



The Golden Gazette

December 2023

Treasure of the Hills Senior Center

Volume XXXIII

Number 12

TOTH TALK

by Ellen Fannin, MarEllen Basalyga, Lisa Leirvaag, and Ann Mignoli

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Season's Greetings!

As we enter this wonderful holiday season, we have a couple of things to bring to share. Thanks to the efforts of Denny Clauson and MarEllen Basalyga, our building will be very festive this year. The last week of November, we lit up our building with lights that adorned our trees and a beautiful banner with holiday greetings. Be sure to make a point to drive by the Center during the holiday season. If you get a good photo, share it with us!

We are looking for volunteers to help decorate for our Holiday Luncheon on December 13th. Contact the front office if you would like to help.

Holiday Lunches

We were privileged to have Salt Kitchen provide two free lunches for us in September and October. Unfortunately, there was an issue with the grant they received and they were unable to continue to provide the lunches for November and December.

However, several anonymous donors stepped up and offered to cover the cost of the Thanksgiving and Holiday lunches in November and December. Chef Felix gave us a deeply discounted price for catering the lunches so that we were able to enjoy a delicious Thanksgiving lunch, with dessert provided by Village Medical.

We are looking forward to our Holiday luncheon on December 13th that will again be provided by Chef Felix. The ABCD quartet will be our entertainment at the Holiday lunch, and we may even have some caroling along the way. We are so grateful to those who are covering the

cost of both lunches. What a blessing to have such generous members who love our Center! Thank you for your kindness in providing these two special meals.

We also want to thank those who decorated the tables for the Thanksgiving luncheon. The room looked so festive!

Please be sure to register for the Holiday lunch. We have to limit the number of participants to 80 due to space. If needed, we will keep a waiting list. The deadline to register is Monday, December 11th by noon, and this event is for members only. If you do register, but find you are unable to attend, please contact the office (512-331-6000) as soon as possible and let them know. Leftovers will be available at the end of the luncheon for \$1 per container.

Volunteer Opportunities and Event Ideas

We are always looking for members to volunteer and help out where needed. It takes many willing persons to make our Center function. All you have to do is look at the list of names later in the pages of the Gazette to know it takes lots of folks to make things happen.

If you want to feel more a part of the Center, volunteering is the way to do that. Contact the front office and we will find a place for you to volunteer!

We are always looking for new ideas for additional events and fundraisers. If you want to share your knowledge and/or talents, let us know. Even if it is just an idea for an event, contact the office and share it. It may be our next fun event.

(continued on Page 2)



TOTH TALK

(continued from Page 1)

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Thanks to the City of Cedar Park for their help with the holiday banner. They are also taking measurements for additional railings next to our sidewalks. Nick and his crew are always there to help us and we are grateful.

Thanks to all who helped and are helping with the Christmas decorations.

We are also looking for volunteers to help set up and decorate the tables for the Christmas Lunch. Contact the front office.

Be sure to always check the signup sheets and sign up for the activities you want to participate in.

BOARD SECRETARY REPORT

The Board discussed ‘no-shows’ at lunches and breakfasts. It was decided all members who sign up for a food event, must pay the fee at the time of sign-up. The fee will be forfeited if no show unless cancelled by the cancellation date. The receptionist is in charge of collecting the fee.

The Holiday outdoor lights are installed and plans are to have them turned on after Thanksgiving.

The Board is awaiting the review of the current Bylaws.

Only 25 members attended the “Annual Membership Meeting” in October.

The Board reinstated the \$1.00 charge for ‘take-out’ food. This will help defray the cost of the containers.



SIGNS FROM EL ARROYO

THE WORST PART ABOUT PARALLEL PARKING IS THE WITNESSES

MY SOULMATE IS OUT THERE SOME-

TREASURER’S REPORT

by *Denny Clauson*

October Income: \$2,835. The main sources of income were church rental, dues, and City reimbursement of utilities, for \$714.

