

JANUARY 2020

WSC - WBR SENIOR CENTER

BTH - BRUSLY TOWN HALL

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sa |
|--|--|--|--|--|-------------------------------|----|
| | | | 1 New Year's Day | 2 9 am - Quilting 1 pm - H&F (All WSC) | 3 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | 4 |
| 6 9 am - Aerobics 1 pm - Dominoes (All WSC) | 7 9 am - Pokeno-2 (WSC) 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | 8 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) 10 am - I Phone (PA Library) 1 pm - Bouree (WSC) | 9 9 am - Quilting 1 pm - H&F (All WSC) | 10 9 am - Aerobics 10 am - Bridge (All WSC) | 11 | |
| 13 9 am - Aerobics 1 pm - Dominoes (All WSC) | 14 9 am - Pokeno-1 (WSC) 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | 15 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | 16 9 am - Quilting 1 pm - H&F (All WSC) | 17 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | 18 | |
| 20 9 am - Aerobics 1 pm - Dominoes (All WSC) | 21 1 pm - Tripoley (WSC) 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | 22 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | 23 9 am - Quilting 1 pm - H&F (All WSC) | 24 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | 25 | |
| 27 9 am - Aerobics 1 pm - Dominoes 6 pm - Bouree (All WSC) | 28 10 am - BUNCO Addis Com. Ctr. 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | 29 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | 30 9 am - Quilting 1 pm - H&F (All WSC) | 31 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | | |

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit*
January 2020 Activity Update

****NEW**BUNCO GAME DAY, JANUARY 28, 2020 –10:00 A.M. TO 3:00 P.M., ADDIS COMMUNITY CENTER** – Senior Spirit members are invited to enjoy the fast-paced dice game of BUNCO at 10:00 a.m. on January 28, 2020. Thanks to Joyce and Kenneth Barbier for again chairing this event! Each BUNCO table has four players who take turns rolling the dice. We play two rounds of BUNCO; each round is \$5.00 which makes up the cash prizes awarded. At the end of the round, winners are declared based on their scores. Joyce Barbier will explain the rules of BUNCO at the start of the day; all needed supplies will be provided. To register, please call Joyce Barbier at 383-0232 by January 21, 2020. Refreshments and a light lunch will be served.

SECOND FRIDAY BRIDGE -- Bridge is set for 10 a.m., Friday, January 10, 2020 at the WBR Senior Center. Participants should bring a brown bag lunch. Players are: Karla Argrave, Babs Babin, Betty Blanchard, Karen Cordell, Jean Crites, Jocelyn Gauthreaux, Sara & Skipper Grady, Bobbi Graham, Dolores Hebert, Gwen Landry, Lucy Landry, Nyhlia Moore, Donna Peavy, Susie Prejean, Edana Robnett, Deborah Rochelle, Henry Soniat, Elisa Tubbs, and Gale Thibodeaux. Walter Landry will sub. Please call or e-mail Babs Babin at 749-2518 or bbbabin@cox.net if you are unable to play.

DAYTIME BOUREE GAME – The next afternoon bouree game will be on Wednesday, January 8, 2020, from 1-4 p.m. at the WBR Senior Center. Players registered are: Karla Argrave, Marion Badeaux, Catherine Blanchard, Sonya Boudreaux, Lou Brown, Wanda Daigle, Lova Doucet, Jessie Doucet, John LaBauve, Walter Landry, Gerald Mabile, Judy Medlen, Dolores Mendoza, Roy Mouch, Jr., Myrle Ostergren, Pat Ramagos, Charlene Savoy, Richard Savoy, Henry Soniat, Faye Watts, and Jean Witten. Please call or e-mail Lucy Landry at 749-2981 or lucyplandry@bellsouth.net if you are unable to play.

NIGHTTIME BOUREE GAME – The next nighttime bouree game will be Monday, January 27, 2020, from 6-9 pm at the WBR Senior Center. Players registered are: Babs Babin, Marion Badeaux, Catherine Blanchard, Nancy Carville, Larry Daigle, Wanda Daigle, Lova & Jessie Doucet, Virgie Fabre, Gerilee Fontenot, Betty Landry, Harry Landry, Gerald Mabile, Rhett Marionneaux, Judy Medlen, Dolores Mendoza, Roy Mouch, Jr., Julie Prejean, Vivian Slay, Henry Soniat, and Jean Witten. Wait listed are John LaBauve and Charlene Savoy. Call Babs Babin at 749-2518 or e-mail her at bbbabin@cox.net if you are unable to play.

