SOLOS 2023

april newsletter

PRESIDENTS REPORT

Our March events aren't over yet! March 30th is another Thirsty Thursday BUT with a TWIST. It's a meet and greet at Mulligan's Patio. We will have a few appetizers ordered but mostly it's a No Host Bar type event. Please turn out and support the waitstaff with generous tips for this event. Our April ballroom event's "Texas Wildflower Dinner" flyer with ticketing information has already gone out to membership. Be sure to buy your tickets now for this fun event.

It looks like we have 2 more successful Special Interest Groups (SIGs). Mona has restarted the "Wine SIG" and Pauline has restarted the "Day Trippers SIG". Read further in this newsletter for photos from these new SIG's March events.

Note: TO SIGN UP FOR ANY "SIG" GO TO THE SOLOS' WEB PAGE AND CLICK THE BOX in front of the SIG you want to join. You will start receiving emails from the SIG. Remember that your \$25.00 yearly dues.... about \$2.00 a month... allows you access to Solos' SIGs, events and the Super Thursday events. Solos creates events that members can look forward to attending, see their friends and maybe make new friends.

FYI.....Chartered Clubs (SOLOS) must have a board of directors. January of each year a new board is created for the following year. It's a great way to learn who's who in the club and give back for the enjoyment Solos may have brought to you. To add to the learning curve of the new board we want to try something new. Pick a board position that interests you and ask the current officer if you can help. This adds you in learning for next year and reduces the stress of volunteering.

Tohn Wardlow

916-267-0429 dutrica@aol.com



Solos 2023 Executive Board Members

John Wardlow, President Mona Myers, Vice President Sharon Stewart, Treasurer Kathy Castoldi, Secretary Barb Duke, Membership Chair Linda McFarlin, Communications Chair Connie Bales, Special Interest Groups Chair Sue Bawcom, Activities Chair

MISSION STATEMENT

The purpose of the Solos Club is to provide social opportunities, friendships & fellowship for Sun City Texas residents, primarily by organizing activities of interest to our members. While the club was created to enhance the life of singles, all residents are eligible to join.

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Tip of the Day:

Please don't just thumb through this Solos newsletter. There is so much useful information here. I encourage you to read it from beginning to end.

I have some news that is going to please many of you. We tried the registration system for the Super Thirsty Thursday on March 16th. However, we found it not only frustrated many of you, but it also threatened the sanity of Sharon Stewart and me. Therefore, there will be no more registration for Thirsty Thursday. Ok, fess up. How many of you are doing the Happy Dance while reading this piece of news?

Despite the registration issues, the March 16th Super Thirsty Thursday went extremely well. In just a few words, I am going to give you a taste of Super Thirsty Thursday.

Pizza, Donated desserts, Señor Bob's specialty drinks, Entertainment (Phillip & his dazzling line dancers), Recorded music for listening and dancing = Full house, 23 New members, New friends, New knowledge of Solos. All of these equal Friends, Fun, Fellowship.

Our next Thirsty Thursday will be March 30th from 5-7 p.m. at Mulligan's Restaurant. The information should be already in your Inbox. Read it very carefully. Our event will be First Come, First Served. Again, I will always recommend wearing a name tag

Don't forget our next ballroom event on April 19th. A delicious catered dinner by Double Sky Catering, with entertainment by the fabulous Bitterroot Band awaits you. New members, if you haven't yet attended one of our ballroom events, don't miss this one!! The flyer appeared in your Inbox, March 17th.

Barb Duke

_Solos Membership Chair barb2663@icloud.com, 830-285-0142

What Happened In March...

Super Thirsty Thursday, March 16

Our March Super Thirsty Thursday event featured Phillip Pensabene's Irish dancers, pizzas galore, a salute to new members and lots of St Patrick's fun.





Our new Solos members

March SIGS Events!

On March 23rd, **Day Trippers** ventured out west to Llano to see some wildflowers and pretty country. We were not disappointed. Our first stop was the historic Llano County Courthouse. This gorgeous old building was finished in 1893 and it is still used for trials today. Then we headed south to the famous Willow City Loop. This is a 13 mile loop off Highway 16 that twists and turns and has the most amazing views of hills and valleys and tons of wildflowers. One of the ranchers along the way has topped each of his fence posts with an old boot. Lots of beautiful boots.

