

# HOUSTON DEAF SENIOR CITIZEN NEWSLETTER

Volume 12

December 2011

Issue 12



## CHRISTMAS DINNER / PARTY



**WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 14, 2011**

At Metropolitan Multi-Service Center



Love Fund board will be providing a combo Mexican Fajita (Chicken/Beef); the fixings along with tea and lemonade from Gringo's Mexican Restaurant. It will be catered with full service.

There will be some presents for the drawing and three prizes for the dessert contest. We need some Senior Citizens to volunteer bringing desserts. Anyone who wants to be in the desserts contest must tape your name under the pans or dishes, please. Thanks!

**Let's join together to celebrate with the  
Christmas spirit!**





## Calendar of Events

### **Birthday for December**

- 7<sup>th</sup> - Jose Ybarra
- 11<sup>th</sup> - Billy Buza
- 15<sup>th</sup> - Marie Hays
- 22<sup>nd</sup> - Sandra Manley  
Joan West
- 27<sup>th</sup> - Freddie Simerka
- 28<sup>th</sup> - Linda Garcia



### **Wedding Anniversary in November**

- 14<sup>th</sup> - Jim and Martha Quinn - 45 years (1966)
- 25<sup>th</sup> - Tom and Bellie Hollway - 48 years (1963)
- 31<sup>st</sup> - Carl and Delma Long - 43 years (1968)

**Friday, December 2:** HDSCLF will have their field trip to Santa's Wonderland (\$10) in College Station. Please meet at Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church, 9920 Long Point, at 1:30 PM as the bus will leave at 2:00 PM. We will go to Golden Corral in Bryan for dinner. Then, we will head to Santa's Wonderland as you will not want to miss it. We will be back at 9:00 PM or so. Please contact Gertie Sessions at 281-249-5284 or Julie Spaulding at 281-249-5276 for more information.

**Friday, December 2:** ASL Social will meet at Thai Spice Buffett, 2520 South Voss @ Westheimer, Houston, TX 77057 from 5:00 PM till 9:00 PM. Check out their website at [www.thaispice.com](http://www.thaispice.com) for menu. Please come and meet others that are learning signs or to chat with friends.

**Saturday, December 3:** There will be a Signing Santa Claus at Lone Star College-Cyfair, 9191 Barker Cypress Road, Cypress, TX 77433 from 10 am-12 pm in CENT 151-152. Here is a campus map to help you find the location: <http://lonestar.edu/maps-cyfair.htm>. People can come with their own cameras or we will take a digital picture for them and email it out to them for free. If you are an interpreting student, we may be in need of some elves too. For more information, contact Leyel Michon Hudson at [leyel.m.hudson@lonestar.edu](mailto:leyel.m.hudson@lonestar.edu).

**Tuesday, December 6:** Positive Interaction Program (PIP) will host their meeting at Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church, 9920 Long Point beginning at 7:30 PM. Deaf PIP meeting presentation will be "Neighborhood Services" by Catherine Flowers, Director of Mayor's Office of Neighborhood Services. Interpreter and captioning will be provided. Contact Officer James Sobota at 713-308-9071 (TDD), 713-308-9079 (V), or 713-308-9073 (Fax) or by email at [james.sobota@cityofhouston.net](mailto:james.sobota@cityofhouston.net). Door prizes will be given out.

**Friday, December 9 thru Sunday, December 11:** **Woodhaven Baptist Deaf Church**, 9920 Long Point, Houston, TX 77055 will present a Hillbilly Christmas at 7:30 PM on Friday; 2:30 PM and 7:30 PM on Saturday; and 2:30 PM on Sunday. Admission is free. Drama theater is performed in ASL with Voice Interpreters. There will be live animals. Please consider bringing a bag of non-perishable food to share with those in need during the holidays.

**Saturday, December 10:** **Houston Bass Club of the Deaf** will host their 4<sup>th</sup> Annual Holiday Party from 11:00 AM till 5:00 PM at Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray, Houston, TX 77019. Admission is \$10 per adult and \$5 per child under 12 years of age. Dinner will be serviced with side dishes. There will be door prizes and a silent auction. Please contact Larry Fewell at 866-970-8115 (VP) or Bubba Lorenz at 832-532-3726 (VP) or email at [hbcd68@gmail.com](mailto:hbcd68@gmail.com). Check out the website at [www.hbcd1968.org](http://www.hbcd1968.org).

