are thrilled to meet and get to know new friends. Make a point of introducing yourself to the new members when you have a chance. Who knows, you may just meet your next best friend!

We're gearing up for the Senior Expo that will be held on Saturday, August 12th at the Cedar Park Rec Center from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. It is a great time to connect with vendors who have products and services for the senior population. Think about attending and bringing a friend with you. This year, we are going to have a TOTH table inside with the other vendors so that we can talk to people about membership at TOTH.

Something else new is that we now have sponsorships for vendors. We have four sponsors this year. Senior Health Professionals is a Gold Sponsor, and we are grateful to Andrea Coles for their support. The Heights at 8721 is a Silver Sponsor, and Mobility City and Seniorific News are both Bronze Sponsors. Be sure to stop by their booths at the Expo and thank them for their support.

We also want to thank Steph Drileck and FAST SIGNS for donating a wonderful new banner that we will be putting up at the entrance to the Expo. MarEllen Basalyga's daughter, Kara, was responsible for connecting us with Steph. Thank you, MarEllen and Kara!

We also have copies of our beautiful flyers, courtesy of the City of Cedar Park, that you can take to help spread the word about the Expo.

They are available in the office.

There are also some exciting events coming up this fall, starting with a Game Day & Bake Sale



on Saturday, September 16th. Thanks to Frank Mignoli for taking the lead on the Game Day portion that will include a silent auction. Ann Mignoli and Maggie Ingraham are taking the lead on the Bake Sale and will be asking for donations of single-serving baked goods. Make plans to do some baking and to attend.

In October, there will be a Chili Cook-Off in conjunction with the UT/OU football game, and in November, a poker event.

If there is a special event or activity that you are interested in, let us know. We are always looking for new and fun things to do.

Enjoy the rest of your summer and stay cool!



We're planning some changes to The Golden Gazette that you'll be seeing, mostly starting next month — like a consolidated article of all the information that's been distributed in the various officer/staff articles, often with duplicated information. We'll be looking forward to hearing your feedback!

FROM THE DIRECTOR

by Lisa Leirvaag

Time for a few administrative notes!

Seniors that apply for TOTH membership between July 1st and December 31st pay only half of the annual membership fee - provided they are NEW members. Normally, "new" means never having been a member of TOTH before, but the Board also stipulated at the last meeting that a member who was last active in 2019 or earlier will be considered a "new" member.

Earlier this year, the Board granted free name tags to NEW members. To replace a lost name tag will cost \$6.25 for a magnetic back name tag, and \$5.25 for a pin-on name tag.

Snacks are allowed again at TOTH, but I would like to ask everyone who brings food to take leftovers back home again, especially if they require refrigeration. If you want to leave snacks at TOTH, please mark them with your name or your group's name.

Please make sure that the refrigerator and/or the freezer are always closed properly.

If you use the sound system, don't forget to turn it off before you leave.

To lock the automatic door properly, one has to turn the deadbolt to the left AND set the switch at the top to the OFF/OFF position.

End of griping session (for now!).

Stay cool!



TOTH ELECTIONS FOR 2024

by Gail Brennen

— Nominating Chair, email: pbrennen@aol.com

Election Time is coming! We are calling on our members to continue making our Senior Center the envy of Cedar Park and surrounding areas by volunteering as our officers and board members, who are elected each October and begin their terms in January. To get an early start, please let me know if you're interested in serving our wonderful Center.

TOTH BOARD NOTES

by Ann Mignoli

A member has volunteered for the VP position; this appointment is to be confirmed at the next meeting.

Plans for the Fund Raising Events in September, October & November are being completed. Final plans for the Senior Expo are continuing.

The Late Fee statement was removed from the dues Policy & Procedures.

Any member of TOTH may attend a Board of Directors meeting, but cannot participate in the meeting unless they have an agenda item. Any member of TOTH who has an agenda item for the Board, or the Executive Committee, needs to send the item to the President one week before that meeting.

NOTE FROM THE SECRETARY:

Major items are noted in the above (and monthly) Board Notes. The full minutes of each Board meeting are available for review by any member following the Minutes approval by the Board the following month. The Minutes book is located in the bookcase in the main office room.



TREASURER'S REPORT

by Denny Clauson

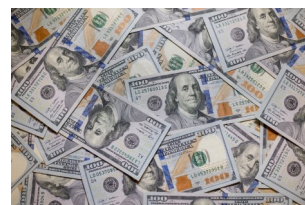
June Income: \$3,799

Main sources of income – church rental, Senior Expo, membership dues

June Expenses: \$5,098

Unusual expense - ice maker maintenance \$601

Unrealized gain/(loss) – Investment account increased \$6,547; Memorial account increased \$2,062.



