


Brazosport Newcomers

Web Page: <http://www.geocities.com/newtobrazosport>

e-Mail: newtobrazosport@yahoo.com



I hope you all had a happy Thanksgiving holiday. As non-Americans, my family and I are very fortunate to have good American friends who invite us to celebrate this special day with them. Maybe we should introduce a global. "thank you day" to thank our host country.

Many of our members enjoyed club activities in November. During the general meeting we collected \$85.00 for the SPCA, whose representative Christian Ramsay, provided an interesting presentation. About 10 ladies visited the Nutcracker Market in Houston, and a dozen of us had a lot of fun during the Bunco evening. Thank you, Kay Craft, for your hospitality and great prizes. Also, thanks to Cathren Armstrong and Pete Naylor for hosting wine night at their home. Sorry to see them leaving Lake Jackson. We wish them all the best in their new host country Kuwait.


Last but not least, I want to thank all the volunteers who helped to make the cookie sale at the Festival of Lights a big success. The club collected \$444.00. Blue Santa can expect 50% of this amount. You can read more about this later in the newsletter.

Please come to the December general meeting and celebrate the holidays with us. Join us in the fun of the gift exchange. Just bring a gift worth \$10.00. I thank those who signed up to bring a dish to share for this meeting. We are a little short on desserts, make your favorite recipe and bring it along.

There will be a cookie exchange as part of December's cooking club. Michele O'Connor will open her kitchen for this event. Sign up at the general meeting or email Lynleigh Muil. Just before Christmas Michele opens her home again for the last wine evening of this year. Let's toast to:

Happy holidays and all the best wishes for the new year.

Karin Van Haaren



December General Meeting
Tuesday December 9th at 9.30 a.m.
St Timothy's Youth Hall
200 Oyster Creek Drive, Lake Jackson

"Christmas Luncheon and Gift Exchange"

Join us for our Annual Christmas Pot-Luck Luncheon. If you have not already signed up to bring a dish to share please contact Kay Craft at: 285-3535
Don't forget to bring along a nicely wrapped gift or ornament to exchange .

The value of the gift should be \$10.00.



Board Members for 2008-2009

President: Karin Van Haaren 480-9970

**Vice-President: Birgit Hermann-Schier
480-0952**

Treasurer: Judy Scott 285-2220

Secretary: Joyce Libby 297-9193

Activities: Petra Wallbaum 297-6898

Hospitality: Kay Craft 285-3535

Newsletter: Michele O'Connor 480-0597

Publicity: Carmen Vicente 299-1278

Bowling : No Event Scheduled for December.
We are considering a Couples Bowling Evening. for
January.

If you are interested please contact either
Petra Wallbaum 297-6898 or
Carmen Vicente 299-1278



Bunco: December 10th 7.00 p.m.

at the home of Terri Fisackerly 299-6702

We are still looking for subs. If you interested please
contact

Group Leader : Michele O'Connor at 480-0597



Cooking Club: *Christmas Cookies - December 18th*

At the home of Michele O'Connor - 9.15 a.m.

Spaces still available.

*This is a hands on activity, so you will need to come prepared
with an apron, cookie sheets, electric mixer , measuring cups
and spoons. If you would like to bring an appetizer to share,
that would be very much appreciated.*

Group Leader :Lynleigh Muil 529-9799



Craft Group: December 1st.

Santa and Reindeer Banner

Group Leaders: Marion Dorman 292-0293 or Becky

James 258-3510

Location and time to be announced



English Conversation:

10th 1.00 pm at Nancy Ruiz's home

17th 9.00 am at Carmen Vicente's home

Would you like to improve your English speaking skills.? Then join this small , fun group as they get together twice a month. If you are interested please contact Group Leader : Judy Scott 285-2220



Fishing Club: For further information please contact:

Group Leader : Tom Betczynski at 285-9139

Lunch Bunch : December 15th at 11.30 am

Meeting place: River Point Restaurant,
111 Abner Jackson Parkway.

