

Organizational News

Sheridan Go-Getters hold business meeting Dec. 14

By Lillian Gohlke

The Sheridan Go-Getters exemplified the true Christmas spirit at their December meeting held Tuesday, Dec. 14 at the home of Irene Hagendorf. This meeting completed the Go-Getter's project for the year. Two checks of \$250 each were given to the Hospice Support Care in El Campo, represented by Pauline Solomon and Rev. David King, and to the Hospice of Texas in Hallettsville, which is affiliated with the Hospice in Victoria, represented by Joyce Bludau and Grace Neibrandt.

The Sheridan Go-Getters were recognized as patrons of the Hospice Support, Inc. in their Celebration of Life Program Dec. 14 held at the Civic Center in El Campo. The representatives presented the Go Getters with a lovely ornament on a stand. The sale of ornaments is the Hospice's fundraiser.

The meeting opened with Alice Hinze leading the 12 members in the pledge, prayer, and creed. Lillian Gohlke called the roll, and the minutes were corrected. Betty Varley gave the treasurer's report. Upon seeing the remainder of money left in the treasury, three motions were made to help support various groups.

Joyce Ohm made a motion to give \$200 to the Colorado County Children's Protective Services Board. Earlene Botard seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Helen Brisco made a motion to use

money from the treasury to pay members' cost in the county. Hagendorf seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Kathy Ricks made a motion to give \$100 to the Sheridan 4-H Club with four seniors graduating in May who are seeking 4-H scholarships. Hinze seconded the motion. Motion passed.

President Melba Castillo reported taking the toys to the sheriff's office. And, Varley requested permission to purchase two more albums for pictures and news stories. Members agreed. Varley announced that "Friends Helping Friends" will package the 25 Christmas boxes on Friday and any volunteers would be welcome. Distribution will be Saturday. Donations have come from school children, individuals, and organizations like Go-Getters and Lions Club.

Twenty-three members attended the Christmas party at the Farris Hotel.

Brisco and Sybil Balusek received their five-year membership certificates that were handed out at the Achievement Luncheon in Columbus on Dec. 1.

The winner of the Go-Getters quilt was Alice Hinze of Sheridan. Luck must be her middle name; she also won the door prize.

Hostesses for the meeting were Hagendorf and Castillo.

Ohm moved that the meeting adjourn and Darnell seconded the motion. Motion passed.

Xi Pi Psi

Xi Pi Psi members gathered at the Rice Medical Center on Dec. 1 to lend a little holiday cheer.

Stockings were hung on all the doors of patient's rooms. With stockings left over, they were hung on many of the doors of specialty rooms.

A short business discussion was held in the lobby. Plans were made to add six large poinsettia pot plants to complete the decorations. They will be put at the nurse's station, pink lady room and other places of interest.

A menu of ham and finger foods will be served at the upcoming party. President Ernie Sommerlatte announced that it is time to start working on the Lady of the Year award and tea.

The annual Christmas party was held at the home of Lonnie and Ernie Sommerlatte on Dec. 14. Members and their husbands enjoyed a festive table of wonderful food.

During the meeting, Glenda Blair received a gift of thanks for being Rosebud Girl. Connie Lange is the newly elected Rosebud Girl. She passed out names to pick for new Secret Sisters.

The highlight of the party was the gift exchange and Secret Sister reveal. The husbands enjoyed a "Useful Gift" exchange by drawing numbers.

Happy Holiday wishes were extended to all and their families.

Now...on to the New Year!

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Holiday Party Cleanups

This is the season for holiday entertaining and party giving. Trying to get your home ready for these occasions can cause stress and anxiety for you and your family says Sally Garrett, County Extension Agent Family & Consumer Sciences. The Soap and Detergent Association has some ideas to help relieve some of the stress while getting ready for entertaining and cleaning up after the festivities are over:

Spills are inevitable in the refrigerator. Clean these spills with disinfecting wipes.

Clean baked on food in your microwave with heat-activated microwave wipes.

Your kitchen range may have trapped smelling, oily cooking material in its filter screen. Place the permanent metal filter in the dishwasher. Use an automatic dishwasher detergent, which now comes in a tablet and gel/liquid forms.

To avoid having to wipe spots and film from glassware, use a rinse aid.

If you do not have a dishwasher, an easy way to clean your blender is to add hot water and a small amount of hand dishwashing liquid. Replace the cover securely and turn the blender on at a slow speed.

Use a disposable dust cloth to capture dust on furniture.

Give your draperies a fresh look, toss them into the clothes dryer. Use the air fluff setting on your dryer with no heat. Re-hang your drapes immediately.

Spray carpets with a fabric freshener to neutralize odors that may have build up over time.