CRUISE

by Mary Riordon

The "Recycled Teens" are on the move again! A cruise has been selected with the Carnival Dream for eight nights, April 20-28, 2024. The cruise leaves from Galveston going to Key West, FL, and several stops in the Bahamas: Half Moon Cay, Freeport, and Nassau. Barry Atlas is our personal vacation planner with Carnival. To reach Barry for deposit and cabin prices, call 800-819-3902 ext 82327 or email BATlas@Carnival.com and mention Recycled Teens, groupT1D1H1. I am our TOTH contact at 512-260-8876 (landline so NO texts). Looking forward to a great time !!!



2023 TOTH CHILI COOK OFF FUNDRAISER

by Denny Clauson

October 7th, save the date! Chili cookers and chili eaters!

TOTH will have a chili contest, with Texas vs Oklahoma game on the big screen.

Your \$5 ticket will get you chilies to taste along with cornbread and drinks.

Chili cookers get in free, everyone can vote for their favorite chili, with trophy to winner.

Start time is TBD based on football game time.



FUNDRAISER Upcoming Events

Watch for more details on these upcoming events and make plans to participate!

September

Game Day & BAKE SALE

Join us on Saturday, September 16 at 10:00 a.m. for a day of Bridge and Canasta. \$12 bridge fee; \$10 canasta fee. Donations needed for the Bake Sale for all to enjoy!

October



Saturday, October 7—Time to be determined
Do you make the best chili? Let's see. Bring a pot of your finest chili to share or just come to judge the different chilies. \$5 buys you 3 votes. Enjoy the chilis while we watch the UT vs. OU Red River Rivalry football game.



November



Saturday, November 4, beginning at 10:00 a.m.
\$25 buy-in and you receive \$3000 worth of chips. We play to the last person standing. Trophies presented to 1-2-3 place winners.

CRAFT SALE

by Mary Riordon

Anyone interested in a Craft Sale ??

October would be a good month for TOTH to have a Craft Sale. If you are interested in being a vendor, please sign up in the reception area. Call me with any questions, 512-260-8876 (landline so no texts).

TOTH 2023 ATTENDANCE FACTS AND FIGURES

by Frank Mignoli

Membership continues to rise, with an increase of 14 above last month to 255. The weekly average remains steady at just a little under 170. For the month of June (a 30 day, 4 week month) attendance dropped to 677.

APR: 230

MAY: 241

JUN: 255

TALKING ABOUT TOTH

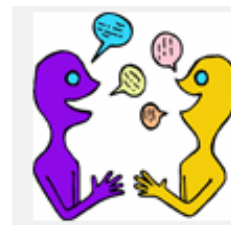
We have a number of different ways of communicating with each other in addition to personal contact — Blast emails, this newsletter, the hallway bulletin board, our website, and the forums. Except for the Blasts that the Director provides for things like unexpected cancellations, they all could benefit from increased participation. So pick your favorite and join the team!

Newsletter: We're always looking for articles of general interest — maybe local/TOTH history, interesting places to visit, things you've enjoyed doing that others might also like to do, and so on. If you submit things like this, they may not always be published right away, but they'll likely show up at some point!

Bulletin Board: This is one of the most visible ways we show what's going on, but it needs to be managed to create and place content, and to keep it current. If you have an artistic bent, this may be a good fit!

Website: Our website has a lot of information, and our webmaster (Katie Jones) does a great job of getting it all out there — but it needs to be continually reviewed to be kept useful and current. Old news is no news! So we need a review team.

Forums: The forums are a great place for conversations that can include members who can't really come to the Center, as well as those who do. Seen a great movie? Found a restaurant you'd recommend? Read a good book? Tell us about it!



CALENDAR NOTES

- Movie Day is cancelled for August.
- The Romeo and Juliet dinner is at 5:30 pm on August 3rd at Los Reyes, 251 N Bell Blvd #1118.
- Meet & Eat is at 1 pm on August 15th at HappyRito, 11066 Pecan Blvd #540 in Cedar Park.
- SALAD DAY CANCELLATION – due to the lack of salad makers and attendees, Salad Day is cancelled from the regular schedule. Soup Day will begin in October.



GAME DAY AND BAKE SALE FUNDRAISER

by Frank Mignoli

Come and have fun and help support TOTH at the Game Day and Bake Sale, Saturday, September 16th from 10 am to 2:30 pm. Non-members are welcome. Duplicate Bridge, Canasta and Mexican Train (Dominos) are the games. There will be a Silent Auction with gift cards for groceries and restaurants.

A light lunch will be provided during a break at noon, consisting of a variety of lunch meats to make your ideal sandwich, with bread, cheeses, condiments, chips, lemonade and tea.

Prizes for both the morning and afternoon games will be awarded for the Canasta and Dominos games, while money prizes will be awarded at the Bridge Games.

