

# HOUSTON DEAF SENIORS OF TEXAS NEWSLETTER

Volume 9

January 2008

Issue 01

## EDITOR'S MESSAGE

Hi, everyone!

I made a little mistake in the last Newsletter. On the recipe for Orange Glaze Cake, it calls for 4 eggs not one. Sorry for the confusion Thanks to Margie Scribner for calling and letting me know. Smiling.....



If you have any information, jokes, recipes, event, pictures, sports, or news that you want me to publish, please send them to me by the 15<sup>th</sup> of each month. Please keep articles to less than 300 words, due to limited space on the newsletter. My E-mail address is [nmorris726@comcast.net](mailto:nmorris726@comcast.net). Or you can mail to me at 15335 Falmouth Ave., Houston, TX 77084-1412.

Please note that Editor may, at her discretion, edit articles or news items for brevity and to correct errors. I'm going to do the best I can and I appreciate your patience. Please feel free to give me feedback so I can improve it.

Have a HAPPY NEW YEAR in 2008!

*Nancy Morris*

## Christmas Party

There were approximately 75 Seniors at this party. We had a brief meeting with President James Fair conducting it. Then, we had fun socializing till Hungry Farmer BBQ arrived. The food was good and satisfied us. For those that had a number under their plates, they won a gift. Everyone had a great time. Thanks to Patsy Walker for organizing this party. Also, thanks to Bubba Lorenz for taking the pictures.



# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

## January 1, 2008 (Tuesday):



Ring in the New Year with a new resolution. Enjoy the day watching football games or other shows that you like to watch. Play games with your families and friends. Start the new year enjoying life in whatever you do.

## January 3, 2008 (Thursday):



**Positive Interaction Program (PIP)** will hold a meeting at Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church, 9920 Long Point Rd. on Thursday by 7:30 PM. Our presentation topic will be "HPD Truck Enforcement". This informative presentation will update our group in regards to how the large trucks we drive next to on our roads are regulated for safety. Interpreter and captioning provided. Hope everyone can make it as there will be Door Prizes! Remember: This meeting will be on the first **Thursday** (Not Tuesday)!

## January 4, 2008 (Friday):



ASL Social will be at Deerbrook Mall, 20131 Hwy 59 N, Humble, TX 77338-2305 from 3 PM to 9 PM. Let's come to meet and enjoy chatting with your old and new friends. Any questions, please e-mail to Earl Johnson at [ejohnson127@comcast.net](mailto:ejohnson127@comcast.net).

## January 9, 2008 (Wednesday):



Houston Deaf Seniors of Texas will have a regular business meeting at West Gray Adaptive Recreation Center, 1475 West Gray, Houston, TX 77019 at 9:00 am till 1:00 pm. Please attend the meeting to hear about our next Field Trip.

## January 11, 2008 (Friday):



Our trip will go to Cleveland, TX to view the Cheesemakers Inc. Then, we are headed to Heritage Museum in Conroe, TX. Everyone needs to be at Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church, 9920 Long Point Rd. at 8:00 AM as the bus will leave at 8:30 AM.

## January 11, 2008 (Friday):



Houston Hand Talk Social will be at First Colony Mall, Food Court, 12300 North Freeway, Houston, TX 77060 from 5 PM till 9 PM. Let's come to meet and enjoy chatting with your old and new friends. Any questions, please e-mail to Roger Spivey at [spivey39@yahoo.com](mailto:spivey39@yahoo.com).

## January 17, 2008 (Thursday):



Houston Deaf Senior Citizens will have a fellowship and potluck at Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church at 9920 Long Point Rd. from 9 AM to 1 PM. If you wish to bring a covered dish, contact Evelyn Autry at 713-984-8186 TTY or Nancy Krone at 281-565-8614 TTY and let them know what you plan to bring.

**January 18, 2008 (Friday):**



ASL Social will be at Lee's Sandwiches, 8338 W. Sam Houston Pkwy. #128, Houston, TX 77072 from 3 PM to 9 PM. Let's come to meet and enjoy chatting with your old and new friends. Any questions, please e-mail to Earl Johnson at [ejohnson127@comcast.net](mailto:ejohnson127@comcast.net).

**January 23, 2008 (Wednesday):**



Houston Deaf Seniors of Texas will have a meeting and social at West Gray Adaptive Recreation Center, 1475 West Gray, Houston, TX 77019 at 9:00 am till 1:00 pm. Please bring your games if you wish to play during this time.



