



LSS NEWSLETTER

June 2021
Volume 3, Issue 3



Northern Area June Gathering/Eatn' Meet Concert!

Date: Friday, June 11, 2021

Time: We will gather at the Park at 6:45 to 7:00 p.m.

Grab and Go Dinner at your choice of locations...eat there or bring to the concert venue as a picnic (see email). Bring your lawn chairs.

Concert is Free and Begins at 7:30 p.m.

Location: Mayor Vera Calvin Plaza in Old Town, 141 W Renfro Street, Burleson, TX

Burleson Parks and Recreation Presents "The Hot Sounds of Summer Concert" featuring Emerald City (a very popular North Texas Variety Performance Band)

RSVP: Cykeitha at Cykeithaw@yahoo.com

Attire: Comfortable Santa casual and your Lone Star Santa Vest if you have one.

Houston Area Eatn' Meetn'

June 12 at 11:00 am at Valley Ranch Grill & BBQ, 22548 State Hwy 249 (Tomball Pkwy & Spring Cypress), Houston, TX 77070

Everybody in Texas is welcome to come.

RSVP to: joyphillips14@gmail.com

San Antonio/Central Texas Area June Eatn' Meetn'

Date: June 19, 2021

Time: Saturday 11:30 a.m.

Location: Party room at Las Palapas, 4802 Walzem Rd, Windcrest, TX 78218

RSVP: iquein@hotmail.com or call 830.367.1133.

Attire: Comfortable Santa casual and/or your Lone Star Santa Vest.

Eatn' Meetn' Breakfast Panhandle Area

August 7th at 8:30 am the Amarillo/ Panhandle area is having an Eatn' Meetn' Breakfast at Youngblood's Cafe, (620 SW 16th Ave, Amarillo, TX 79101). If you have any questions, please contact Santa Chrys Griffing (806-316-0009).

4th of July Celebration in Belton/Temple

Plans for our 4th of July Celebration and service projects in Belton and Temple, TX are coming together. Please plan to join us. We always have a good time.

Wednesday, June 23, 2021– Sort Toys – at Santa Jim Fletcher at 9:00 a.m. for those in the area. His address is 17103 Cypress Glade Dr. Cypress, TX 77429

Thursday morning July 1, 2021, at 9:00 am - Load Toys and Canopies into trailer at Santa Jim's before leaving for Temple. *Wear a Round-Up shirt.*

Thursday, July 1, 2021, at 2:30 pm - **Eatn' Meetn'** for everybody at the Golden Corral 5101 S. General Bruce Drive, Temple, TX 76502.

Thursday evening, July 1, 2021, at 5:00 pm – Holiday Inn Hotel – Load individual Cars with toys for the Community Service Projects.

Friday, July 2, 2021, 7:30 am Breakfast. 8:30 Group meeting. 9:30 am leave for **Community Service Events**. We will divide into groups to take toys to McLane Children's Hospital, Central Texas Children's Center, Helping Hands TOO Day Habilitation (Helping Hands Daycare),

Foster Love House for Foster Care Bell County and we will visit with veterans at the Texas State Veterans Home. *Wear COT shirt & COT Vest.* Followed by a **Hamburger Lunch** at 1:00 pm at the Elks Club (2613 Airport Rd, Temple, TX 76504). One of the best hamburgers you have ever eaten.

Friday evening, 5:00 pm, we will attend the **Bell County PRCA Rodeo** (Bell County Expo, 301 W Loop 121, Belton, TX 76513). *Wear Red, White & Blue Texas Flag Shirt.*

Saturday, July 3, 2021 – **Fourth of July Parade** *Wear July 4th Shirts & COT Vests.* Meet in the hotel Lobby at 7:30 a.m. to be transported by Bus to the Parade staging area. The Bus will leave at 8:00 a.m. on the dot. Canopy Committee will meet the parade trailers at the staging area (time to be determined) to attach canopies to trailers. (Volunteers are needed). Parade starts at 10:00 a.m. Parade will end around 11:00 a.m. We will pull off at designated area and take the canopies off the parade trailers and pack into our Lone Star trailer. Buses will be at that location to take us back to the Hotel. We will return to the Hotel and around noon break into groups for lunch or Attend Festival in Belton.