October Expenses: \$3,852. There were no unusual expenses in October (Christmas lights installation deposit of \$400 was reimbursed from the Memorial Fund account).

Unrealized gain/(loss) :

Investment account decreased \$7,099;

Memorial account decreased \$1,815; additional decrease of \$1,914 was moved to checking for Memorial expenses.



TOTH received word of the passing of two former members, Nola Wyche and Ann Irwin.



MEMBERSHIP DUES

Members can renew for 2024 starting in November, and must renew by February 15th to retain membership privileges. New members who join in November or December get the rest of 2023 free.

The Rex Reed Benevolent Fund is available for people who are financially unable to pay the dues. Rex Reed, who established the fund, was a former member. If you or somebody you know needs this assistance, apply in writing to the Treasurer. The request may be approved by the President or Executive Committee.

WHERE, PUSHING A PULL DOOR

I DON’T APPROVE OF POLITICAL JOKES.
I’VE SEEN TOO MANY GET ELECTED.

BE THE PERSON YOUR DOG THINKS YOU ARE

CRUISE

by Mary Riordon

Our cruise on the Carnival Dream is April 20-28, 2024, roundtrip from Galveston to Key West and the Bahamas. We are planning to charter a bus from TOTH to Galveston. Check your passport to be sure it is current for 6 months after the end of the cruise. Contact Barry Atlas at Carnival Cruise lines for info on cabin prices: BATlas@Carnival.com or 800-819-3902 ext 82327. I am our local contact 512-260-8876 (no texts, this is a landline). Our group number is T1D1H1we are the "Recycled Teens"



CRAFTERS & HOBBYISTS!

Do you have a special talent for a craft or with a hobby that you can share with other TOTH members? Floral design, photography, cross-stitch, the perfect golf swing, making bread? Maybe a new game? What do you do to relax and have fun?

We would like to schedule some instructional classes that would be only one to two hours in length. It could be focused on one item or topic, or be more general. Come share your talents and knowledge.

Contact the front office if you are interested in being a presenter.



RECEPTIONISTS

by Mary Riordon

Interested in working as a receptionist at the TOTH front desk? It's a great way to meet people!

If you have an interest in being a receptionist for TOTH one or two days a week, please contact me at 512-260-8876 (no texts, this is a landline) or give your information to the receptionist working when you call TOTH. The working hours are 10 am to 3 pm on a Monday through Friday. "Subs" are also welcome. We will have training in January, 2024.



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

As we enter this wonderful time of the year, the Board and our Managing Director want to wish everyone happy and safe holidays. We have had a wonderful 2023, and we are looking forward to the new year knowing that it, too, will be wonderful!

So, whatever your faith tradition and celebration, Merry Christmas! Happy Hanukkah! Happy Kwanzaa! Happy Holidays! Seasons Greetings!

Ellen Fannin, President
MarEllen Basalyga, Vice President
Ann Mignoli, Secretary
Denny Clauson, Treasurer
Phil MacDonald
Frank Mignoli
Pat Thomas
Floresa Williams
Lisa Leirvaag, Managing Director



HOLIDAY TABLE DECORATION

We're looking for volunteers to decorate tables for our Holiday luncheon. Members interested in 'adopting' a table should get in touch with Lisa Leirvaag, toth.director.tx@gmail.com.



GIVING SPECIAL THANKS

by Marellen Basalyga

On November 2nd, ten of our TOTH Dinner Club members enjoyed a delicious evening at Snow Pea Asian Bistro. When we tried to pay, we found that another restaurant patron had anonymously blessed us by paying for our meals! We were overwhelmed by such a kind and generous gesture. All we can do now in recognition for this wonderful surprise is to pay it forward.

*Life is like riding a bicycle.
To keep your balance, you must
keep moving.*



MathemaGrids

From each of these words remove one letter, and then rearrange the remaining letters to find a new word. The resulting ten new words are related to each other.