**Wednesday, December 14:** **Houston Deaf Senior Citizens Love Fund** will have a Christmas Dinner and party at Metropolitan Multi-Service Center, 1475 West Gray, from 9:00 AM till 1:00 PM. The Board will provide a combo of Mexican Fajita (Chicken/Beef) with fixings. Tea and lemonade will be served. The food is being catered by Gringo's Mexican Restaurant will be serving us. Senior citizens can bring their favorite desserts to go with the meal. However, we will have a contest for the best dessert. If you wish to participate, please put your name under the pan or dish. Let one of the board member, Don Hahn, Audrey, Leger, or Nancy Morris know that you want to be enter in the contest. The Board wish you and your families a very Merry Christmas!

**Sunday, December 25:** **MERRY CHRISTMAS!** Enjoy the day with your families and friends. A time to be grateful being together.



**Saturday, December 31:** Celebrate the coming for the **New Year of 2012** doing what you enjoy on New Year's eve. If you plan to go out drinking, please get a designated driver to drive for you. Be safe and watch out of other drivers on the road.



## **Halloween Picnic on November 26<sup>th</sup>**



Approximately 40 seniors attended the picnic that was held at Tom Bass Park. We were very lucky as the Park had a mosquito spray truck come to spray the area early that morning. By the time we arrived, there were dead mosquitoes everywhere. The tables were cleaned off before everyone else arrived. Several seniors won prizes playing a game. It was fun and all enjoyed it.



Then, Linda Smith and Billy Buza won the contest for the best Halloween Costumes. Several others were dressed up for Halloween. Our lunch consisted of hamburgers and hot dogs with chips and of course, dessert. Since there was a "burn ban", Larry Fewell cooked the hamburgers at home. He wants to thank Robert Stevens, Felix Guerra, and Danny Hensley for helping to serve the foods. Also, he wants to thank all of those that helped clean up the area before heading home. It was a fun time as the weather was perfect for us to enjoy.

## Egyptian Museum



The senior field trip was taken on November 10<sup>th</sup> to the Houston Natural Science Museum to view Tutankhamun, the Golden King and the Great Pharaohs. This exhibition takes you back 5,000 years in time and explores what it was like to live



like a pharaoh through the "Golden Age," when Egypt was at the height of power and artistry. Exhibition spans 2,000 years and some of the most notable leaders of ancient Egypt. More than 100 artifacts from the tombs and temples of King Tut, his ancestors and contemporaries bring

this rich history to life. There were 47 seniors attending this and they had a great time learning so much. Afterwards, they went to Kountry Steak Kitchen for lunch. It was an enjoyable trip.

## N E W S

### King Size Bed for sale

Submitted by Diana Duncan

The King size bed has brass headboard and footboard. It's 2 years old. I'm selling for \$100 or best offer. Please call me at 281-761-2039. Thanks!

### House Cat With 2 Faces Lives 12 Years, Sets Record

Submitted by Audrey Leger



WORCESTER, Mass. – Frank and Louie the cat was born with two faces, two mouths, two noses, three eyes — and lots of doubts about his future.

Now, 12 years after Marty Stevens rescued him from being euthanized because of his condition, the exotic blue-eyed rag doll cat is not only thriving, but has also made it into the 2012 edition of Guinness World Records as the longest-surviving member of a group known as Januscats, named for a Roman god with two faces. Frank and Louie's breeder had taken him to the Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University, where Stevens was working at the time, to be euthanized when he was just a day old. Stevens offered to take him home, but experts told her not to get her hopes up. But Frank and Louie did not suffer from most of the common Janus problems. Stevens used feeding tubes to nourish him for three months, hoping that would also save him from the danger of choking on food going down two mouths. It turned out she didn't have to worry about him choking, because Frank and Louie used just one of his mouths to eat. Frank and Louie's two faces have a complicated relationship. Both noses work, but one mouth does not have a lower jaw and isn't connected to his one esophagus, so he can't eat with it. Stevens discovered that only after the cat got an MRI later in life. The animal can see out of only two of his three eyes. The middle one can't even blink and makes Frank and Louie appear to be staring even when his other eyes are closed. People often want to touch Frank and Louie's long, luxurious fur while Stevens is out walking him. Said deLaforcade: "You can look at a cat like this as either a very strange and bad omen, or you can look at this cat as a miracle."