All members welcome

RSVP deadline December 11th.

Group Leader Marion Dorman 292-0293



Mommy & Me: We are looking for a leader for this group.

If you are interested please contact:

Activity Chair : Petra Wallbaum at 297-6898

Spanish Conversation : December 3rd
9 am. at the home of Carmen Vicente
Would you like to improve your Spanish speaking skills? If so contact
Group Leader Carmen Vicente at 298-1278



Walking (indoors) : If you are interested in joining this group they meet every Monday through Friday at 9.00 a.m. outside El Chico at the Mall. please contact:
Group Leader Terri Fisackerly at 299-6702

Walking (outdoors): If you are interested in joining this group please contact:
Group Leader Becky James 258-3510



Wine Evening: Saturday December 20th
At the home of Dennis & Michele O'Connor.
480-0597

Wine Selection - Australian
All members are welcome to participate , just bring along a dish to share and a bottle of wine.

If you are interested please contact:
Group Leader: Kathryn Cerk 297-2071

RSVP by: December 17th



Festival of Lights

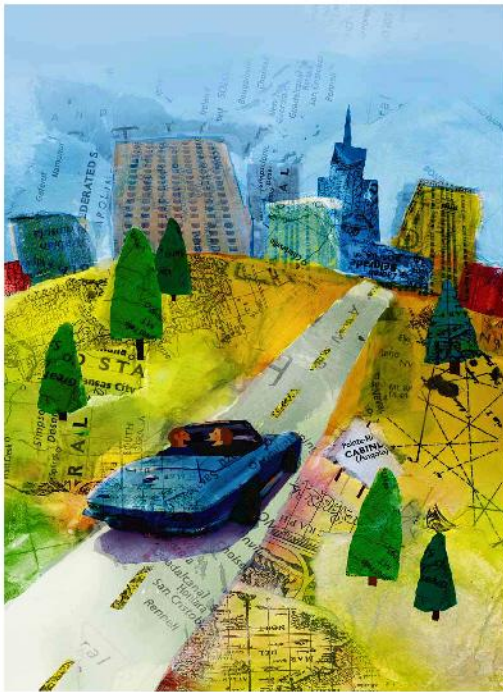
Thanks to the efforts of the following people our
"Cookies from around the World" booth
was very successful.

Ana Aguir	Gaby Aheimer
Kay Craft	Carmen Dominguez
Marion Dornan	Terri Fisackerly
Kristin Gamble	Birgit Hermann- Schier
Becky James	Joyce Libby
Ceci McGrath	Lynleigh Muil
Michele O'Connor	Nancy Ruiz
Judy Scott	Laura Schiffino
Karin Van Haaren	Carmen Vicente
Petra Wallbaum	

Non-Members:
Becca Cerk (and Friends) Emma Herawati
Dennis O'Connor Fred Scott

We raised \$444.00.
So give yourselves a big pat on the back!

**50% of the total will be donated to
The Blue Santa Charity**



Day Trip: January 29th
Join us as we visit the
Menil Collection
located at 1515 Sul Ross Street,
Houston

This fine art collection includes works
from Tanguy, Magritte, Max Ernst,
Duchamp, Matisse, Picasso and many
others.

Admission is Free!

We will carpool and have lunch (of course!)

So mark your calendars.

We will meet at the lot on Mall Drive behind the
new Water Tower at 9 a.m to carpool.