Freshen your toilet by cleaning it with a scented toilet tablet. They are easy to use, no measuring, no spills, and no mess!

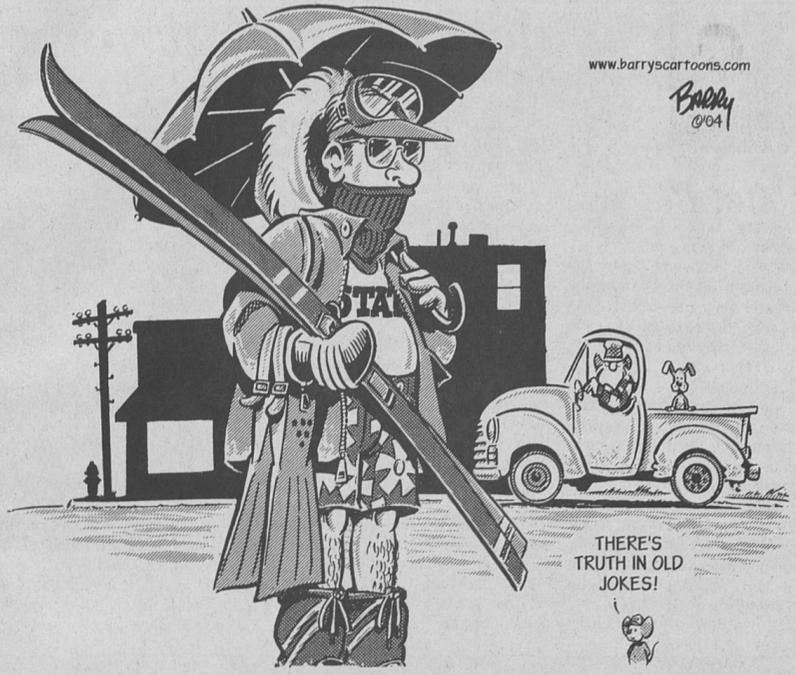
Place a stepladder in the middle of each room and climb up as high as you safely can. See if areas like ceiling fans, refrigerator tops, light fixtures and trim molding need dusting. Use special dusting mitts designed for reaching and dusting these hard to reach surfaces.

Along with these tips remember safety is important during this time of year.

Check your smoke detector batteries. Use caution with candles and holiday lights.

Enjoy the holiday season.

For further home environment information, contact the county extension office at 979-732-2530.



DON'T LIKE TH' WEATHER HERE? JUST WAIT FIVE ...

Dulany awarded Personal Award/Recommendation

HT2 (SW/AW) Jason P. Dulany, USN of Eagle Lake, serving with the Center for Naval Engineering, Great Lakes, IL, has been awarded 2004 Junior Sailor of the Year.

The award states, "HT 2nd Class (Surface Warfare / Air Warfare) Jason P. Dulany, United States Navy: Professional achievement in the performance of his duties while serving as Hull Division Instructor, Center for Naval Engineering, Great Lakes, from January 2004 to December 2004. A Qualified Master Training Specialist, Petty Officer Dulany proved an integral part in the implementation of HT Strand School Ensuring HT Strand was ready to meet the demands of the fleet. Serving as the Treasurer for the Great Lakes Petty Officer Association, Petty Officer Dulany is helping his community by



volunteering numerous off-duty hours to mentor Sea Cadets, improve schools, churches and coordinate student participation in the on-base PADS program.

These merits of outstanding leadership, dedication and instructional expertise resulted in his selection as Center for Naval Engineering, Training Support Command, Great Lakes, 2004 Junior Sailor of the Year. Petty Officer Dulany's professionalism, initiative, and loyal devotion to duty reflected credit upon himself and were in keeping with the highest traditions of the United States Naval Service."

Robert C. Butler, Jr., Capt, U.S. Navy, Commanding Officer, Center for Naval Engineering.

Jason is the son of Lana and Larry Dulany of Eagle Lake.

Legacy

Continued from Page 3

know what the standard of behavior is and be expected to follow it. We continue to be concerned about the number of single parent or no parent homes in the area. We are concerned that more fathers are not active in their children's lives. We believe that where possible and productive, both parents should be actively involved in caring for each child. This is not the case in an estimated 70% of the children attending the program.

Male/Female relationships. Improvement has been made in this area but much more is needed. Yet, there is no question that there is considerable unhealthy relations between young people. For example, the level of sexually related talk is still too high even among some 11 year olds. It continues to be clear that the message of 'anything goes' from many music videos and TV shows is being acted out on a daily basis between a number of our local junior high and high school age children, boys and girls alike. We cannot emphasize enough that, at a minimum, the appropriateness of many music videos and TV shows should be more carefully monitored and turned off if you do not want your child imitating what they are watching.