1. ENERGY
2. OREGANO
3. CLEAREST
4. WEIGHT
5. OUTLIVE
6. EMBARK
7. CALMER
8. SOLEMN
9. VOIDING
10. ARCHERY

Puzzle Copyright © Kevin Stone [www.brainbashers.com]

(Answers)

- | | | | | |
|-------------|---|---|---|---------|
| 10. ARCHERY | = | A | = | CHEERRY |
| 9. VOIDING | = | V | = | INDIGO |
| 8. SOLEMN | = | S | = | LEMOM |
| 7. CALMER | = | L | = | CREAM |
| 6. EMBARK | = | K | = | AMBER |
| 5. OUTLIVE | = | U | = | VIOLET |
| 4. WEIGHT | = | G | = | WHITTE |
| 3. CLEAREST | = | E | = | SCARLET |
| 2. OREGANO | = | O | = | ORANGE |
| 1. ENERGY | = | Y | = | GREEN |

	×		-		=	34
×		+		×		
	+		+		=	14
-		+		-		
	×		+		=	19
=		=		=		
30		17		41		

Complete the grid using each of the digits 1 to 9 one time, such that the calculations for each of the three ‘across’ equations and each of the three ‘down’ equations yield the correct value.

Calculations are done strictly left to right (or top to bottom). Normal order of operations does not apply. For example, $2+5 \times 9 = (2+5) \times 9 = 63$.

‘x1’ is not used, although there might be a ‘1x’; ‘÷1’ is not used.

Puzzle Copyright © Kevin Stone [www.brainbashers.com]

CALENDAR NOTES

- TOTH closed December 25th and 26th.
- Movie Day is cancelled this month.
- Meet & Eat is cancelled this month.
- Dinner Club is December 7th at 5:00 pm at Longhorn Steakhouse, 1469 E Whitestone Blvd.
- Our Holiday meal, prepared by Chef Felix, is December 13th at noon (members only, no charge). The ABCD Quartet will provide entertainment.

FYI for early in January, 2024:

- TOTH closed January 1st.
- On January 3rd at noon there will be a presentation about scams by Constable Jeff Anderson from Williamson County. Questions are welcome either at the presentation or submitted to Lisa Leirvaag ahead of time. A soup lunch will be served; the cost is \$4. Sign up and pay in advance at the front office.



DECEMBER 2023



OF THE MONTH

by Ellen Fannin

As we approach the end of the year, it is only fitting that we acknowledge those who volunteer and lead the many activities at Treasure of the Hills. They devote their time to keeping the different activities and games going, and we appreciate all that they do. As a volunteer organization, we could not function without their efforts.

Below is a listing of all those who are the official leads for the activities. Included is the activity or activities they lead, how long they have been a member of TOTH and a little bit about them. Here are our December Volunteer(s) of the Month, in alphabetical order:

Ruby Banks – Bunco – Member since 2014 – For many years, Ruby took care of our library and the scrapbooks with the history of Treasure of the Hills. She has helped with the Memorial Garden and was Volunteer of the Year in both 2016 and 2018.

Dr. Tom Barrett – T'ai Chi – Member since 2022 – Dr. Tom leads the T'ai Chi group which is one of his loves along with football.

MarEllen Basalyga – Meet & Eat; TOTH Dinner Club; Movie Day; Mexican Train – Member since 2015 – It's easy to see why MarEllen was our August Volunteer of the Month. She also manages hospitality duties, contacting new members to help them get involved.

Ken Birdwell – Friday Bridge – Member since 2009 – Ken and his wife, Lois, will soon be celebrating their 54th wedding anniversary. Ken loves playing bridge and is devoted to the Friday bridge group.

Chris Campbell – Hearts – Member since 2023 – Chris is our incoming Vice President of the board and can often be found at the puzzle table in the front office.

Stan DeRocher – Cribbage – Member since 2013 – Stan is a past board member and continues his involvement with TOTH leading the cribbage group.