For further information contact Petra Wallbaum
297-6898

Upcoming Area Events

December 2008

Lake Jackson

- | | |
|----------------|---|
| 4th | Holiday Tree Festival, Lake Jackson information 297-5577 |
| 5th | Gulf Coast Bird Observatory Holiday open House |
| 6th | The Nutcracker Ballet Brazoswood High School Information 832-830-5987 |
| | Swim with Santa 1.00 pm LJ Recreation Center |
| 9-12th | Christmas in the Park Clute Municipal Park |
| 11-13th | Festival of Carols 6.30 pm The Clarion for information 230-3658 |
| 13th | Christmas Open House, Varner Hogg Plantation 6.00 pm information 345-4614 |
| | Christmas Boat Parade, dusk, San Bernard River information 964-4402 |
| 14th | Salvation Army Toy Run motorcycle Run, information 849-0121 |
| | Brazosport Symphony Orchestra Concert 3.30 pm "It's the most Wonderful Time of the Year" The Clarion at Brazosport College |



Some of the many members who helped make our booth at the Festival of Lights such a success!



Michele O'Connor with one of her original paintings at the Brazosport College Exhibition.



Karin Van Haaren's (Our president) original artwork on display at the recent Art exhibit at the Brazosport College . Below: The dude herself Cowgirl Karin at the ranch ! A woman of so many talents!



Members learning how to shape Gnocchi from the expert Laura Schiffino .Lots of fun and laughter at the the recent Italian Cooking Club event





December Birthdays

December 13th - Birgit Hermann-Schier

December 29th - Nancy Ruiz-Castillo

December 31st - Kathryn Cerk

Privacy

Please don't forget our personal details are just that, personal, they should be used for Newcomer's business only. If you wish to send an e-mail to all our members please send it to a board member first and they will distribute it to the full membership correctly via our website. If you forward it yourself it is possible that some members may not receive it.

Recipes

Each month we have some wonderful items brought to Newcomer's for brunch. We would like to publish the recipes for these in the following months newsletter and on a page on the website so that others can refer to them. PLEASE, when you bring your brunch item, take a moment to write down the recipe, or e-mail it to the Newsletter chairperson, so that everyone can enjoy your recipe again and again.

Sunshine Fund

Please contact the club secretary, Joyce Libby, if you know of any member who is ill or has either a happy or sad event in their lives that it would be nice for the club to acknowledge. We have funds in our budget for this purpose.

Babysitter Service

If you plan to use the babysitting services during the meeting, please contact us at newtobrazosport@yahoo.com by the Wednesday prior to the meeting. We are allowed 12 children per meeting and we do need to know the number of children so we can provide snacks. The cost per child is \$3.00, \$8.00 for 3 children.

Newsletter Information

We are always looking for events to announce in the newsletter. Just e-mail me at michele@oconnorsmail.com and we will include community news and news of members.

November

January

December 2008

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	9.00 a.m. 1 Craft Group 9.00 a.m. Walking Group	Deadline for 2 babysitting service at General Meeting	9.00 a.m. 3 Spanish Conversation	4	5	6
7	9.00 a.m. 8 Walking Group	9.30 a.m. 9 General Meeting (Christmas Party) Gift Exchange/Pot Luck	9.30 a.m. 10 English Conversation 7.00 p.m. Bunco	11	7.00 pm 12 Elizabethan Madrigal Feast	13
14	9.00 a.m. 15 Walking Group 11.30 a.m. Out To Lunch	16	9.30 a.m. 17 English Conversation	9.15 am 18 Cooking Club	19	7.00 p.m. 20 Wine Evening
21	9.00 a.m. 22 Walking Group	23	24	25 	26	27
28	9.00 am 29 Walking Group	30	31 			

December

February

January 2009

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1 	2	3
4	9.00 am Walking Group	5	6 Deadline for babysitting service for General meeting 9.30 am English Conversation	7 9.30 am Board Meeting	8	9 10
11	9.00 am Walking Group	12	9.30 am General Meeting	13 9.30 am Spanish Conversation 7.00 pm Bunco	14 15	11.30 am Lunch Bunch 16 7.00 pm Wine Evening 17
18	9.00 am Walking Group	19	20	9.30 am English Conversation	21 22	23 24
25	9.00 am Walking Group	26	9.30 am Board Meeting	27 9.30 am Spanish Conversation	28 9.00 am Day Trip	29 9.30 a.m. Craft Group 30 31