July 4, 2021, at 3:00 pm, First Baptist Church (506 N Main St, Belton, TX, 76513) will hold their **God and Country Concert.** *Wear Red LSS Polos with either black or red pants.* Members can stay over or head home at their leisure.

Hotel in Temple

We will be staying at the Holiday Inn Temple (5247 S. General Bruce Drive, Temple, TX 76502). We have a block of rooms for \$116 per night with a full breakfast. Reservations can be made directly with the hotel (254) 778-5511, tell them you are with LSS. Any problems contact Sarah Japalucci, Sales Manager.

RV Park

Basin RV Resort,
10502 FM 2410, Belton, TX 76513,
(254) 393-1450,
belton@basinrvresort.com

If you plan to attend, please email Joy Phillips (joyphillips14@gmail.com). Let her know what day you are arriving, when you are leaving, where you are staying and what events you want to participating in.

Foster Love House

Foster Love House is the new location we are adding to our list to bring Love, Hope, Joy, and Toys. Foster Love Bell County, a 501 (c) (3) non-profit, sponsors the Foster Love House that is a transitional home for children waiting for their foster families.

This will be a large toy give away since they want to bring 75 – 100 of the foster children of Bell County to meet us. We will need a lot of Santas, Mrs. Clauses, and Elves to help with this project. It will be similar to a COT, where we setup toys on tables and allow the children to pick one. They will also receive a LSS Teddy Bear or other stuff animal.

If you are not able to join us in Belton, you can still help by purchasing items on Foster Love House's [Amazon Wish List](#) (*press ctrl +click on the link*). In the 'Gift Message' indicate you are part of Lone Star Santas.

ROUND UP 2021

Keeping Love, Hope, and Joy Alive Through the Stories of Christmas

Lone Star Santas Annual Round-Up 2021 was an immense success. It was held in San Marcos, TX, April 30 - May 2. A big round of applauses and thanks to all the Round-Up committee members and chairman Sue Thomason for all their hard work and dedication.

141 Santas, Mrs. Claus, Elves, & Reindeer Herders attend the convention. On Friday, a highly informative class for new Santas & Mrs. Clauses was held. In the afternoon, everybody helped with the service project benefiting San Marcos Head Start program. A creative Fashion Show was enjoyed that evening. The Exhibit Hall was filled with a wide variety of items and ideas from 12 vendors. Saturday was busy with

the keynote speaker, the celebration of the 10th Anniversary of the Convoy of Toys, 10 classes with an array of information and the cookie contest (*winning recipes are listed at the end of this newsletter*). The evening was celebrated with the Spirit of Christmas Legacy Award, dinner, and the 3rd Annual Variety Show. The Worship Service on Sunday closed out Round-Up for the year.

Thank you for those who attended. If you missed Round-Up this year, plan to attend in 2022 when Round-Up will be in Houston. There is always something new to learn.

Donations

LSS is thankful for all the donations made at Round-Up.

Santa Glenn Westberry very generously donated \$30,000 in memory of Sara Westberry for the Building Fund.

Santa James Berthold donated \$500 for the Convoy of Toys funds.

Santa Doug Wacker donated \$500 for the COT.

Rob Meyer's Knights of Columbus donated \$500 for the COT.

\$650 was raised for the Building Funds through the sale of the LSS Teddy Bears.

A total of \$500 has been made from the sale of Santa-tizers, also for the Building fund.

Santa Sid Dowel and Santa Glenn Westberry graciously paid the speaker's fee.

IRA Distribution Donation

At age 70 ½, you are required to take distribution from your IRA. It is usually taxed at 10 to 15%. If you donate directly from your IRA to Lone Star Santas Charities, Inc., there will be no taxes.