### 10 Digits Phone Numbers – reminder!

Submitted by Stephen Pustka

Your toll free number (800 or 866) will no longer work after August 4, 2012. Use your local numbers only. Check out for more information.

<http://www.nad.org/news/2011/8/relay-consumer-alert-new-fcc-rules-toll-free-numbers>

## **From Deaf Times: TV NETWORK FOR DEAF VIEWERS RETURNS**

Following a 21-year hiatus, The Silent Network, a television network aimed at deaf, hard of hearing and hearing viewers, is set to re-launch as a Broadband Network on the Internet beginning November 1, 2011, according to Founder, President & CEO, Sheldon I. Altfeld. The network began in 1979 as a cable network with a slate of original programs presented in sign language, subtitles and full sound that ultimately was seen in more than 17 million households. Altfeld sold the network in 1990 to a group in San Antonio, TX, who operated as Kaleidoscope Television for a decade before going out of business in 2000. Initially featured on the new Broadband Network will be the entertaining children's series' "Happy Hands Kid's Klub," with comedian-mime CJ Jones, and "Grandma's House," with Fran Ripplinger. Other programs will include a talk show and a variety-entertainment series. Altfeld has put out a call for new and original programs that can join the current line-up of shows. Interested parties can contact him at [TheSilentNetwork@gmail.com](mailto:TheSilentNetwork@gmail.com) for details. "The time is now right to re-launch the network," Altfeld stated. "The Internet has become the new portal for special interest programming and I am thrilled to have the opportunity to get back into producing programs in sign language." The Silent Network will be seen at [www.thesilentnetwork.tv](http://www.thesilentnetwork.tv) and will begin as a free service that eventually will be advertiser-supported.

## **General Announcement by President Don Hahn**

At the general meeting last Wednesday in October, we went ahead with majority votes for membership with us three to remain on the board for another year. We have four positions open for candidacy. Those positions are – Executive Director, Activities Director, Communications Director and Accountant. At the meeting on November 9<sup>th</sup>, Larry Butler had accepted to become Executive Director. Any questions, please contact me at [deafglobtravel@gmail.com](mailto:deafglobtravel@gmail.com). Thanks!

## **DSA 2017**

President Don Hahn announced that we won the bid for DSA 2017 partnering with Austin Deaf Seniors and North Texas Deaf Senior Citizens.

## **Greater Houston Deaf Connections is proud to present**

Houston's First Annual - Deaf Women's Health and Empowerment Fair on February 11, 2012 from 8 am to 4 pm at Metropolitan Multi-Services Center, 1475 West Gray, Houston, TX 77019. The mission of this event is to promote mental and physical health for Deaf women by coordinating a day of health screenings, discussions on women's health issues led by content experts, addressing topics such as mental health and depression, domestic violence and discussing positive outlooks encouraging an empowered society of Deaf women. We are always accepting door prizes, giveaways, help with printing costs, promotional sponsorship (email your contacts and let them know about our wonderful event), things to put in ditty bags like flyers, coupons, pencils, make-up samples, information about mental health, physical health, empowerment and self esteem. Opportunities to underwrite in part are also available. You may confirm sponsorship after November 30<sup>th</sup> but please understand that guarantees your logo will be included on our shirts, posters, flyers, website, commercials, etc may not be possible. For additional information please feel free to contact 832-644-9730 and leave a message or [deafhouston.org](http://deafhouston.org). Thank you and we look forward to hearing from you soon. Deaf Women's Health and Empowerment Fair 2012, Procurement Committee: Jo Westbury, Alice Morewitz, and Sharon Grizzaffi

## **Here is a poem for you: Old Friends**

Submitted by Dinah McKenzie

Around the corner, I have a friend in this great city that has no end; Yet days go by and weeks rush on; and before I know it a year is gone and I never see my old friend's face, For life is a swift and terrible race.

