



LEOH (Life Enrichment of Houston)

April 27, 2023 Newsletter



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



ON THE MEND

Judy Bristol is the latest member recovering from Covid; Maura Rodriguez suffered a fall at LEOH last week that resulted in a shoulder bruise; and Sally Brashear's husband, Harry, is recovering from a hip replacement.



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, and copies are available to members. Important: 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? 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 a.m. TOWN HALL: 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.



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 Barbara G. Davis). Mary Mahon offered inspirational thoughts 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)



CONGRATULATIONS AND THANK YOU TO LEOH MEMBERS!!!



Our **Refugee Services** speakers, **Praveena and Lili**, were thrilled and astonished by the large amount and variety of donations. **Thanks to Judy Bristol** for arranging for them to speak, **and thanks to all of YOU**, for making our LEOH Spring Service Project a huge success!

(Unfortunately, not everyone who donated was available for this photo taken by our speakers.)



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ANOTHER REMINDER—PARTY TIME 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. Please check with Mary as needed for sign-up. This special BBQ lunch will be provided by *Old Hickory Inn*, with entertainment provided by Kathy and George Jolly.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY



Hanna Schwarze celebrated her birthday on April 20th. Hanna was at LEOH that morning, but birthday plans meant she had to leave early, before we could sing to her!

(Is your birthday around the corner, or another LEOH member's? Let Mary Mahon know! Birthdays are definitely a cause for acknowledgement and celebration!)



LEOH TRIPS—COORDINATED BY ANN FAIRCHILD



The April 19th trip to *Smith Oaks Bird Sanctuary* did not begin on time, due to a bus delay; however, once we arrived at the sanctuary, everyone loved viewing the multitude and variety of migrating birds, both in flight and nesting in trees! Lunch was enjoyed at *Tia Juanita's Fish Camp* in Winnie, before returning home. Thank you, Ann! (Pictures from the trip will be available at a later date on the leohouston.org website.)

Ann will be providing trip details and the opportunity to sign up approximately one month prior to the each trip. Upcoming trip information may also be found on the website. Ann may be contacted at fairann@sbcglobal.net or 281-686-1325.

BOOK CART AND DISPLAY TABLES

Start thinking about your summer reading, and grab one or more books, then remember to return them this Fall! Items on the display tables are yours to keep.

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: Matt Lanza, Manager, Space Center Weather, forecasts the coming hurricane season, shares thoughts on the 2022 season, and talks about Houston's fascinating weather.

11:15: Rashid Mosavin, PhD, MBA, Dean, LaFleur College of Pharmacy, TSU, discusses his career in pharmacy education and practice, as well as sharing his insights for succeeding as an immigrant.

A FEW MEMORIES FROM LAST WEEK'S SPEAKERS



Malcolm McCorquodale, President, *Houston Genealogical Forum*, discussed the variety of resources potentially available to research one's ancestry, beginning with the National Genealogical Society. Sources can include birth certificates, published obituaries, cemetery records, and wills. He warned that sometimes conflicting information is found, so further sleuthing may be needed. To learn more, on Saturday, May 6, between 10-noon, you may participate in a free webinar on genealogy. Register online at <http://hgftx.org> for the webinar or attend in person at Bayland Community Center. He also mentioned that our own Glenwood Cemetery (home of some notable residents) information can now be found online at glenwoodcemetery.org. Popular resources to begin filling in your genealogical past include familysearch.org or ancestry.com.



Praveena Lakshmanan and Lili Bauerlein, Community Engagement Program, *Refugee Services (Interfaith Ministries)* described how their program works for assisting legal refugees in our area. We were reminded that a refugee is "someone who is unable or unwilling to return to their country of origin, owing to a well-founded fear of being persecuted for reasons of race, religion, nationality, membership of a particular social group, or political opinion". The number admitted has sharply declined over the past couple of decades. The process begins with their arrival here or elsewhere, then agencies assist, followed by a 6-month process of resettlement. Over 90% of our area refugees are self-sufficient within those 6 months, thanks to core programs that include vocational training, employment, medical and cash assistance, and social adjustment services. The LEOH donations will certainly assist in achieving this goal!



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