A Bake Sale (donations of individual pieces, such as cookies, candy, dessert slices, etc., are requested) and a Silent Auction will be offered.

The cost will be \$12 per person for Bridge, \$10 per person for Canasta and Dominos, to be paid in advance in order to determine how much food to purchase. A signup sheet will be available in the reception area on Tuesday, August 1st.

AUGUST 2023 VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

by *Ellen Fannin*

The August Volunteer of the Month is MarEllen Basalyga. Chances are, if you are a new member at Treasure of the Hills, you have met her. As the head of Hospitality for TOTH, almost every new member gets to know her as she welcomes them to our Center.

TOTH Membership

MarEllen laughs when she shares that she found TOTH as she was driving past one day and thought it would be a great place for her mother to become a member. Later, she was looking for a place to play bridge and mentioned it at lunch with friends. Sue Witovec mentioned TOTH. MarEllen remembered driving past the Center.

Here we are eight years later, and MarEllen is one our most involved volunteers.

Volunteer Activities

It would probably be easier to list what volunteer activities MarEllen has not been involved in. She has volunteered with, and continues to volunteer with, the front desk, meals (providing dishes as well as setting up for meals), the Senior Expo where she's in charge of the TOTH table this year, Movie Day, Meet & Eat, and of course, hospitality. Once she receives a copy of their membership application, MarEllen calls every new member to share about the activities and events they might be interested in and to help them find their place at the Center.

When asked why she volunteers, she says it's payback for all the help she has received over the years. She went through a time when she needed help. She was going through several surgeries and having to have them done in Dallas. Her friends in the Dallas area stepped up to provide her a place to stay, transportation and moral support while she recuperated. During this experience, she learned how valuable the goodness of others was and wanted to provide that whenever and however she could.

Getting to Know MarEllen

MarEllen retired from her job as an infrastructure provisioner with GTE (now Verizon). She laughs when she says that no one knows what that is, but she worked internally to provide cable and phone lines where needed. She was even a pioneer with Blackberrys and cell phones, a job she was not particularly fond of.

She is most proud of her family: two daughters, their husbands, grandchildren and even two great-grandchildren who make her laugh. The family spends a lot of time together and she admires the respectful, charitable and hard-working adults her children have become. (We all know that children learn by example.)

She loves quilting and is happy to share photos of her creations, which are beautiful. Her other hobbies are reading, volunteering, and swimming, although she's not able to swim lately because of an injury to her shoulder. She really misses it.

When she was asked what she would do if she had a week to do anything she wanted, her response was that she was already doing it; she does what she wants now and is perfectly content with her life. What a testament in how to live!

We are grateful to MarEllen for the time and effort she puts in to make Treasure of the Hills a friendly and open environment for all who attend! Congratulations on being our August 2023 Volunteer of the Month!

Favorites

Favorite Sport: Swimming

Favorite Movie: "Dr. Zhivago" and "Steel Magnolias"

Favorite Color: Red

Favorite Food: Anything Italian

Morning or Night Person: Night, definitely

Chocolate or Vanilla: Neither — White House (which is like Ben & Jerry's Cherry Garcia)





AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Lisa Girouard	02
Harold Weiss	03
Bob MacFarland	04
Becky Dewald	06
Elyse Peavy	06
Anna Barbetti	07
Valerie Hackshaw	08
Cindy Rollman	09
MarEllen Basalyga	10
Eileen Brown	11
Dave DiMego	11
Harry Woodruff	14
Dennis Grosse	15
Karen MacDonald	16
Georgia White	16
Jo Koerner	17
Rose Ann Doty	18
Terry Anderson	19
Dianne Thomas	20
Cindy Klein	22
Teresa Doyon	23
Michele Teter	24
Margie Burch	27
Nancy Kingston	29
Tom Barrett	31
Robin Bates	31



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

Mike and Sheila Perkins	01
Barb and Denny Clauson	02
Mark and Sheila Chadwick	11
James and Athanasia Brenton	12



NEW MEMBERS

Julian Bednarczyk
 Donna Cerna
 Porter Kier
 Betsi Newbury
 Lin and Rich Pastore
 Barbara and Darryl St. Marie
 Vicky Young

RETURNING MEMBERS

Stella Brittnacher
 Becky Dewald

FROM THE EDITOR

by Barbara Duprey

And here's another month with so much going on that there's no room for puzzles or any other incidental stuff! Certainly is a great problem to have, though.

Now that the database redesign is essentially complete, I've finally got time to get back to the cookbook. If anybody else has recipes to include, send them along! As noted before, this is a very basic cookbook, with no pictures and only using basic equipment and ingredients, nothing expensive or hard to find. Stay tuned for more on when it will be available.

Please send feedback on the Gazette to bduprey@austin.rr.com.