MEXICAN CARDINAL TRAIN DOMINOES – The next games will be played on Monday, January 6, 13, 20, 27, 2020 at 1:00 p.m. at the WBR Senior Center in Brusly. Players include Albert and Joyce Bordelon, Virginia Butitta, Corrine Daigle, Tut Diez, Sue Gauthreaux, Dena Hebert, Lenora LeBlanc, Mary Mouch, Nelson Stein, Betty and Bill Stewart. Please call Sue Gauthreaux at 749-2019 to register or if you are unable to play.

West Baton West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit is a program of West Baton Rouge Parks & Recreation Dept.

FEBRUARY 2020

WSC - WBR SENIOR CENTER

BTH - BRUSLY TOWN HALL

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|---|--|--|---|---|-----|
| | | | | | | 1 |
| 3 | 9 am - Aerobics 1 pm -- Dominoes (All WSC) | 4 9 am - Pokeno-2 (WSC) 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | 5 9 am - Aerobics 9:45 am - Making a King Cake (All WSC) | 6 9 am - Quilting 1 pm -- H&F (All WSC) | 7 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | 8 |
| 10 | 9 am - Aerobics 1 pm -- Dominoes (All WSC) | 11 9 am - Pokeno-1 (WSC) 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | 12 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) 10 am - I Phone Class (PA Library) 1 pm - Bouree (WSC) | 13 9 am - Quilting 1 pm -- H&F (All WSC) | 14 9 am - Aerobics 10 am -- Bridge (All WSC) | 15 |
| 17 | 9 am - Aerobics 1 pm -- Dominoes (All WSC) | 18 1 pm - Tripoley (WSC) 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | 19 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | 20 9 am - Quilting 1 pm -- H&F (All WSC) | 21 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | 22 |
| 24 | 9 am - Aerobics 1 pm - Dominoes 6 pm -- Bouree (All WSC) | 25 MARDI GRAS 6:30 am - Depart for Eunice from SJB Parking Lot 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | 26 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | 27 9 am - Quilting 1 pm -- H&F (All WSC) | 28 9 am - Aerobics 10 am -- Bridge (WSC) | 29 |

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit*
February 2020 Activity Update

****NEW**SENIOR SPIRIT CELEBRATES MARDI GRAS WITH TWO EVENTS: "MAKING A KING CAKE" AND "LET'S GO TO THE MARDI GRAS!"**

****NEW**"MAKING A KING CAKE!" WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2020, 9:45 A.M., WBR SENIOR CENTER** – Elaine Pearce, who is well known for her baking skills, will demonstrate making king cakes. Senior Spirit participants will also have the opportunity to make a small cake. This will be a morning of learning and enjoyment as we take part in the tradition of the carnival king cake, first introduced to the area by Pierre Lemoyne, French-Canadian explorer, in 1699. Please register by Monday, February 3, 2020 by calling or e-mailing Babs Babin, 749-2518 or bbbabin@cox.net or Lucy Landry at 749-2981 or lucyplandry@bellsouth.net. This activity will be fun for all!

****NEW**MARDI GRAS, TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 25, 2020, "LET'S GO TO THE MARDI GRAS!"**– Plans are underway for us to take part in the traditional Courir de Mardi Gras in Eunice, LA. We will enjoy seeing the "Country Mardi Gras" which includes horseback riders in their beautifully decorated costumes, decorated wagons, and of course, the chicken chase. The Acadian Cultural Center will provide indoor entertainment as well with the story of the "Country Mardi Gras." The Cultural Center has a gift shop with local crafts and other amenities. To learn more, go to the Facebook site "Le Vieux Mardi Gras De Cajuns," Eunice, LA. There will be many activities in downtown Eunice after we see the Courir. At 3:00 p.m., there will be the Courir de Mardi Gras Parade. After the parade we depart for home. We plan to depart from St. John the Baptist Catholic Church parking lot, 504 Kirkland Drive, at 6:30 a.m. and return at approximately 6:00 p.m. Cost for the trip is \$60 which includes charter bus and Cultural Center donation. Lunch is to be bought on an individual basis in the downtown area. We must have a minimum of 25 participants for the trip to take place. To register, please call Carolyn Dupuy at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church at 749-2189 by Monday, February 10, 2020. Payment is due by February 10, 2020. Please mail checks to Carolyn Dupuy, St. John the Baptist Catholic Church, P. O. Box 248, or visit the office, 504 Kirkland Drive, Brusly, to make your payment. We are excited about this south Louisiana Mardi Gras Trip!