One of the highlights of Willow City Loop was getting to photograph and visit with a gorgeous emu. She fluttered and posed for us.

After we had our fill of beautiful sites, we made our way to the famous Coopers Old Time Pit BBQ in Llano. Not everyone thought it was the best brisket in the world, but the potato salad, beans, and cobblers were definitely edible. If you would like directions on how to do this trip on your own, ask any Day Tripper that went with us to forward you the email full of travel directions and trivia.

Until next time, Happy Trails!

~Pauline Fredrickson~
Day Trippers SIG leader





Boots and bluebonnets



Our emu buddy...



Lunch at Coopers

At our last Wine Tasting Sig event on March 20, we enjoyed a variety of charcuterie delights and a diverse selection of wines and wine trivia, hosted by Barbara Moore, Ann Stewart and Charles Byrd. If you missed it, you missed a wonderful evening!

~Mona Myers~ Wine Tasting Sig leader





News and Notes



A Thank You Message From A Fellow Solos Member

"I appreciate all you guys and gals from the Solos Golf SIG, Sunday Golf and the Solos Bowling SIG, along with many other good friends in the Solos Club. As you can see I'm SMILING in this picture. That is because of your positive thoughts and prayers for my surgery recovery. Looking forward to getting back on the golf course, the bowling lanes, attending Thirsty Thursdays and other events."

Densel Gilpin



Special Recognition to Solos Member Evelyn Crowl

Evelyn Crowl is in her second year of volunteering for the position of "Sunshine Member" for Solos. When notified, Evelyn sends out Get Well and Sympathy cards to Solos members. In 2022, Evelyn sent 30 cards, and in the first three months of 2023, she has already sent 12 cards.

Thank you, Evelyn, for your support and dedication to the Solos Club.

A Note from Solos Care

In April it is time to collect items rather than money for a nonprofit. The Caring Place serves our community in so many ways. I called the director of the Pantry to see what items are needed most. She said they always are asked for toilet paper and often run out. So that is what we are going to ask Solos members to contribute. Perhaps some of you remember many years ago collecting a truckload of toilet paper for them.

We will have collections at the entrance to Mingle with Singles on April 6, Thirsty Thursday on April 27 and our April Texas Wildflowers event. I will need help at the Texas Wildflowers event to park your car outside in the parking lot to collect the contributions. I will be away on a mission trip to Guatemala from April 11 to April 20. Please get in touch if you are able to help at any of the collections.

Ann Brown, Solos Care leader 512-639-3200

What's happening in April?

Full Membership Events



SOLOS CLUB "TEXAS WILDFLOWER" DINNER EVENT WEDNESDAY, APRIL 19, 2023 CHECK IN AND SOCIAL TIME - 5:30 p.m. SUN CITY SOCIAL CENTER BALLROOM 2 TEXAS DRIVE

BYOB

DINNER: DOUBLE SKY CATERING Walter's Family Meat Loaf Recipe, Accompanied by House Salad, Roasted Carrots, Mashed Potatoes w/Gravy, Green Beans Almondine Roll, Chocolate Cake & Iced Tea

ENTERTAINMENT: BITTERROOT BAND



CHOOSE YOUR SEAT TICKET PURCHASE BEGINS ON MARCH 17, 2023 ENDS ON APRIL 6, 2023

> MEMBER TICKET \$26.00 GUEST TICKET \$30.00

Purchase tickets through the SC Website - "Tickets" or you may also purchase tickets at the Sun City Business Office

Sue Bawcom, Event Coordinator

suebawcom@gmail.com

940-395-6861

<u>Thirsty Thursday:</u> Join us for Thirsty Thursday on **April 27 at 5pm at the Retreat.** BYOB, bring an appetizer to share and wear your name tag! For more information, contact Barb Duke at barb2663@icloud.com

For Special Interest Group Members:

Mingle with Singles - Our next gathering of Mingle with Singles is Thursday, April 6 at the Legacy Hills Park Pavilion from 5:00 to 7:30. It will be a happy hour setting. It is BYOB. Bringing an appetizer to share would be appreciated. No sign up is necessary. Please wear your nametag.