Barbara Duprey – Monday Bingo – Member since 1997 – In addition to leading the Monday Bingo, Barbara is the editor of the Golden Gazette, our monthly newsletter, and was the May Volunteer of the Month. She has been very busy revising the TOTH database and introduced the TOTH forum.

Pat Fiero – Breakfasts; Sit & Fit – Member since 2007 (with a few skipped years) – If you have come to the monthly breakfast, you've experienced Pat's culinary talents. She was one of the 2022 Volunteers of the Year, and loves knitting and scrabble. Pat continues to bless us with her time and talents.

Joyce Francis – 3rd Friday Bridge Group – Member since 2018 – Joyce plays duplicate bridge and leads the third Friday group.

Cindy Glenn – Quilting Bee – Member since 2022 – Cindy organized the quilters and Thursdays at noon you can find them working together creating beautiful quilts. She also enjoys board games, special events, dancing and exercise.

Becky Good – Friday Bingo; Pinochle – Member since 2023 – One of our newest members to lead activities, Becky is also responsible for the bulletin boards and is attending Chamber of Commerce events as our representative. Becky was elected to the board and will begin serving in January.

Nancy Kingston – 42 – Member since 2018 – Although Nancy leads the 42 group, she also enjoys playing Mahjong.

Bobbie McKissick – Canasta – Member since 2012 – Bobbie was part of the Red Hat Society at Toth and leads the Canasta group.

Frank Mignoli – Breakfast; Salad/Soup; Golf – Member since 2005 – Frank is currently serving on the Board and was Volunteer of the Year in 2015. In addition to cooking and serving at many of the meals at the Center, Frank loves golf, bridge and a cappella singing.

Carolyn Patrick – Saturday Bridge – Member since 2013 – It's evident that Carolyn loves bridge, but she also loves crafts having taught a class on envelope making in the past. She was the Volunteer of the Year in 2016 and enjoys pottery, needle arts, opera, plays and painting.

Sheila Perkins – 1st & 3rd Tuesday Bridge; 3rd Friday Bridge – Member since 2014 – Not only does Sheila love playing bridge, but she was responsible for organizing the ladies for duplicate bridge.

Mary Riordon – Crafts/Jewelry Making – Member since 2004 – Mary has served on the board as president, schedules and trains the receptionists for the Center, and is responsible for the craft shows. Her real love is cruising and she has organized cruises for TOTH members including the one coming up in April 2024.

Jerry Rubin – Poker – Member since 2011 – When he's not playing poker, Jerry enjoys attending plays and opera performances.

Barbara St. Marie – Friday Bingo – Member since 2023 – Barbara is also a new member who jumped right in and helps with bingo. She also plays bunco and mahjong and enjoys outings and cruising.

Georgia White – Mahjong – Member since 2010 – Georgia is an avid game enthusiast, enjoys not only mahjong, but pinochle and other games.

Ed Williams – Tuesday Rubber Bridge – Member since 2019 – Bridge is definitely one of Ed's favorite things to do, but he has many other interests. He enjoys marquetry (inlay wood) veneer art, music and theatre. He was at one time a rowing instructor.



DECEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Barbara Duprey	01
Kai Sami	03
Anita Falkofske Eaton	06
Karon Thiem	07
Bill Adair	08
Sharie Wiseman	08
Pat Daniels	09
Coty Guerra	09
Pat Zwernemann	11
Helen Holland	14
Kelley Schutze	14
Becky Goad	17
Charlie Drapp	18
Blanca Barrera	19
Dick Johnson	19
Stella Brittnacher	20
Patti Klein	21
Avis Burton	23
Madeleine Boskovitz	27
Anne Weiss	27
Mary Richmond	28



DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES

Connie and Jim Lane	06
Connie and Shane Hawkins	08
Jim and Stella Brittnacher	13
Michele and Michael Teter	23
Pam and Jay Jernigan	24
Elaine Allan and Chris Campbell	27
Karen and Mart Goodman	30



NEW MEMBERS

Chris Delamater
Anita Falkofske Eaton
Beda Johanson
Duane and Emma Sue Johnson

RETURNING MEMBER

Gloria Hoss

FROM THE EDITOR

by Barbara Duprey

What a great year 2023 has been! We've added new activities (and are always looking for more!), had several very successful fundraising events, and elected a slate of officers for 2024 to carry on the rewarding work of running our Center.