Building Committee

The Building committee is studying several places for the best possible location to build a Toy Barn to store toys, trailers, carts, etc. They are actively seeking donation for the Building Funds.

Organization Changes

1. After 10 years of being the Director and one of the founding members of Convoy of Toys (COT), Santa Doug Portwood has decided to resign the position for personal reasons. We want to thank Santa Doug for the tireless hours that he has spent starting this program and managing several COTs. We trust that Santa Doug will still be around to help us with future COTs as well as a contributing member of Lone Star Santas Charities. Please reach out to Santa Doug and let him know how much he is appreciated.

2. After being the first Chaplain of the Dallas/Fort Worth area Santa Bruce Hickman has decided to step down for medical reasons. Thank you, Santa Bruce for being instrumental in setting up our Chaplin program. Santa Barry Swindall has agreed to take over this role.

3. A big Thank You goes to Santa David Wyman for all his hard work overseeing the Toy Trailers. He has decided to relinquish the reins to the Toy Sleighs. Thank you, Santa David. Santa Lance McLean has agreed to take those reins and manage the Toy trailers. We have two toy trailers named Rudolph and Elf. Santa Bob Engles is the Sleigh Master for the Dallas/Fort Worth Area. Santa Ed Welsh and Santa Johnny Vykukal are assistant Sleigh Masters in the Houston Area. Santa Jim Flinn handles the San Antonio/Austin area.

4. Membership Committee Chair: Ms. Darla Bicknell has turned over the Chair position of the New Member Committee to Santa Dave

Hansen. Darla worked hard to create and organize this committee. Thank You, Darla all your work and continued support of Lone Star Santas! Santa Dave has been on the job for three months and done a great job. Santa Dave and his wife have just now decided to move to Florida. Thank you, Santa Dave. Santa Gary Bierschwale is excited to take over and greet new members.

PROTECTING OUR BRAND

OUR NAME:

LONE STAR SANTAS CHARITIES, INC.

(Legal Name)

LONE STAR SANTAS

(Common Name)

It is NOT ...

Lonestar Santas 'Lonestar'

is not a real word.

Lone Star Santa's 'Santa's'

show possession (Santa's Hat)

It IS ...

Lone Star Santas 'Santas' is PLURAL

(More than one Santa)

Don't Say ... I am a member of the Lone Star Santas

Say ... I am a member of Lone Star Santas

Don't Say ... He is a Lone Star Santa member

Say ... He is a Lone Star Santas member

All Graphics Shown are Registered Trademarks ...

Including our Lone Star Santas® name.



'Convoy of Toys'



All use is either LICENSED or by Permission of the Board.

Welcome Our New Members!

(Members that have joined between April 14th to June 6th)

Pamela Ezzell, *Eastland*

Willaim "Rusty" Ballard, *Forreston*

Jerod Duet, *Poteet*

Burley Gunn, III, *Hickory Creek*

James Willa, *League City*

Edward "Shawn" Gonzalez, *Seagoville*

Jay Ginn, *Richmond*

Cheri Ginn, *Richmond*

Jimmy Lee Bradberry, *N Richland Hills*

Jamie Saucier, *Huntsville*

News from the Board

- Next Board meeting will be June 14th at 7:00 PM.

LSS Chaplains

If you are in need or know of someone that needs a chaplain or are in the hospital, please contact Your LSS Chaplains:

N. Texas - Santa Barry Swindall (817) 269-9874

Houston - Santa "Doc" Brad Black (832) 628-6313

Central Texas area - Santa Sid Dowel (361) 813-9424

Membership Notes & Tips:

- FYI – LSS membership list will never be shared or sold. Your information is private.
- If you are not getting the LSS emails, check the email address in your profile on www.LoneStarSantas.com. If you only view your Santa email address during the season, this not the email to have in your profile.
- Join **LSS Facebook** Page, it is a private group follow this link [LSS Charities, Inc.](https://www.facebook.com/LSSCharitiesInc) then request to join. It is a great way to keep-up with our latest events!
- If you need a LSS shirts, hats, decals, magnetic signs, license plate holders, members vest or other merchandise contact:

Santa General Store.

