

Rotary Planning Phantom Holiday Party

The Rotary Club of Eagle Lake held their weekly meeting on Wednesday November 18, at 7:15 a.m.

The weather was nice and cool. One thing about Eagle Lake at that time of the morning is that it seems like there is a mass evacuation underway with car after car heading out 90A toward Houston. Maybe that's a clue for economic development.

Instead of banging heads against the wall trying to get new business to come to Eagle Lake, maybe we should maintain our quaint small town atmosphere and encourage all our young people to carpool to Houston to work and bring their money back home to spend locally.

The program for the day was

presented by Earl Rodgers. It was a continuation of the previous program given by Dr. Thomas regarding life with polio.

Mr. Rodgers described the trials he and his wife went through during their marriage, most of the time for which his wife was a victim of polio.

He told of how he would help her do calisthenics twice a day and how difficult it was for her.

And he told how, no matter how rough things were for her, she was always thinking of doing her job as a nurse at the local hospital.

It makes one wonder how many married people in this day and time would adhere to the commitment they made to each other if they were faced with such

difficulty.

The members decided to try a new thing for this holiday season. The Rotary Club of Eagle Lake will have it's first, and possibly annual (or maybe last), Phantom Holiday Party.

It will not be held and there will be no one in attendance.

Music will not be provided and the meal will consist of nothing.

It is believed that this will allow people more time to be with their own families during the holidays.

Tickets for the Phantom Holiday Party are \$10 per person and can be purchased from any

Rotarian.

There will be no actual ticket, just hand the Rotarian your ten bucks and remember to not show up.

All proceeds will be used for various projects the Rotarians are involved in locally. And please, no phantom 10 dollar bills.

The Rotary Club of Eagle Lake now extends an open invitation to the citizens of Eagle Lake to join them for coffee and pastries at 7 a.m. on Wednesdays at the Community Center.

An RSVP to eaglelakerotary@hughes.net would be appreciated and insure the availability of enough coffee and pastries.

United Way Fund Drive Now Underway

The annual fund drive of the United Way of Eagle Lake, Inc. has begun and once again, we are counting on the support and generosity of the people in this area.

One of the unique things about our drive is that most of the funds collected remain here and help our friends and neighbors.

Our goal for 2010 and the charities we have selected are:

Eagle Lake Youth Council, \$1,275; Children's Protective Services, \$975; Little League Operations, 950; Local Relief (Ministerial Alliance), \$2,000; Texana (Colorado County Opportunity Center), \$850; Colorado County Red Cross, \$400; Eagle Lake Salvation Army, \$1,150; Colorado

County Special Olympics, \$1,050; Colorado County Youth and Family Services, \$1,050; Project Phone Home, \$300; Administrative Expenses, \$650.

Total Goal for 2010: \$10,650.

If your favorite charity is not listed, you can earmark your donation to be sent to a specific one of your choices.

Donations can be mailed to P.O. Box 902, Eagle Lake, Texas 77434 or they can be made at the First National Bank of Eagle Lake.

We thank you in advance for the generosity and support you have always given us in the past.

We hope that with your help this will be our best drive ever.

Nada/Garwood Gadabouts Report on Recent Meeting

The Nada/Garwood Gadabouts enjoyed their Thanksgiving luncheon and meeting in the beautiful home of Helen Noteboom on November 19, at 12 p.m.

President Anita Meisner called the meeting to order and welcomed members and guests, Margie Swoboda and AgriLife Agent Janis Pfeffer and thanked Helen for opening her home to us.

The opening ceremony was led by Minnie Lee Conner. The roll call was answered by telling what we were most thankful for and our favorite Thanksgiving food.

Secretary Catherine Berger read the minutes of the last meeting and they were approved as read.

Treasurer Helen Noteboom gave the treasury report.

Communications: Thank you cards were read from Iris Danklefs, Minnie Lee Conner, the Rudy Till family, Janie Mae Popp, Clara Gold and the Garwood Veterans' Library.

Hospitality: October birthday wishes were sent to Ethelyn Popp and Clara Gold. November birthday wishes went to Regina Scheffler, Ella Buzek and Leona Wesselski. The group also sang "Happy Birthday" to Leona, marking her 94th birthday.

Gardening: The fall gardens, including beans, lettuce, turnips, cabbage, okra, broccoli, cauliflower-

er, tomatoes, onions and radishes, are growing nicely.

Unfinished Business: The Christmas in Garwood event is set for December 5, to begin with opening ceremonies at 2 p.m.

Anita, Helen and Catherine from the Gadabouts are involved with it.

New Business: A new flag is needed at the veteran's memorial and Helen will order it.

The Gadabouts Christmas party and dinner is scheduled for Saturday, December 12, at 4 p.m. at Anita's home.

Members and spouses/guests are to bring a gift for the gift exchange.

Announcements:

Dec. 9-Senior citizen domino party at Nada Parish Hall;

Dec. 5- Garwood Christmas Festival.

Program: Anita gave a reading from Jim Carter's funeral entitled "This Journey".

Agri-Life Agent Janis Pfeffer gave a program entitled "Rate a Full Plate" showing ways of enjoying the holiday meals, but still cutting out unneeded calories.

Members contributed the following: Volunteer Hours - 247 1/2; Miles-845; and Money Spent - \$1107.69 during the month.

Door prizes were won by Sybil Balusek, Leona Wesselski, Madene Jensen, Clara Gold and Karol Kallina.

Hankins to Speak at CCF's Women's Christmas Gala

A woman of prayer, healing, and the prophetic, Vicki Hankins preaches and teaches the Word of God with humor and realness that brings change to people's hearts.

