



LEOH (Life Enrichment of Houston)

April 20, 2023 Newsletter



WELCOME to SPRING at LEOH - Our 42nd Year!
Fellowship Hall, Bellaire UMC



IN MEMORIAM

LEOH member Luke Howe's wife passed away recently.



MORNING ACTIVITIES AND SPEAKERS, BEGINNING AT 9:30 a.m. — FELLOWSHIP HALL

REGISTRATION TABLE: Members may pick up their name tag on the way in, just inside Fellowship Hall, then return them when leaving LEOH. Please note: The Spring membership log has been finalized; however, copies may not be available to members this week, due to technical difficulties (computer woes). If they are available, please check your own information for accuracy—a pesky keystroke error or autocorrection may have snuck in. If so, let President Ken Euler or Jane Shinn know.

REFRESHMENTS (coffee, tea, water, snacks) are available to everyone prior to and between speakers.





10:00 a.m. WHAT'S UP HOUSTON? Malcolm McCorquodale, President, Houston Genealogical Forum, will explain the Forum and its purpose of providing a range of subjects for genealogical research success.

11:15 a.m. TOWN HALL: Praveena Lakshmanan and Lili Bauerlein, Community Engagement Program, Refugee Services (Interfaith Ministries), will discuss how the program works, and present opportunities for volunteers to participate. Resettlement is in conjunction with the US State Dept. and Episcopal Migration Ministries for legal refugees.



LEOH members: Please remember to silence your phones (and yourself) during the speaker presentations!



LUNCH AND AFTERNOON ACTIVITIES

12:15 p.m. WEEKLY LUNCH DRAWING (Fellowship Hall), ANNOUNCEMENTS, and PRAYER/INSPIRATIONAL THOUGHT
On the first Thursday that a member attends, they may add their name to the LEOH bowl upon arrival that morning. Each Thursday, the lucky person whose name is drawn just prior to lunch will enjoy a free lunch (last week's winner was Rosalie Thurbon). Mary Mahon offered a prayer just prior to lunch.

LUNCH (Fellowship Hall)

Enjoy a sub, along with a cookie and chips, from **Firehouse Subs**, plus a drink and ice cream cup! All for \$7. Any leftover subs are \$2 each. (Donations are always welcome, too!)



12:45 p.m. SOCIAL BRIDGE (Fellowship Hall) coordinators Paula Koehn/Jean Vorhaben

1:00 p.m. YEAR-ROUND BRIDGE (Room 131) coordinator Pat Roberts

1-3:30 p.m. WATERCOLOR PAINTING (Room 122) instructor Marie Schaer

12:45-1:30 p.m. SPANISH CLASS (Room 123) instructor Maura Rodriguez (when in-person class is in session)





YOUR LAST REMINDER ABOUT OUR LEOH SERVICE PROJECT FOR THIS THURSDAY!



These refugees desperately need just very basic items to begin and sustain their lives here. Examples of item needs include: kitchen, bath, personal hygiene, cleaning supplies, any other useful items you can think of! Your box, basket, or bag will also likely be useful!

Please consider contributing to this worthy cause by filling a basket, box, or bag with needed items, or by just bringing the items **this Thursday, April 20th. Items do not have to be new—your “gently used” items would be greatly appreciated. (please, no food items).**

Our Refugee Services speakers will gladly take all items with them when they leave, after speaking this Thursday.

Lots of items have been donated! But more are welcome, and will be used by grateful recipients!



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April 20, 2023 Newsletter (continued)

(See a few memories from last week below)



PARTY TIME ANNOUNCEMENT AND SIGN-UP

Many members have already pre-paid (\$10) for the special Party Time lunch with entertainment, which will occur at our last Spring gathering on May 11th. Mary Mahon circulated a list, asking members to select either turkey or beef brisket, which will be accompanied by sides, a drink, and dessert. The list will also be available this week as well for sign-up. This special BBQ lunch will be provided by *Old Hickory Inn*, and entertainment will be provided by Kathy and George Jolly.



MARY MAHON LED EVERYONE IN SINGING HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

Irene Feist celebrated her **98th** birthday on April 15th (see photo to the right).
Dot and Leon Ullrich celebrated the birth of twin great grandchildren (boys) recently.



Ed Emmett, Fellow, Baker Institute, Rice University, reminded us that the modern US highway system began with President Dwight Eisenhower in the 1950's, when he undertook the development and construction of the Interstate Highway System.

Much of his talk focused on the topic of what he sees as perceived gentrification of our neighborhoods as highway and other construction has taken over neighborhoods in our area.

He discussed the fact that over the years such construction has been necessary for an ever-changing and growing area. Many who were displaced would like to return to their old neighborhoods. One reason may be the lack of affordable housing elsewhere.

Executive Director Alison Ayres Bell

- Alison is a native Houstonian and attended HSD schools, graduating from Lamar High School. She has a Bachelor's of Science degree in Fashion Merchandising from the University of Oklahoma.
- Alison became the Development Director of The Heritage Society in August 2012 and was quickly promoted to serve as Executive Director effective January 1, 2018.
- Currently, Alison serves on the Lamar Alumni Board and was Lamar Parent Teacher Organization President from 2015-2019. She has also served on the Board of Directors of the League, a resource center for Houston's homeless and the Board of Cooper Alpha Theta Houston Alumni.
- Alison has two grown sons, Alex and Connally.



Alison Bell is the executive Director of The Heritage Society at Sam Houston Park, a non-profit organization founded in 1954. Their mission is to collect, preserve, exhibit, and celebrate the diverse history of our region.

There are 10 structures in the heart of downtown Houston (1100 Bagby Street), dating from 1823 to 1905. Nine of the ten were moved to join the Kellum-Noble house at its original location.

A museum is included, tours are available, and volunteers are welcome!

Check out their website at heritagesociety.org

TRIPS



The April 19th trip to Smith Rookery on High Island will have occurred prior to our meeting this Thursday, and possibly following the publishing of this newsletter. We shall assume that those who made the trip enjoyed it greatly, and saw a multitude and variety of migrating birds! Future trip details and the opportunity to sign up for trips are available approximately one month prior to a trip. Ann may be contacted at fairann@sbcglobal.net or 281-686-1325.

BOOK CART AND DISPLAY TABLES

This week the display tables will be filled with your generously donated items for our refugee service project! **THANK YOU!**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF FAMILY ILLNESS/LOSS

Kelly Cervenka is our LEOH Member Care Coordinator, and will be happy to send an appropriate card on LEOH's behalf to a family member, at your request. You may contact Kelly at 281-814-6721, or kcervenka39@gmail.com.



NEXT WEEK'S SPEAKERS

10:00: Bill Wertzner, Volunteer, USS Texas, shares his stories of the USS Texas, veterans he has known, and interactions with visitors in his years as a docent and volunteer.

11:15: Justin Bryant, Member Services Coordinator, Volunteer Houston (Interfaith Ministries), explains how Volunteer Houston works to connect individuals, groups, and companies with non-profit agencies across Houston.

Questions about LEOH? Contact Ken Euler at 713-664-5740 or keuler@uh.edu. Bellaire UMC may be reached at 713-666-2167.