****NEW**MEMORIES OF ADDIS, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2020, 11:30 A.M., ADDIS CIVIC CENTER, 4343 HARRIS ST., LOCATED NEXT TO THE ADDIS MUSEUM.** In 2015, the Town of Addis celebrated 100 years of incorporation. Today we see the significant growth of Addis, which was originally a railroad town. There are many interesting stories and fond memories that surround the development of the town. Frank Foret and Jocelyn Gauthreaux, both of whom have deep roots in the community, will share some of their memories and knowledge when we informally gather. Participants in attendance will be welcome to share events and photographs of their Addis experiences. This event is co-sponsored by Our Ancestors in Photos and Senior Spirit. A light lunch will be provided. Please register by Monday, March 2, 2020, by calling or e-mailing Babs Babin, 749-2518 or bbbabin@cox.net, or Lucy Landry, 749-2981, lucyplandry@bellsouth.net.

****NEW**FOURTH FRIDAY BRIDGE, FEBRUARY 28, 2020, WBR SENIOR CENTER** – A number of bridge players suggested playing the game on the Fourth Friday in addition to the Second Friday. The organization for Fourth Friday is different in that each table of four players will have a leader who will arrange for four players to attend. The leader must also provide cards for his or her table. Elisa Tubbs agreed to coordinate Fourth Friday, and all arrangements will be made by her. Each table leader should call or e-mail Elisa with their arrangements and questions. She can be reached at 225/456-7000 or eetubbs@gmail.com. A maximum of five tables is allowed due to space limitations.

MARCH 2020

WSC - WBR SENIOR CENTER BTH - BRUSLY TOWN HALL

| Sun | Mon | Tue | Wed | Thu | Fri | Sat |
|-----|--|--|---|--|---|-----|
| | 2 9 am - Aerobics 1 pm - Dominoes (All WSC) | 3 9 am - Pokeno-2 (WSC) 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | 4 9 am - Aerobics, (WSC) 11:30 am - Memories of Addis (Addis Civic Center) | 5 9 am - Quilting 1 pm - H&F (All WSC) | 6 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | 7 |
| | 9 9 am - Aerobics 9:45 am - Medicare Presentation 1 pm - Dominoes (All WSC) | 10 9 am - Pokeno-1 (WSC) 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | 11 9 am - Aerobics, (WSC) 10 am - I-Phone Class (PA Library) 1 pm - Bouree (WSC) | 12 9 am - Quilting 1 pm - H&F (All WSC) | 13 9 am - Aerobics 10 am - Bridge (All WSC) | 14 |
| | 16 9 am - Aerobics 1 pm - Dominoes (All WSC) | 17 1 pm - Tripoley (WSC) 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | 18 9 am - Aerobics, (WSC) | 19 9 am - Quilting 1 pm - H&F (All WSC) | 20 9 am - Aerobics (WSC) | 21 |
| | 23 9 am - Aerobics 1 pm - Dominoes 6 pm - Bouree (All WSC) | 24 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | 25 9 am - Aerobics, (WSC) | 26 9 am - Quilting 1 pm - H&F (All WSC) | 27 7:30 am - Day Trip to Gretna & Chalmette 9 am - Aerobics 10 am - Bridge (All WSC) | 28 |
| | 30 9 am - Aerobics 1 pm - Dominoes (All WSC) | 31 6 pm - Bridge (BTH) | | | | |

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit*
March 2020 Activity Update

***NEW**MEMORIES OF ADDIS, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 4, 2020, 11:30 A.M., ADDIS CIVIC CENTER, 4343 HARRIS ST., LOCATED NEXT TO THE ADDIS MUSEUM. In 2015, the Town of Addis celebrated 100 years of incorporation. Today we see the significant growth of Addis, which was originally a railroad town. There are many interesting stories and fond memories that surround the development of the town. Frank Foret and Jocelyn Gauthreaux, both of whom have deep roots in the community, will share some of their memories and knowledge when we informally gather. Participants in attendance will be welcome to share events and photographs of their Addis experiences. This event is co-sponsored by Our Ancestors in Photos and Senior Spirit. A light lunch will be provided. Please register by Monday, March 2, 2020, by calling or e-mailing Babs Babin, 749-2518 or bbbabin@cox.net, or Lucy Landry, 749-2981, lucyplandry@bellsouth.net.**