A hug for you, my friend



Rhoda Lloyd
 Ken and Mary Riordon
 Barb Elrod
 Gail Middleton
 Pat Thomas



Lois Carlson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Ellen Fannin
Vice President: (open)
Treasurer: Denny Clauson
Secretary: Ann Mignoli
Directors:

Frank Mignoli
Pat Thomas
Floresa Williams
Philip MacDonald

MANAGING DIRECTOR

Lisa Leirvaag
toth.director.tx@gmail.com

GOLDEN GAZETTE

Editor: Barbara Duprey
bduprey@austin.rr.com

COMMITTEES

Finance: Denny Clauson
Nominating: Gail Brennan
Hospitality: MarEllen Basalyga
Special Events & Resource Dev.: Ellen Fannin
Publicity & Public Awareness: Phyllis Walker

OPERATIONS

Building Maintenance:
City of Cedar Park
(contact Lisa Leirvaag)
Kitchen Mgr: Lisa Leirvaag
Supplies: Lisa Leirvaag
Membership:
Lisa Leirvaag
Jeanne Allison
Barbara Duprey
Receptionists: Mary Riordon
Bookkeeping: Lori Rainey
Memorials: Jan Clark
Sunshine: Jan Clark
Memorial Garden:
Lisa Leirvaag
Historian: Ruby Banks,
Gail Brennan
Library: Ruby Banks



ACTIVITIES

Breakfast *: Pat Fiero,
Frank Mignoli
Salad/Soup *: Frank Mignoli
Meet & Eat *: Lisa Chmelar,
MarEllen Basalyga
Romeo and Juliet *:
MarEllen Basalyga
Golf: Frank Mignoli
Sit & Fit: Pat Fiero
T'ai-chi: Dr. Tom Barrett
Crafts/Jewelry Making *:
Mary Riordon
Quilting Bee: Cindy Glenn
Movie Day:
MarEllen Basalyga

GAMES

Bingo
Monday: Barbara Duprey
Friday: Joe Gleaton
Bunco *: Ruby Banks
Canasta *: Bobbie McKissick
Cribbage: Stan DeRocher
Hearts *: Chris Campbell
Mahjong: Georgia White
Mexican Train:
MarEllen Basalyga
Pinochle: Jeanne Allison
Poker: Jerry Rubin
42: Nancy Kingston

BRIDGE

Duplicate Bridge *
Tuesday: Frank Mignoli
1st & 3rd Tuesday:
Sheila Perkins
Friday: Ken Birdwell
3rd Friday: Joyce Francis,
Sheila Perkins
Saturday: Carolyn Patrick
Rubber Bridge *
Tuesday: Ed Williams

* Signup Required



Contact information for these members is available —
call 512-331-6000.

August 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
* Signup Required # Signup Required & Pay in Advance	DAILY: 11 ⁰⁰ '42' 1 ⁰⁰ Cribbage 1 ⁰⁰ Bingo	DAILY: 9 ³⁰ RbrBrdg* 10 ⁰⁰ Canasta* 1 ⁰⁰ DupBrdg* 1 ³⁰ Poker	DAILY: 9 ⁰⁰ and/or 10 ⁰⁰ Hearts*	DAILY: 10 ⁰⁰ T'ai-chi 11 ⁰⁰ Mahjong 12 ⁰⁰ Quilting 1 ⁰⁰ MexTrain 1 ³⁰ Pinochle	DAILY: 10 ³⁰ Bingo 1 ⁰⁰ DupBrdg*	
		1 DAILY	2 DAILY + 10 ⁰⁰ Jewelry Making* 1 ³⁰ Bunco	3 DAILY + 5 ³⁰ Romeo & Juliet*	4	5
6	7 DAILY	8 DAILY	9 DAILY + 10 ⁰⁰ ExCmte	10 DAILY	11 DAILY	12 9 ⁰⁰ Senior Expo 1 ⁰⁰ DupBrdg*
13	14 DAILY + 10 ⁰⁰ BOD	15 DAILY + 9 ³⁰ DupBrdg* 1 ⁰⁰ Meet&Eat*	16 DAILY + 10 ⁰⁰ Jewelry Making*	17 DAILY	18 DAILY + 9 ⁴⁵ DupBrdg*	19
20	21 DAILY	22 DAILY	23 DAILY	24 DAILY	25 DAILY	26 9 ⁰⁰ Breakfast Day*
27	28 DAILY	29 DAILY	30 DAILY	31 DAILY		



Please Remember:
Sign in and out
Sign up for classes and meals

Missing something? Check the Lost and Found!

Gazette Deadline —
17th of each month



Treasure of the Hills Senior Center

408 Ridgewood Drive, Cedar Park, TX 78613

Phone 512-331-6000

Open Monday-Friday 9am-3pm

www.toth-seniors.com