



## INSIDE SUNSHINE NEWSLETTER

January 2025

### SEPO Board

The New Year is upon us, and as you read this the Holiday rush is winding down. Hope everyone had a safe and joyous Holiday Season!!!!

The next Board Meeting is Monday, January 6<sup>th</sup> and the "Residents & Directors" Meeting is Tuesday, January 7<sup>th</sup>. Meetings are at 1:00 pm and at Retzlaff Hall.

The Nominating Committee has been hard at work and we are looking forward to seeing the list of candidates they have for the Board openings. Please consider running for the Board!!

Have a Great Year!!!!

- Jim Kennedy, SEPO Board President

### Celebration of Life

The Celebration of Life for Jack Baethke is on Sunday, December 29th from Noon to 2:00 in Retzlaff Hall. Please come to share a favorite memory about "the guy who always said "Hi" as he played on his iPad in his garage waiting for the neighborhood dogs to come by for a visit and a treat". A light lunch will be served. Hope to see you there.

- Jan Baethke

### SEPO Election Committee

I'm sure you all know by now I volunteered and was appointed by the Board as the Chairperson of the 2025 SEPO Election Committee. I want to thank those who have already volunteered to help. We could get everything done with the number of volunteers so far, but if I could get four or five more of you to step up, I wouldn't anticipate anybody being burdened with too many tasks.

Thanks to everyone who has replied to the emails concerning "Directory verification" and "where to address your Ballot packet to". I'm working with Valerie to get as much done prior to receiving the SEPO Board candidate names at the January 7 "Residents & Directors" meeting. Also, I will be reporting on some of the 'ins and outs' of this committee at this meeting. Hope to see you there. Contact me anytime with questions at my info below.

- Beth Parrish, 2025 SEPO Election Committee Chairperson

314-960-6710      [2025sepoelecomm@gmail.com](mailto:2025sepoelecomm@gmail.com)

### Architectural Control Committee (ACC)

Please remember that if you are planning to change anything on the outside of your home you need to send in an ACC request and have our committee look it over. We meet every two weeks on the 1st & 15th of each month. This is an HOA requirement and the forms are located on the wall in the library or ask Valerie (SEPO Office) for one. Thank you in advance for this courtesy to our community.

Terry Lacy

ACC Chairman



**Women's Club: From the President**

Happy New Year! The Women’s Club is buzzing with excitement as we dive into a lively and dynamic season. A heartfelt thank you to all our dedicated volunteers and participants for making this time so remarkable!

In December, we celebrated the holiday season with a delightful craft and bake sale, thanks to the tireless efforts of Terry DeBacker and Nancy Lyne. They made sure this event became a cherished Sunshine tradition.

The Women’s Club also organized a joyful community Christmas Day dinner, featuring the festive spirit of Santa Claus and lively music. A special thanks to Cindy Hulswit and her committee for their hard work in bringing this event to fruition.

As we welcome the New Year, we look forward to celebrating with Patricia Lay and her team, who will provide snacks, music, and a toast to new beginnings! Please sign up for this event in the Library.

Looking ahead to January, we are thrilled to announce our beloved pop-up breakfast on Saturday, January 4th. Join us from 7:30 AM to 10 AM for a scrumptious spread that includes eggs, bacon or sausage, biscuits and gravy, orange juice, and coffee. We can't wait to see you all there!

On Tuesday, January 7th, we will be offering a lunch for sale from 12 to 1 PM. We encourage you to join us for lunch and stay for our community yearly “Residents & Directors” meeting at 1 PM! More details will be shared soon.

On January 11th, we will host a special event welcoming newcomers, organized by Irene Phillips and her committee. This evening will include formal introductions, dinner, and dancing, so stay tuned for more information from Irene!

We are also excited to announce that Marleen Hall will be leading our upcoming "Taste of Sunshine" event on January 25! This gathering is a wonderful opportunity for us to come together as neighbors and celebrate through food. We invite everyone to bring a favorite dish from their home state or country to share, creating a delightful culinary experience. We can't wait to explore the diverse flavors and learn more about each other! Keep an eye out for additional details from Marleen!

Additionally, we are thrilled to introduce a new event in February called "Brushes and Bubbles," led by Heidi Dill. This sip-and-paint style gathering will give participants the chance to create their own canvas artwork under Heidi's expert guidance. The “bubbles” are up to you—so feel free to bring your favorite beverage! This promises to be a uniquely creative and enjoyable experience for our entire community. Stay tuned for more information from Heidi!

Our last Women’s Club meeting was a festive highlight, featuring an ugly sweater contest. Congratulations to Anita Smith for winning first place, with Gloria Voth in second and Patricia Lay in third!



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The Women's Club is proud to announce that we are donating up to \$2,000 to support Susan Ulrich's initiative to create a beautiful landscape outside our community gates. Thank you for all of your participation and contributions to Women's Club events. Because of your generosity, we are able to assist those that make our community beautiful. Thank you!

We look forward to seeing you at our next Women's Club meeting on January 17th at 9 AM. We'll discuss upcoming events, community projects, and enjoy some great refreshments while catching up. We hope to see you there!

As always, if you have any questions or need assistance, feel free to reach out to me.

- Pam Davis, Women's Club President  
214-516-4855

### Women's Club: NYE Party



Tuesday, December 31st 8pm – 12am

\$5 Virtual Tickets on sale now in the library!

Bring snacks to share

BYOB

Providing Lemonade and Ice  
and Champagne toast.

Music by DJ Phillip for your dancing pleasure,  
and surprises!

A Fundraiser by the Women's Club!