**LOVE FUND**

Zelma Curbello wants to thank Gwen Anderson, Brenda Burnette, Jane Dodson, Diane Duncan, Linda Hays, Ann Hornbeak, Nancy Krone, Delma & Carl Long, Early McVey, Jim & Martha Quinn, Gayle, J.C. & Beatrice Smith, and Betty Tefler for their donations to LOVE FUND.



Thanks to Gus & Zelma Curbello, Deborah Lokey, and Julie & James Spaulding for their hearty donations to LOVE FUND in memory of William Lambert's sister, Bernice L. Taylor. And Linda Page in memory of all deceased friends.

Anyone who wishes to donate money to HDSC Love Fund, Inc. (a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation) or HDST Newsletter should please make check or money order payable to either **Houston Deaf Senior Citizens - Love Fund** or **HDST Newsletter Fund**. And mail to:

HDSC Love Fund, Inc.  
c/o Mrs. Zelma Curbello  
9623 Tiltree  
Houston, TX 77075-4042

OR

HDST Newsletter  
c/o Audrey Leger  
P. O. Box 664  
Missouri City, TX 77459

**NEW SUBSCRIBERS:**

Welcome Andrew J. Harris, Wade & Velma Penny, & Sue Wilkison.

Wade & Velma Penny's subscription is gift from Rennon & Marcia Green. Rennon & Marcia, thank you for your generous gift.

**RENEWAL SUBSCRIBERS:**

Thank you for your renewal: Dorotha Altom, Pauline Corum, Billy & Ellen Crochet, Manuel T. Garza, Rennon & Marcia Green, Douglas Phillips, Eva Roach, Doris Roswell, Bob & Maxine Sheffield, Steve Sirois, Jerry & Lavern Smith, Pernella Smith, Phyllis & Edgar Smith, and Lewis & Joan Stovall.

Pernella Smith's subscription is gift from Billy & Ellen Crochet. Billy & Ellen, thank you for your generous gift.

**DONATIONS TO NEWSLETTER:** Thanks to the following people for their hearty support in donating to the HDST Newsletter Fund: Sidney J. Braquet, Ellen Crochet, Joy M. Gibson, Nancy Morris, Julius & Ruth Seeger, and J.C. & Beatrice Smith.

Also, thanks goes to Lennie Morton for her support in donating the crafts of Christmas ornaments and decorations to sell as the money goes to HDST Newsletter Fund. The beautiful crafts were made by her late husband, Joe.

# REST IN PEACE

## OBITUARY



**Regina Behne** at the age of 89 years old passed away in Pearland, TX on November 16. Funeral mass was held in Rosebud, TX with burial in Burlington, TX on November 19. She attended Texas School for the Deaf in Austin, TX. She is survived by her sister, Bernice Behne Kaulfus of Pearland, TX. Her most dear and loved friends were Christine McKinnon, Lennie Morton, and LaRue Clifton. The HDST newsletter was the highlight of her day each month when it arrived. (Editor's note: Evelyn Goertz, HT of Memorial Hermann Hospital System sent this message to me.)

**Dudley Joseph Mire, Sr.** (79 years old) passed away on Saturday, November 24, 2007 at 9:45 AM of leukemia. He retired from Holsum Bakery on Choctaw Street with 40 years of service and also worked part time with his son, Dudley Jr., at Cal's Bakery. Visitation was held at Holy Rosary Catholic Church, Gonzales, TX, where he was a native, on Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> from 9 AM until Mass at Christian Burial at 11 AM. Entombment was at Holy Rosary Cemetery.

Dudley is survived by his wife of 58 years, Shirley Bourgeois Mire whom he married on June 18<sup>th</sup> of 1949. He is also survived by 2 daughters, Wanda Mire of Gonzales and Lynette Mire McGrew & husband Zeb McGrew of Bogue Chitto, MS; a son, Dudley "T-Dud" J. Mire Jr. & wife, Mitzi Robert Mire of Gonzales; a sister, Mary White & husband Bob of St. Amant; sister-in-law, Mary Francis Mire of Gonzales; 8 grandchildren, and 6 great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his father, Omer C. Mire; mother, Mary Celeste Frederick Mire; 2 brothers, Clarence Mire and Oscar Mire Sr.; 2 half brothers, Dumatil Mire and Elliot Mire; and a half sister, Julie Furlow.

Pallbearers were Travis McGew, Dudley Mire III, Hubble Mire, Derrick Mire, Oscar Mire Jr., and Heath Babin. He loved working in his wood shop at home where he made many precious items for his family and friends. Dudley and Shirley loved camping and traveling in and out of the country. He was a parishioner of St. Agnes Catholic Church on East Boulevard and St. Francis de Sales Church for the Deaf where he served as reader, usher, and on the parish council.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to St. Francis de Sales or Hospice in His Care.