<https://santageneralstorelss.com/> or email
workshop@santageneralstore.com.

Current LSS Board Members

Voting

Santa Glenn Westberry – President
Mrs. Claus Jane Quein – Vice President
Santa Jerry England - Treasurer
Sue Thomason – Secretary
Santa Gene Goetz – IT/Communication
Santa George Campbell – At Large
Santa Russell Berrier – At Large

Non-Voting

Santa Jim Fletcher, President Emeritus
– COT Lead
Santa Gary Bierschwale – Membership
Santa Deryl McKenzie - Marketing
Santa Jim Flinn - Marketing
Santa Doc Brad Black – Chaplain
Santa Sid Dowel - Chaplain
Santa Barry Swindall - Chaplain
Santa Tom Sorrels - Insurance
Santa Lance McLean – Lead Sleigh Master
Santa Bob Engle – Sleigh Master
Santa Ed Welsh – Assistant Sleigh Master
Santa Johnny Vykukal - Assistant Sleigh Masters
*Contact info is in the Directory on the LSS
webpage.*

LSS Newsletter

If you have any suggestions or ideas for future editions or comments, or need some information publish in the next edition, please send Joy Phillips an email. joyphillips14@gmail.com;

Winning Cookie Recipes

1st Place – Santa Lance McLean & Sue West

Lacy Cookies

½ cup white sugar
½ cup light brown sugar
½ cup butter (regular not light) melted
3 TB flour
¼ tsp salt

1 egg
½ tsp vanilla
¼ tsp baking powder
¾ cup quick oats
¾ cup K cereal

- Mix all above ingredients and then add oatmeal and cereal last – mix well
- Let batter sit in bowl for ½ hour prior to putting on parchment paper lined cookie sheets
- Drop by ½ tsp onto parchment paper – not too close as they will spread
- Bake at 300 degrees for 4 minutes, rotate sheet 180 degrees and bake 2-6 minutes – watch carefully so they don't burn – cookies should be light brown and slightly sticky
- It's better if you cook one sheet at a time on the middle rack of the oven
- COOL completely before removing from parchment paper
- Store in an airtight container
- Makes 3 dozen
- Enjoy!

2nd Place - Jo Welsh

Orange Drop Cookies

Gluten Free

2 c sugar
2 eggs
1 t soda
Juice of 2 oranges (1 cup)
6 c flour - (I used King Arthur Gluten Free Flour)
1 c shortening
1 c sour milk
Orange rind from the 2 oranges

Whisk the flour and soda together in one bowl.

Beat sugar, eggs, shortening together. Add in the juice, milk and rind. Gradually add in flour.

Drop cookies by spoonfuls onto baking sheet and bake at 375. Bake for 10 minutes or until lightly brown around the edges.

Makes about 8 dozen cookies.

3rd Place – Janet Goetz

Grandma Janet's Triple Chip Pecan Cookies

Ingredients

- 1 egg
- 1 cup brown sugar
- ½ cup butter
- 1 ¼ cups flour
- ¼ cup pecans (chopped)
- ¼ cup milk chocolate chips
- ¼ cup white chocolate chips
- ¼ cup caramel chips (used Kraft Carmel Bits)
- 1 tsp vanilla
- ½ tsp baking soda

Cream sugar and butter. Add egg and stir well. Add flour, baking soda, vanilla, all chips and lastly pecans. Drop by teaspoonfuls on lightly greased cookie sheet (I like to use parchment paper). Bake at 325 degrees until lightly browned, about 10-12 minutes. Let cool slightly. Makes 2 dozen cookies. Very yummy!!