What a Child Sees: What children see in moderation, they often excuse in excess. If, for example, our children see problems caused by alcohol, disrespect of spouses, sexual relations outside of marriage, spousal abuse, violence, etc., then we as adults should reexamine and change our negative habits for the benefit of our family. We strongly encourage any adult to seek outside help through local church or county supported organizations.

As always, all parents are welcome and encouraged to visit the after school program.

Program Needs:

Additional Part time Adult mentors
Retired teachers are incredible and wonderful resources for this program.
Portable building for dedicated homework and study area.

Part time tutors as children prefer learning from other older young people.

Upgraded Computers for Learning Center.

Learning Center building modest renovation.

Learning Center Assessment and Learning Software and other Educational Study Aids.

Entrance Street paved by City of Eagle Lake (request to be made).

Bermuda grass for football field.

Modest monthly financial support.

Special Thanks:

Full Time Volunteers: Ernest McCoslin, Jeanette Haas, Irma Roque, Gay Anderson and Rebecca Ortiz. **Part Time Volunteers:** Dave Haas, Janie Schwemm, Pat Joyce, Ken Jones, and Fay Anderson.

Without adult volunteers this program would not be possible.

Teachers: for the incredibly difficult task and all their efforts to prepare these young people for their future. We hope to assist teachers and school administrations wherever possible.

Fall Donors: Individuals; Mark and Becky Anderson, Jay and Fay Anderson, Dave and Jeanette Haas, Pat Joyce, Dave Kucherka, Joe Herbert and Candy McCreary, Mike and Terry Morales, Prairie Fellowship, Frank and Becky Thompson, Ted and Linda Wiese, Tom and Vicki Kelly and others.

Fall Donors: Businesses & Organizations:

Eagle Lake Supermarket for significant meal support, Lissie Flying Service for significant safety and capital improvements, Class Concrete for concrete for the basketball court, Hlvinka Equipment for equipment and reebar, Friendswood Independent School District for 20 computers, Taylor & Hill, inc for monitors, British Petroleum for projector, TrafCo Signs of Eagle Lake for safety signs, Lissie United Methodist Church for food, volunteers and communication, Eagle Lake Study Club and 11 members for great Christmas cookies, Eagle Lake Lions Club and Eagle Lake Rotary Club for help paving the basketball area, LCRA for dirt hauling, McCreary Hauling Services for road material, Frank & Becky Thompson, New Balance Sports Equipment, Eagle Lake Veterans of Foreign Wars, Sealy Walmart, Wharton Walmart and others, for Christmas gifts, Eagle Lake Museum for offering clothing assistance for children, Community Food Bank of Victoria, Sealy B&B Grocery, Sportsman Restaurant of Eagle Lake and others.

Nondiscrimination:

The program gladly accepts and serves all children, ages 10-17, regardless of race, religion or ethnic background.

Summary:

A lot of progress has been made and more is on the way. After serving over 278 children this year there is no doubt there is a significant need for an after school program in Eagle Lake. We can also safely say there is significant cause to be hopeful for each child in Eagle Lake. Hope for a child's better future is why the Lighthouse After School Program has been established. We are also convinced that significant progress can be made in the areas of character building, scholastic achievement, personal responsibility, social interaction, artistic expression and community mindedness. We are anxious to initiate a more formal program in this regard in the Spring. There's much more to do. We thank every person who has helped in any way. It means much to these kids.

Questions:

Spring 2005: Starts January 11, 2005. Days of Operation: Tues, Wed, Thur, 3:15-5:30 p.m. at the Facility, 200 Ice St. or call Lyle or Dana Anderson, 979-234-2248

Thinking Of You In The New Year

Wishing all of our friends, neighbors and patrons every happiness in the year ahead. Your friendship and safety mean a lot to us and we urge you to celebrate wisely.

Please celebrate responsibly this holiday season.

Arrive Alive in 2005
We Urge You Not To Drink & Drive

This Important Holiday Message Is Brought To You By These Concerned Sponsors:

Larry Contreras
Eagle Lake City Council Member

Dave Curry
Eagle Lake City Council Member

Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce

Eagle Lake Rice Dryer

"The 'Rice' Place To Do Business"

Lynda Appelt Evans
...A last minute reminder...
DON'T DRINK, but DRIVE IN TO
Ellison Chevrolet-Cadillac
For the Best Deal!

Darlene Hayek
Colorado County Clerk

Ron Holland
Eagle Lake City Manager

W.E. "Bill" Lattimore
Eagle Lake Chief of Police

Mike Morales
Eagle Lake Mayor

Eric Nethery
Eagle Lake City Council Member

R.H. "Curly" Wied
Colorado County Sheriff

Harvey Vornsand
Colorado County District Clerk