I'm sure you all join me in thanking all our Board members, past, present, and future, as well as our seemingly tireless Managing Director, Lisa Leirvaag. For 2024, we have

President — Ellen Fannin
Vice President — Chris Campbell
Secretary — Zane Lowenstein
Treasurer — Denny Clauson
Members at Large — continuing: Frank Mignoli and Pat Thomas; joining: Becky Goad and Sandy Williams

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

A hug for you, my friend



Floresa Williams
Zane Lowenstein
Gail Middleton



Al Lowenstein
J C Henderson

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President: Ellen Fannin
Vice President:
MarEllen Basalyga
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:
(Open)

OPERATIONS

Building Maintenance:
City of Cedar Park
(contact Lisa Leirvaag)
Kitchen Mgr: Lisa Leirvaag
Supplies: Lisa Leirvaag

OPERATIONS (CONT.)

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
Bulletin Board: Becky Goad
Website Review: Becky Goad,
Pat Daniels



ACTIVITIES

Breakfast *: Pat Fiero,
Frank Mignoli
Salad/Soup *: Frank Mignoli
Meet & Eat *:
MarEllen Basalyga
TOTH Dinner Club *:
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: Becky Goad,
Barbara St. Marie
Bunco *: Ruby Banks
Canasta *: Bobbie McKissick
Cribbage: Stan DeRocher
Hearts *: Chris Campbell
Mahjong: Georgia White
Mexican Train:
MarEllen Basalyga
Pinochle: (Open)
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.

December 2023

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
* Signup Required # Signup Required & Pay in Advance	DAILY: 9 ⁰⁰ Sit&Fit 11 ⁰⁰ '42' 1 ⁰⁰ Cribbage 1 ⁰⁰ Bingo	DAILY: 10 ⁰⁰ RbrBrdg* 10 ⁰⁰ Canasta* 1 ⁰⁰ DupBrdg* 1 ⁰⁰ Poker	DAILY: 9 ⁰⁰ Sit&Fit 9 ⁰⁰ and/or 10 ⁰⁰ Hearts*	DAILY: 10 ⁰⁰ T'ai-chi 11 ⁰⁰ Mahjong 11 ³⁰ Pinochle 12 ⁰⁰ Quilting 1 ⁰⁰ MexTrain	DAILY: 9 ⁰⁰ Sit&Fit 10 ³⁰ Bingo 1 ⁰⁰ DupBrdg*	
					1 DAILY	2
3	4 DAILY	5 DAILY+ 9 ³⁰ DupBrdg*	6 DAILY + 10 ⁰⁰ ExCmte 10 ⁰⁰ Jewelry Making* 1 ³⁰ Bunco	7 DAILY+ 5 ⁰⁰ TOTH Dinner Club*	8 DAILY	9 1 ⁰⁰ DupBrdg*
10	11 DAILY+ 10 ⁰⁰ BOD	12 DAILY	13 DAILY+ 12 ⁰⁰ Holiday Lunch* 10 ⁰⁰ Jewelry Making*	14 DAILY	15 DAILY + 9 ⁴⁵ DupBrdg* 11 ⁰⁰ Finance Cmte	16
17	18 DAILY	19 DAILY+ 9 ³⁰ DupBrdg*	20 DAILY + 10 ⁰⁰ Jewelry Making*	21 DAILY	22 DAILY	23
24 / 31	25 CLOSED for HOLIDAYS	26	27 DAILY 10 ⁰⁰ Jewelry Making*	28 DAILY	29 DAILY	30



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