We are also having a Solos Care event in April. We have been in touch with The Caring Place in Georgetown to find out what is really needed at their grocery shop there. They are in need of toilet paper. So many of their clients ask about it and The Caring Place runs out often. So if you would like to contribute, please bring packages of toilet paper to be collected at the entrance to our April Mingle with Singles event. It will also be collected at other Solos gatherings. Watch for the flyer.

Our March event was really fun and interesting. With the questionnaire set up by Linda Anderson, we were able to get to know each other better. We often have so many interesting things that we have accomplished or enjoyed in our lives before Sun City, but don't bring them up so as not to seem bragging. We learned about all the jobs, places we've traveled, scary adventures and other fun facts about our fellow Singles. We will incorporate other "getting to know you" activities in future gatherings. Please bring your ideas to share to put in our suggestion box. It really helps to find new ideas.

For more info on Mingle with Singles, contact Ann Brown at <u>zoemarla@yahoo.com</u> or Linda Anderson at <u>jerrylinanderson@gmail.com</u>.

Line Dance Lessons—Classes meet every Monday in the Atrium at the Activities Center at 1 Texas Drive at 7:00 pm for beginners and 8:15 pm for improvers. For more information, contact Phillip Pensabene at cueballtwo@icloud.com

Social Dance Lessons— We offer two dance classes at the Fitness Studio at Texas Drive. **Wednesdays at 4:30 pm** and **Wednesdays at 5:30 pm**. Classes will be taught by Peg Allen and Byron Goff. For more info, contact Peg Allen at mimzypeg@gmail.com

Book Club - Meets the **4th Tuesday** each month at **1:30 pm.** Contact Linda Baker (<u>lindabaker.dallas@gmail.com</u>) for more information.

Golf— Solos golfers play the **first and third Saturdays** of the month. All tee times will begin at **1:04**. Golfers will meet at Mulligan's or Wriggley's after each tournament. Participation is limited to 40 players. Contact: Elaine Swint at <u>elaine.swint@yahoo.com</u>

Bowling Solos Bowling (SIG) meets **every Thursday morning at 9:35 am** at Bowleros, formerly Mels Lonestar Lanes in Georgetown. If you wish to bowl, you must sign up online through the SOLOS website before 4 PM on Wednesday to bowl on Thursday. The cost to bowl is \$6. Bowling ball and shoes can be rented for a small charge. Contact: Gail Cotteleer at 512.639.9319. Call or text and be sure to leave your name, or email gailcotteleer@aol.com

Travelers - We look forward to seeing your smiling faces at our next meeting: Thursday, **April 13, 10:30-11:30am,** at the Oaks. As always, we will be going to lunch afterwards. We have so much fun getting to know one another better. We hope you will join us! Please keep in mind our meetings are on the 1st Thursday of each month unless announced otherwise. For more info, contact Anne Goodman, anne@goodman.net

Solos Wine Tasting: Our next wine tasting will be on April 17 at the Oaks from 6 pm to 8 pm and will be An Evening in France featuring French wine and pairings. Ooh la la!

NOTE: The Solos Wine Tasting SIG is scheduled to have a group event the 3rd Monday of each month at The Oaks and is hosted by members of the SIG. Currently, the event has been attended by approximately 30 people, but there are 144 members of the Solos Wine Tasting SIG. Let's make these wine tasting events even more---music, blind wine tastings, education, games, visit wineries! One of the members is working on an offsite trip for wine in September! We need hosts and ideas! Currently we have hosts for April, June, and September. Contact me, get friends and sign up to host a month! Contact Mona Myers at 1416mona@gmail.com

Day Trippers - Watch your email for the next great trip. Contact: Pauline Fredrickson, pfred955@gmail.com, 512-818-1480

Save the Dates!

Mark Your Calendar for 2023 Ballroom Event Dates

May 26 – dinner event at Reunion Ranch in lieu of ballroom event

July 29

August 26

November 18

December 16

Check your email for more details and ticketing information

Mark Your Calendar for 2023 Thirsty Thursday Dates

AT THE OAKS:

June 29

July 20

Aug 17

Aug 31

Sept 14

Oct. 19

Nov. 9

Nov. 30

AT THE RETREAT:

April 27 -- Regular Thirsty Thursday

May 18 -- Regular Thirsty Thursday

June 8 -- Super Thirsty Thursday

Sept 21-- Super Thirsty Thursday

Oct.12 -- Regular Thirsty Thursday



Exciting News from Board Member, Sue Bawcom



It is time to offer the Solos Logo Shirt Sale again, as seen above on three of our board members. Watch your emails for "How to Order" information. There will be a variety of colors, men and women styles in sizes from Small to Extra Large – 3X-Large, Short Sleeve and Long Sleeve, and might even have Men's Extra Tall. Within the next few weeks, we will be posting all the information including the shirt prices and how to order. We might even be able to introduce a Solos Logo Golf and Bowling Towel.