**Leo Albert Burke** (82 years old) passed away at the New England Home for the Deaf in Danvers, MA on Sunday, December 2, 2007. He was born on January 25, 1925 in Salem, MA to the late William & Lena Mailhoit Burke. He is preceded in death by his beloved wife, Elise Claudia Baris Burke whom he married on November 24, 1973; sister, Rose McCarthy; and brother, Frank.

Leo graduated from M. Clarke School in 1943 and went on to work at a family leather factory. Later, he decided to become a teacher and taught at the American School for the Deaf in Hartford, CT. He was active in sports, playing basketball and bowling at the Boston and Hartford Clubs for the Deaf. He served as president of the Boston Club for several years. Since he became involved with the first deaf community theater in the United States, he met and married Elise. In 1978, he came to Baton Rouge with his family to work at the Louisiana School for the Deaf where he taught woodworking for 13 years. He also coached the school's wrestling team. After his retirement, he enjoyed woodworking, watching sports, and caring for his family and pets. Leo was an active member of the Louisiana Association of the Deaf and the Deaf Action Center of Baton Rouge, serving in various capacities for those organizations for several years.

(Continue on next page)

He is survived by his daughter & son-in-law, Lucette & Jason Tyler of Overland Park, KS; son and daughter-in-law, Louis & Alice Burke of Baton Rouge, LA; granddaughter, Hailey Elise Burke of Baton Rouge, LA; sister, Rita Cyr of Danvers, MA; and nieces, nephews, other relatives, and many friends. Relatives and friends were welcome at the Greenoaks Funeral Home, 9595 Florida Blvd., on Friday, December 7 from 10 AM till noon. Visitation was followed by a private graveside ceremony.

**Mrs. Bernice L. Taylor** at the age of 80 years old passed away in Granbury, TX at a Hospice on December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 1 AM. Her body will be cremated. Memorial service will be announced later. Mrs. Taylor is the sister of William G. Lambert.

There was a memorial service for **Oliver Childress** on Saturday, December 8th at 10 AM which was held at Lakeview Baptist Church, 6100 Canal Blvd. in New Orleans.

Oliver Childress and his wife, Della Mae Childress were both founding members of Canal Blvd. Baptist Deaf Church that was established in 1978 under pastorate of Dr. Donnie Wiltshire with Lakeview Baptist Church being a sponsoring church. Not only was Oliver a member of CBBDC (formerly CBBCD - Canal Blvd. Baptist Church of the Deaf), but he was an active member of the Deaf Community in Greater New Orleans and also well known statewide among the Deaf community in state of Louisiana.

His earthly existence came to an end on the evening of November 29th in Fort Worth, Texas. A memorial service was held at a chapel of Westchester Plaza Apartments in Fort Worth where Oliver had resided for past 2 years. The service was conducted by Rev. Aric Randolph, Deaf pastor of New Life Deaf Fellowship church and also president of Southern Baptist Conference of the Deaf on December 1st.

The Childress family wishes to have a memorial service in honor of Oliver to be held here in New Orleans, the place where Oliver calls home (the home of the New Orleans Saints). The Childress family welcomes all of his friends and loved ones to attend.

In His service, Rev. John Lovas, pastor of Canal Blvd. Baptist Deaf Church.



On Monday, December 10 at 12:55, **James T. Sharer** (43 years old) was reunited with his brothers (Tommy, Jack Jr., and Robert Sharer) and mother, Polly Sharer. He was born September 24, 1964 in Dallas, TX to the late Polly Jean Pringle Sharer and Jack B. Sharer. Jim attended the National Institute for the Deaf in Rochester, NY. He worked for Sorenson Company as a regional manager.

He is survived by his father, Jack B. Sharer of Dallas, TX; uncle, David Sharer of Texarkana, TX; nephew, Eryk Sharer and wife, Michelle; and 2 great-nephews. Burial was at 1:30 PM on Saturday, December 15 in Restland Memorial Park. It was followed by a Memorial Service at 2:30 PM at John Calvin Presbyterian Church, 4151 Royal Lane, Dallas, TX. Submitted by Eryk Sharer (reryks@sbcglobal.net).

**William Blackburn** at the age of 94 years old passed away on December 12<sup>th</sup> at a nursing home in Austin, TX. His wife, Earline Blackburn, had passed away a few years ago. He worked at Texas School for the Deaf as a Teacher for many years. Funeral services have been handled with a private Family service only.