He knows I like him just as well as in the days when I rang his bell and he rang mine. We were younger then. And now we are busy, busy men – Busy playing a foolish game, Busy trying to make a name. "Tomorrow, I will call on Jim, Just to show that I'm thinking of him." But tomorrow comes and tomorrow goes, and the distance between us grows and grows; Around the corner, yet miles away, "Here's a telegram, sir." "Jim died today;" and that's what we get and deserve in the end; around the corner, a vanished friend. Written by Charles Hanson Towne

## **DEAFSENIORS OF AMERICA 2013 CONFERENCE DATES CHANGED**

The 2013 Baltimore Conference Management Team (CMT) is announcing a change in dates from August 28 – September 3, 2013 to August 22 – 27, 2013 for the DSA 2013 Conference. Lance Fischer, conference chair, states that the new conference dates will prevent a time conflict with the Grand Prix auto races in Baltimore. During a meeting with the management staff of the Baltimore Hilton Hotel, the CMT members were offered these new dates because the hotel wanted to be able to host prospective attendees of the Baltimore's Grand Prix auto races during the Labor Day weekend, which had been originally reserved for the DSA conference. The hotel would then be able to return to its room rates for Grand Prix fans. The most important incentive is a reduction of room rates by \$10 per room per night. The new room rates are now \$159 per night for two people in a room, \$179 per night for three, and \$199 per night for four. The hotel also is offering the same room rates to all DSA conference attendees who may want to attend the Grand Prix auto races after the DSA conference ends. The CMT believes that this is an opportunity too good to pass up.

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## **JOE ED THOMPSON AND BUBBA LORENZ TEAM UP TO BE DOUBLES CHAMPIONS**

A couple of Texans, Joe Ed Thompson (a past Deaf Bowling Team USA member) and 'Bubba' Lorenz got together to take first place in mixed doubles event. Joe and Bubba shot 608 and 615 respectively plus a 195 handicap for a 1418 total. Following the top duo was Ron Loader and Barry Grossman, both of NV. They totaled 1392 with handicap. Taking 3rd was Delores McCarty (SoCA) and Yonisi Donegan with a combined 1376 score.

Then came Ed Abakumoff and Earnestine Coleman (MD) with a handicap score of 1371, Ed shot a 700 scratch series in this event. Next Theresa Gutierrez/Marvin Murray 1368, James White/Walter Holder 1363, David Thordsen/Gorman Low 1361, Violet Greenspon/Frank Sotelo 1357, Pipop Jarukesem/Norman Williams 1350 and last was Glenn Cissna/Alfonso Ruelas 1345. Honorable

mention: Bob Jones shot a 260 game and a 708 series, both were the highs in the doubles event.

## **THANK YOU FROM LARRY FEWELL**



I want to thank the seniors for cooking all the foods for our Thanksgiving Luncheon. It was delicious and enjoyed by all 60 seniors that came. PURPLE donated the foods and we appreciated it. Geoffrey Moore even stopped by to share the meal with us after making an announcement. It was good to see him. Thanks to Ann Wheeler for the decorations in the Thanksgiving theme. Those were lovely and made our tables festive. I also want to thank those that served the foods to everyone. I appreciated those that helped clean up the areas before leaving. THANK YOU!

## **RECIPES**

### **Cranberry and White Chocolate Treats**

Submitted by Ann Wheeler

- 1 1/3 cups reduced-fat graham cracker crumbs
- 2 TBSP sugar
- 5 TBSP butter, melted
- 1/2 cup dried cranberries
- 1/3 cup white chocolate chips
- 1/3 cup chopped walnuts
- 1/2 cup natural wheat & barley nut-type cereal
- 1 (14-oz) can fat-free sweetened condensed milk

Preheat the oven to 350 degrees. In a 13 x 9 x 2-inch baking pan, combine the graham cracker crumbs, sugar, and butter and press along the bottom of the pan. Sprinkle cranberries, white chocolate chips, walnuts, and cereal evenly over the graham cracker crust. Pour the condensed milk over the top and bake for 20-25 minutes or until bubbly. Cut into squares to serve.