Special Interest Groups (SIGS)

A note from our SIGS Chairman:

In March the weather couldn't decide between winter and spring but now that April is here we'll be on track for some great outdoor activities.

Whether you want to join Solo's Golf group, participate in the Day Trippers latest adventure or the Spring Solo's event this is the time to enjoy our great weather.

I encourage all our members to join the Special Interest Groups to see what each one has to offer. Joining a SIG doesn't commit you to participate but you can see what they are doing and then you can decide if you want to participate.

Connie Bales
bassinher@aol.com

SIG Leaders:

Book Club	Linda Baker	214-208-2927	lindabaker.dallas@gmail.com
Bowling	Gail Cotteleer	512-863-8032	gailcotteleer@aol.com
Cosmo Girls	Betsy Doss	512-869-5864	homes@teamdosstexas.com
Golf	Elaine Swint	806-282-3149	elaine.swint@yahoo.com
Line Dance	Phillip Pensabene	202-412-2393	cueballtwo@icloud.com
Mingle w/ Singles	Ann Brown Linda Anderson	512-639-3200 512-591-7252	zoemarla@yahoo.com jerrylinanderson@gmail.com
Solos Care	Ann Brown	512-639-3200	zoemarla@yahoo.com
Solos Dance	Peg Allen	630-258-5855	mimzypeg@gmail.com
Solos Travelers	Anne Goodman	512-585-3048	anne@goodman.net
Wine Tasting	Mona Myers	512-635-0558	1461mona@gmail.com
Day Trippers	Pauline Fredrickson	512-818-1480	pfred955@gmail.com











SIGS Information

BOOK CLUB

Meets the 4th Tuesday of each month at 1:30 pm in member homes. The group sets up a list of books to read/discuss. For information about the group, please email Linda Baker at lindabaker.dallas@gmail.com

BOWLING

Solos Bowling Special Interest Group (SIG) is set up differently than what you are probably used to. It is not a league. There are no teams. Each week you bowl with different people. That way you get to meet lots of Solos. And you are not committed to bowling every Thursday. You bowl when you want to, but you must sign up online before 4 PM on the Wednesday before the Thursday you wish to bowl. It is truly social bowling. We do keep track of your scores and averages so you can see how you are doing, but no one cares if you are good or not. Essentially, you are bowling against yourself. Once you have an average, you can participate in a couple silly games that we play while bowling that makes it even more sociable and fun. You don't have to play, but it does make bowling a little more interesting.

We only bowl 2 games each week at Bowleros, formerly Mels Lonestar Lanes in Georgetown, Thursdays at 9:35am. The cost to bowl is \$6. If you don't have your own ball, you can use a "house" ball. No bowling shoes? They can be rented for a small charge. You can be our guest twice to see if you like it. After that, you must be a Solos member and register for the Solos Bowling SIG. Remember, because it is not league bowling there is no pressure, just pure fun! Come join us! Contact Gail Cotteleer 512-863-8032.

COSMO GIRLS

Meets on the second Friday of each month from 5 pm to 7 pm. Members take turns hosting each month in their homes. Contact Betsy Doss, homes@teamdosstexas.com

GOLF

Solos has a friendly, enthusiastic golf interest group. Formats are usually a scramble or shamble designed to include all player levels. Tournaments are typically the 1st and 3rd Saturdays each month with 10 tee times starting at 1:00. However, high school tournaments and/or conflicts with other clubs' tee times caused a shortage at times, and we will let members know of these changes. Golfers meet afterward at either Mulligan's or Wriggley's. Preregistration required. New Solos members are welcomed to join the golf interest group on the My Memberships page of the Sun City website. Elaine Swint leads the golf interest group and will gladly answer any questions regarding Solos golf: elaine.swint@yahoo.com, 806-282-3149.