They are encouraged to stand in the midst of difficult times through complete dependency upon God and His Word and to walk in love and forgiveness.

She helps women find freedom from wrong thinking and negative perceptions about who they are.

Pastor Vicki serves the congregation of Church In The City - Metro Dallas alongside her husband, Michael, as Senior Ministers.

In addition to ministering regularly at home she has also had invitations in the US, Australia, and across Europe, especially France.

Vicki considers her four children to be one of her greatest accomplishments and has six grandchildren.

Vicki will be speaking at the Christmas Gala hosted by Christian City Fellowship's (CCF) Covenant Hearts Women's Ministries on Friday, December 11.

Pastor Anne Griffin says, "The Christmas Gala is an event anticipated by ladies all year.

Ladies will be seated at a fun, fancy, or festively decorated table hosted by women who are looking forward to feasting and fellowshiping with you.

The evening will begin at 6:30 p.m. and includes a wonderful meal catered by Pascuale Ricciardi and live music followed by

A subscription makes the perfect gift.
We Now Accept Credit Cards



In planning the first annual Christmas in Garwood, Diane Smidovec and husband Larry talk about where vendors' booths will be situated along the downtown area on Saturday, Dec. 5.

Christmas In Garwood Slated for December 5

Story and photo courtesy of Quala Matocha lifestyle@leader-news.com

Looking back, Larry and Diane Smidovec recall a once vibrant Garwood.

Now, with very few businesses around, the downtown has pretty much become a ghost town.

However, for one Saturday, they and a handful of other volunteers are going to bring some life back into this small community.

The concept - "Christmas in Garwood" the first Saturday in December.

The idea came about one evening as the couple watched the movie Cars.

The story centers around Radiator Springs, a once prosperous small town on old Route 66 until the freeway bypassed it.

Diane uses the movie as an analogy to describe what has happened to Garwood.

"Garwood is just dead," she said. The movie prompted her to think about a solution.

"I wish I could do something to bring our town back," she said. "Christmas is my favorite time of the year and I want to have a place to have Santa."

She and her husband purchased one of the old buildings in the downtown area just for that purpose.

Determined to have Christmas in Garwood, she called friends for their input. "I called Anita Meisner, telling her my ideas and asked her 'how do we do this?' So we started talking to people."

Soon her vision was starting to become a reality as others came forward to help.

Since September, "It has mushroomed," she said. "It is so good to see it all coming together."

As a result, the creation of a non-profit organization called GAR (Garwood Association for

Continued on page 6

Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce
presents
Eagle Lake Parade of Lights
"Christmas Around the World"
at Christmas Mall

Saturday, December 12, 2009
Christmas Mall
10 AM - 9 PM

Eagle Lake Chamber of Commerce Building
303 East Main Street
Food • Drink • Crafts • Jewelry • Gifts

Community Sing-A-Long Throughout the Day

Christmas Parade
Lineup & Judging - 5:30 PM
Parade Start - 6:45 PM

Parade, Mall & Sing-A-Long Entry Forms:
www.VisitEagleLake.com
Info@VisitEagleLake.com • 979-234-2780
Entry Forms Due December 1st

EL NAILS
979-234-2800
MONDAY - SATURDAY 10:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
SPA PEDICURE & MANICURE - NAIL TIPS
NAILS & TOE - FANTASTIC HAND DESIGN
NAILS TIPS CUSTOM DESIGN
LADIES & GENTLEMEN INGROWN TOE NAIL REMOVAL
FACIAL-BODY MASSAGE - ART WAXING - EYELASH EXTENSION
GIFT CERTIFICATE AVAILABLE
ANY TIME CONTACT NUMBER 832-479-9888

Sgt. Leroy J. "Joey" Sommerlatte pictured here with his son, Tyler, was deployed Nov. 22 for his third tour of Iraq. Joey is the son of Pedro and Hortencia Sommerlatte. Please keep Joey, his family and all our military personnel and their families in your prayers.

TRADITIONS CHEVROLET **RED TAG**

MAKE YOUR HOLIDAY WISH COME TRUE WITH A NEW CHEVY.

0% APR for 72 Months OR **RED TAG PRICE**

NEW Chevy Corvette Coupe \$44,989 (stk: 3190)

NEW Chevy Cobalt \$12,489 (stk: 3137)

NEW Chevy Cobalt \$14,989 (stk: 3148)

NEW Chevy Impala \$19,689 (stk: 3156)

NEW Silverado 1500 \$17,989 (stk: 3201)

The best coverage in America
100,000 mile/5-year • Transferable Powertrain Limited Warranty
Whichever comes first. See dealer for details. • Roadside Assistance • Courtesy Transportation

HURRY! OFFER ENDS 11/30/09 AN AMERICAN REVOLUTION

East Bernard, Texas 1-800-388-2414

RIVER OAKS

HEALTH CARE & REHABILITATION CENTER

Providing the best care for the citizens of Colorado County for 25 years

Accepting
Medicaid / Medicare / Private Pay

- 24 Hour Skilled Nursing Care
- Physical Therapy And Body Strengthening
- Occupational Therapy
- Speech Therapy
- Assistance With Activities Of Daily Living
- Wound Care
- Respiratory Care
- Medication Administration
- Daily Health Monitoring
- Assistance With Feeding / Special Diets
- Special Care Unit For Alzheimer / Dementia Care
- Individualized And Group Recreational Activities And Exercise
- Short Term Care
- Hospice Care
- Transportation
- Laundry And Housekeeping Services
- Beauty Salon / Barber Shop
- Manicures And Pedicures
- Religious Services

300 North St. • Columbus
979-732-2347