## **Banana Split Dessert**

Submitted by Ann Wheeler

1 ½ cups reduced-fat graham cracker crumbs  
3 TBSP butter, melted  
½ tsp vanilla extract  
1 (12 oz) can cold fat-free evaporated milk  
¼ cup cold fat-free milk  
2 (4-serving) packages sugar-free instant vanilla pudding mix  
2 medium firm bananas, sliced  
1 (8 oz) can unsweetened crushed pineapple, drained  
1 (8 oz) container fat-free frozen whipped topping, thawed  
3 TBSP chopped walnuts  
3 TBSP chocolate syrup

Preheat the oven to 375 degrees. In a 13 x 9 x 2-inch baking dish, mix together the graham cracker crumbs, butter, and vanilla. Pat into the bottom of the dish. Bake for 10 minutes or until browned, then cool completely. In a medium bowl, whisk the evaporated milk, fat-free milk, and pudding mixes for 2 minutes or until slightly thickened. Spread the pudding evenly over the crust. Layer with the bananas, then pineapple, then whipped topping. Sprinkle with nuts and drizzle with chocolate syrup. Refrigerate for at least 1 hour before serving.

## **A message from Deaf Globetrotters Travel**

Submitted by Don Hahn

Thought you would want to know and try to experience this. United Airlines, Frontier, Virgin America, Jet Blue and Delta do have closed captions on their rear view seats. Certain models do have DIRECTV. Watch this tube at iDeafNews. So now Deaf passengers can enjoy travelling like everyone else. Thanks to Seth Gerlis at iDeafNews & Joel Barish at DeafNation.



## **School Lesson**

Submitted by Paula Szablowski

TEACHER: Donald, what is the chemical formula for water?

DONALD: H I J K L M N O.

TEACHER: What are you talking about?

DONALD: Yesterday you said it's H to O.

## **Editor's Message**

Judy Becker has accepted the position as Senior Citizens Editor of the HDSCLF Newsletter. Thanks, Judy, for being willing to take over. Everyone is to send her news, recipes, jokes, etc. at [hdsnews@yahoo.com](mailto:hdsnews@yahoo.com). She will begin with January's newsletter.



I want to thank everyone for being so patient with me for the past 4 years that I've served as Editor. It was a challenge for me and it was time for me to step down. I want to thank Bill Koch for helping me this year with changing the Newsletter's look. Also, want to thank Danny Hensley for being the proofreader. And, of course, I want to thank all those that helped fold the newsletter and stuff them in envelopes – Margie & Troy Graham, Phillip DeLozier, Juan Bazan, Danny Hensley, Debbie Hensley (Yes, this 4 years old granddaughter of Danny's helped me! She's now 5 years old!), Rochelle Simpson, Destiny Morris (My granddaughter), James & Lavern Fair, and Julie Spaulding. If I left someone's name off, please forgive me as my brain can't remember too much anymore! Smiling.....

*Nancy Morris,*  
Editor



*Merriest Christmas and Happy New Year*

## RENEWAL AND SUBSCRIBERS

### NEW SUBSCRIBERS

Barbara Grubbs (A subscription gift from her brother, Robert Yost).

Thanks to Robert Yost for his generous gift.

Thanks to Michael & Dinah McKenzie, Margie Scribner, and Melva J David for their generous gifts to their friends. (Editor's note: I'm sorry I left this off in November's newsletter.)

### RENEWAL SUBSCRIBERS

Glenn Brunson, John & Margie Coggins-Peckham, Alfred G Crager, Felix & Amelia Guerra Jr, Margo Jarreau, Ruth Montgomery (A subscription gift from Judy Becker), Val Morton, Melvia Nomeland, Eva Nell Roach, Tennie Sessions, Linda & Dennis Smith, Debra & Vern Sonnier, and Irene Williams.

Judy Becker, thank you for your generous gift.

### SUBSCRIPTION GIFTS:

Thanks to Larry Butler for his generous gift.

Thanks to all the subscribers for their support!

## DONATIONS

Anyone who wishes to donate money to **Houston Deaf Senior Citizen Love Fund, Inc.** (501c3 non-profit organization), please make check or money order payable to: **Houston Deaf Senior Citizen Love Fund**. In the memo part of your check, please write down what the amount applies to or you can send a note. Please mail to address shown below:

Thanks to those who donated to LOVE FUND for their generous support: Margo Jarreau and Dulce Vargas.

Again thanks to Betty Telfer for her support in donating her ceramic things to Audrey Leger to sell for Love Fund.

BIG THANKS to those who donated to LOVE FUND by providing Thanksgiving fixings on November 9th: Lavern & James Fair, Deaf Globetrotters Travel, Don & Fung Hahn, and Purple.

Thanks to all the subscribers and donors for their support!

Audrey Leger, HDSCLF Treasurer

### **Houston Deaf Senior Citizens Love Fund**

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