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## LEARNING SOCIAL SKILLS IN COLLEGE

There is a Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation which pours money to help students from low income families get a college education. One of the provisions of this foundation is described by a spokesperson: we want to make sure the kids are being properly socialized as they enter into the college experience, which is where most kids fail. Should not be a problem at either Gallaudet or RIT/NTID. But developing social skills at hearing colleges may or may not be a problem for many deaf students.

Taken from "DeafDigest Blue - December 16, 2007"

# NEWS

## **Vacation Trip:**

Submitted by Bob & Maxine Sheffield

We had a wonderful vacation on Freedom of the Sea/Royal Caribbean cruise for all the Deaf from Oct. 28, 2007 to Nov. 4, 2007. There were 3,800 deafies on the cruise. We enjoyed meeting many deafies and we felt like no hearing people were on the cruise. That vacation is the best one especially for our 50<sup>th</sup> Wedding Anniversary. Merry Christmas to everyone!

## **Positive Interaction Program (PIP):**

Submitted by Nancy Morris

On December 4<sup>th</sup>, Marni Rosen, City of Houston CERT Coordinator, came to speak to the Deaf Community about Community Emergency Response Team (CERT). The mission of this organization is "to have everyone participate in making America safer." This program started back in 1980's in Los Angeles, CA. If you are interested in being involved in training, the classes are weekly for 8 weeks. Each class is 3 hours long. Contact Marni at [marni.rosen@cityofhouston.net](mailto:marni.rosen@cityofhouston.net) to let her know that you are interested in the classes. They will provide Interpreters. You must commit yourself to these classes. CERT team work together and is a partner with the Fire Department.

Next, Lt. Steve Farris talked to us about "report cards". He stated that the Policemen have been going to Parking Lots to inspect people's vehicles to see if they passed or failed the test. With Christmas shopping going on, he told us not to leave things in our vehicles as thieves love to break in and steal them. To pass the report card, you should keep your windows closed, laptop out of sight, GPS put up, and keep gifts in the trunk instead of in the vehicle. By following these rules, you will be safer and have the gifts under the Christmas Tree!

## **Marshall, TX trip:**

Submitted by Nancy Morris

Pictures submitted by Roger Spivey & Audrey Leger

Thirty two seniors left on Thursday, Nov. 29<sup>th</sup> from Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church at 6:30 AM for this fantastic trip to Marshall, TX. Our first stop was New London Museum where lunch was ready for us when we arrived. After eating a delicious meal, we took a tour of the Museum with Thelma Hayes's sister, Molly Ward. She showed us the school that was blown up back in the 1930's. Many students and teachers passed away in that explosion caused from a gas pipe leaking under the school. We headed to Kilgore where we stopped at the East Texas Oil Museum at Kilgore College. That was a very interesting museum. The show that we saw told the story of how the town started as oil was found. We were taken back into time walking through this museum. Then, we arrived safely to LaQuinta Hotel to check in. Next, we went out for dinner at Golden Corral or Subway. Our guide for the Christmas Lights met us at 7 PM to show us the town and some neighborhoods. The Courthouse was an awesome sight with so many lights. An Ice Skating Rink was in front of it. The neighborhood had different themes for decorations. Then, we headed back to the Hotel to get rested up for the next day. Breakfast was delicious at our Hotel and enjoyed by everyone. Then, we departed for Marshall Pottery & Museum. This shop was huge as we spent a little over an hour there. A man was showing us how he makes the pottery items. A woman showed us how she paints the outside of the pottery items. It was all beautiful. Then, we arrived at the Scarlett O'Hardy's Gone with the Wind Museum. The Museum had pictures, doll house, dolls, books, and many other items of interest pertaining to the movie "Gone with the Wind". Our next stop was at Golden Corral or Kentucky Fried Chicken for lunch. Before arriving safely home, we stopped at Dairy Queen for our Ice Cream treats. It was a trip to remember as we had lots of fun.



More pictures from the Marshall trip:



More pictures from the Christmas Party:



**Jokes On Us:** Submitted by Zelma Curbello

As the storm raged, the captain realized his ship was sinking fast. He called out, "Anyone here know how to pray?" One man stepped forward. "Aye, Captain, I know how to pray."

Good," said the captain, "You pray while the rest of us put on our life jackets. We're one short."

---Bill Kerley, Houston

Jokes On Us: Submitted by Zelma Curbello

A child in Church for the first time watched as the ushers passed the offering plates. When they neared the pew where he sat, the youngster piped up so that everyone could hear: "Don't pay for me Daddy. I'm under 5"  
---Walter E. Welsh, Brookside Village



# HOUSTON DEAF SENIORS of TEXAS

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