### Killer Bees (Quilting Club)

Our Thursday morning quilting group, The Killer Bees, continues to meet at 9:00 AM with some days staying to sew a scheduled project into the afternoon. Projects like a table runner and/or a woven fabric



basket besides some quilting information to share. Any questions please contact me, Jan Baethke, or just come and join us.

- Jan Baethke

### Sunshine Garden Club

Sunshine Garden Club announcing:

Wild August Flower Farm Tour  
16803 Garrett Road, Harlingen, TX  
6 min via Stuart Place Rd

#### **Field Trip: Tuesday, January 14**

Jennifer Wilson's passion for gardening blossomed into the ownership of half an acre, dedicated entirely to cut flowers. The journey started with Jennifer and her family transporting a trailer packed with hundreds of blooms to various markets throughout the Valley. Jennifer remarked that managing three kids, along with a trailer full of flowers, was quite a challenge. So, they transformed their backyard into a farmer's market, allowing locals to buy flowers straight from the farm.

Jennifer Wilson encourages the community to take up gardening. "It will not only change your life but also your living room decor."

#### **January 14, 2025**

**Gather: 10:30 am our library parking lot**

**Tour starts: 11 am (1 hour walking tour)**

After tour visit the gift shop and feel free to bring a snack or lunch -Dessert provided while visiting in the pavilion.

**Signup sheet located in Library.**

Join us to experience the beauty of these flowers.



- Susanne Ulrich





# BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

SAVE THE DATE!!!!

## Brett Dana

Four number one hits on the radio from 1995 to 1998



Music, Parody, Comedy

Sunday February 16<sup>th</sup>, Retzlaff Hall

2PM, doors open at 1:30

### Neighborhood Watch & CERT



Sunshine Neighborhood Watch – CERT Team  
(Est. 2008)

SCCE - Harlingen's premier NW & CERT Team



*Lights On -- Lock Up and Look Out for each other!*



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### Neighborhood Watch -- Newsletter - January 2025

**Lenore J. Combs, Coordinator 956 245 1276 LJCombs44@gmail.com**  
**Sgt. Manny Tovar, Officers Lopez, Bravo and Moreno, HPD District Rep.**

**Mary Grandy** – NW Patrol Schedule

**Liz Dietrick** - Treasurer

**Jean Burgoine** – NW Car Decals and NW Golf Cart Decals

**Marian Young** – will check the Patrol Flashlights (batteries) weekly

**Tom & Debbie Gossman** – will check McGruffmobile Golf Cart batteries monthly

**Hoppy & Jean Hopkins** – assist with NW evening Golf Cart Patrol orientation

**Judy Boyachek** – Sunshine Street Strutters – information contact (or Lenore)

Happy Holidays to one and all.

Our next NW-CERT meeting will be on Monday 20 January 2025. 3 pm -Retz Hall. It is always the 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of the month. Everyone is always most welcome.

The National Sheriffs Association created the National Neighborhood Watch in 1972 to assist citizens and LE (law enforcement). In the aftermath of the terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001, strengthening and securing communities became more critical than ever. Since then, NW programs have responded to the challenge expanding beyond the traditional crime prevention role to help neighborhoods focus disaster preparedness, emergency response and terrorism awareness. Today the National NW recognizes Crime Watch, Business Watch and Neighborhood Watch.

The original purpose of NW was to increase awareness in communities about ways to protect homes from burglaries. NW volunteers focus on observation and awareness as a means of preventing crime. The benefits of a Neighborhood Watch reduce the risk of becoming a victim of crime. Participants are taught take preventive measures to substantially decrease the likelihood of becoming a crime victim by learning how to be better prepared and reduce the risks of home invasions, vandalism, personal assault and fraud.

schedules and when we are away, we feel more secure about our property. Being better prepared to respond to suspicious activity is the goal. When a resident falls victim to an attack on their home they feel vulnerable and usually do not recover their stolen property. The communication between community and the Police is critical. Rained Law Enforcement Officers should be the only ones to ever take action. Part of the NW is learning how to id and report suspicious activity and to provide the Police with the info they need to resolve the issue. Knowing your neighbors promotes getting to know their patterns. We also learn their activity and

Reducing fear of crime and making our area more livable is a plus and we also address fire safety etc. Reporting suspicious activity or a crime in progress..... The PD needs fast and accurate info about suspicious activity. Here is how you can help. Give the Harlingen or the Combes Police your name, address etc. Describe the event briefly and state concisely what happened and who did it. State if the crime is in progress or if it has already occurred. Describe the suspect's sex, race, age, height weight, beard or mustache and distinctive characteristics. Any weapons?

If there is a vehicle(s) involved, give a description - make, model, year, license plate, special markings, dents, and direction it went.



Law enforcement can instruct us on how to help us protect our property and, prevent crimes of opportunity, not just to keep crime rates low but to also increase the likelihood of recovering stolen property.

Sincerely,

- Lenore J Combs, NW - CERT Coordinator

956 245 1276



**EVERYONE INVITED**

## **NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH MEETING**

**Monday 20 JANUARY 2025 3PM**  
**RETZLAFF HALL**

### **FROM THE EDITOR**

Here we are – headed into 2025 already. How long is it going to take before you stop writing 2024 on those checks! I know I usually goof up at least one or two.

Anyway, I encourage you to keep a copy of this Newsletter handy as it is filled with all sorts of information about upcoming events – both in January and beyond. And as always, as additional details are finalized for your events, they can be sent to the community at any time via [sepoenews@sunshinecountryclub.com](mailto:sepoenews@sunshinecountryclub.com). Now let's get out there and have some fun.

**Beth Parrish**

**SEPO Newsletter Editor**

**Email: ([seponewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:seponewsletter@gmail.com))**

**314-960-6710**