LINE DANCE LESSONS

This is a great way to socialize and exercise at the same time. Members learn two new dances the first week of the month. Atrium Room at the Activities Center (1 Texas Drive), 7:00 p.m. for beginners and 8:15 for improvers, every Monday night. Contact Phillip Pensabene, cueballtwo@icloud.com

SOCIAL DANCE LESSONS

Learn great dances while twirling around the dance floor with a professional teacher. Ballroom dancing is fun and good exercise. Two dances a month are learned, one at 4:30pm and one at 5:30pm in the Fitness Studio on Texas Drive. Preregistration is required. Check the calendar for dates and locations. Contact Peg Allen, mimzypeg@gmail.com

MINGLE WITH SINGLES

Activities are usually scheduled once a month in one of the SC reserved rooms or at place outside Sun City. The purpose is to socialize and get to know other singles not in a committed relationship in a smaller venue. Contact Ann Brown, zoemarla@yahoo.com or Linda Anderson at jerrylinanderson@gmail.com for information.

SOLOS CARE

This group was started as a way to give back to the community. The committee decides how to help with various local projects and the best ways to collect donations. Contact Ann Brown, zoemarla@yahoo.com

SOLOS TRAVELERS

Solo Travelers meetings and lunches provide a venue for members to share travel experiences and tips while exploring possible trip locations and ways of travel. In addition, we help members find new roommates for travel. We meet on the 1st Thursday of each month at 10:30pm at the Oaks on Del Webb. We encourage members to attend lunch with us afterwards as we get to know one another better. Anne Goodman, a member from our inception in 2012 and avid traveler, takes on the SIG leadership role for 2023. Contact Anne Goodman at anne@goodman.net

WINE TASTING

Expand your palate, explore standout selections, and learn about wine in an entertaining, relaxed, interactive and unpretentious atmosphere. The Solos Wine Tasting SIG is scheduled to have a group event the 3rd Monday of each month at The Oaks and is hosted by members of the SIG.

Currently, these events have been attended by approximately 30 people, but there are 144 members of the Solos Wine Tasting SIG. Let's make these wine tasting events even more---music, blind wine tastings, education, games, visit wineries! One of the members is working on an offsite trip for wine in September! We need hosts and ideas! Currently I have hosts for April, June, and September. Contact me, get friends and sign up to host a month!

Whether you just want to sip wine and visit with friends or develop your knowledge and appreciation of wine or learn about wine and food pairings, the Wine SIG offers all. Come join us! Contact Mona Myers at 1416mona@gmail.com or 325-716-8277 for more info.

DAY TRIPPERS

Fun outings in Georgetown or around the area. For more information, contact Pauline Fredrickson at 512-818-1480 or pfred955@gmail.com

Volunteer!

If you are interested in volunteering on a committee in 2023 please contact the board member for your area of interest.

Name	Board Office	Email	Telephone
John Wardlow	President	dutrica@aol.com	916-267-0429
Mona Myers	Vice President	1461mona@gmail.com	325-716-8277
Sharon Stewart	Treasurer	sstewart8877@gmail.com	512-240-4580
Kathy Castoldi	Secretary	kcastoldi.kc@gmail.com	512-787-1057
Connie Bales	SIGS chair	bassinher@aol.com	512-426-3443
Linda McFarlin	Communications chair	linda@mcfarlin.com	479-244-5818
Barb Duke	Membership chair	barb2663@icloud.com	512-688-1632
Sue Bawcom	Activities chair	suebawcom@gmail.com	940-395-6861

SOLOS SUNSHINE LADY



Do you know a Solos member in the hospital or confined at home with a serious illness? Do you know about the death of a Solos member or a member who has lost an immediate family member? Let me introduce you to **Evelyn Crowl**, who has volunteered for the position of "Sunshine Member" for Solos. Evelyn will send out Get Well and Sympathy cards for Solos. Contact Evelyn at <u>evelini@usa.net</u> or 913-209-3830

A Note from the Editor

This Solos Club newsletter is compiled and distributed by Linda McFarlin, Communications Chairperson, and distributed to all Solos Club members via email. Current and past newsletters are available on the club's website.

Guidelines for Article Submission

Articles must be received by the 20^{th} of the month to be included in next month's newsletter Articles must be submitted digitally using email

~ Línda McFarlín Email: linda@mcfarlin.com