****NEW**WBR COUNCIL ON AGING PRESENTS PROGRAM ON MEDICARE, MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2020, 9:45 A.M.-10:30 A.M. WBR SENIOR CENTER, 235 ELAINE STREET, BRUSLY—This program will assist lower-income Medicare eligible individuals to apply for programs that help pay for their Medicare cost. Topics are: Find extra help for Medicare services and benefits, Enroll Medicare eligible clients in Low Income Subsidy Program, Enroll in Medicare Savings Plan, Enroll in Medicare Part D (Prescription Drug Plan), Senior RX Discount Prescription Drugs. It's not necessary to register for this program. Please bring your Social Security number or existing Medicare and insurance cards, proof of income and list of medicines.**

***NEW**DAY TRIP BY CHARTER BUS TO GRETNA AND CHALMETTE, LA – FRIDAY, MARCH 27, 2020 – We will experience Gretna's charm and rich history as we walk through one of Louisiana's largest historic districts. Ronnie Gauthreaux, Tourism Director will lead the tour which includes the Gretna Ferry House, River Overlook, St. Joseph Church and Gardens, Mel Ott Park, and more. From Gretna we travel to Chalmette, which is in St. Bernard Parish. Lunch is at Rocky and Carlo's, a local favorite for many years. The cafeteria style restaurant is famous for many foods including macaroni and cheese and veal Parmesan. After lunch we visit Chalmette Battlefield, site of the Battle of New Orleans which happened on January 8, 1815, and the National Cemetery Visitor Center. Registration is \$75 which includes motor coach transportation, lunch, and any admission costs. We must have a minimum of 25 participants for the trip. We leave St. John's parking lot at 7:30 a.m. and return at approximately 6:00 p.m. Registration and payment deadline is Friday, March 13, 2020. To register, call either Carolyn Dupuy or Layne Mire at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church at 749-2189. Payment may be made by check. Please send it to Carolyn Dupuy, St. John the Baptist, P. O. Box 248, Brusly, LA 70719 or visit the church office located at 504 S. Kirkland Drive (River Road). We look forward to our visit to Jefferson and St. Bernard Parishes where local history is being preserved.**

****UPCOMING EVENTS IN APRIL **WATCH OUR APRIL NEWSLETTER FOR SEVERAL NEW ACTIVITIES, INCLUDING A VISIT TO MICHELANGELO—A DIFFERENT VIEW, RAISING CANE'S RIVER CENTER. THIS EXHIBIT PROVIDES VIEWS OF REPLICAS OF THE BEAUTIFUL SISTINE CHAPEL CEILING FRESCOES.**

SECOND FRIDAY BRIDGE -- Bridge is set for 10 a.m., Friday, March 13, 2020 at the WBR Senior Center. Participants should bring a brown bag lunch. Players are: Karla Argrave, Babs Babin, Betty Blanchard, Karen Cordell, Jean Crites, Sara & Skipper Grady, Bobbi Graham, Dolores Hebert, Gwen Landry, Lucy Landry, Nyhlia Moore, Donna Peavy, Susie Prejean, Edana Robnett, Deborah Rochelle, Henry Soniat, Ruth Stanley, Gale Thibodeaux, and Elisa Tubbs. Please call or e-mail Babs Babin at 749-2518 or bbbabin@cox.net if you are unable to play.

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit

May 2020 Activity Update

Message from Babs and Lucy:

We hope all our Senior Spirit members are doing well during this pandemic.

Many of us are playing solitaire, bridge, and Words with Friends during this time. Some are watching religious shows and taking care of older family members. Others have been taking daily exercise by walking or riding bikes.

Additionally, some have learned to do Walmart pick-up in an effort to stay out of stores. While others are receiving help from younger family members who pick up the groceries they need.

Lucy is spending a lot of time on her front porch watching people walking on the levee trail while Babs is breathing fresh air on her patio.

Hopefully we will be returning back to normal before too long. We miss our Senior Spirit activities and friends.

Sr. Spirit trip February 25, 2020
Courir de Mardi Gras in Eunice, LA



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West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit

June 2020 Activity Update

Message from Babs and Lucy:

For the past 2/1/2 months, life has been very different for all of us. We wish you well as we continue to do our best in unprecedented circumstances. In speaking with Clara Olinde at WBR Parks and Recreation, she said that they continue to follow the Governor's directions. All parks remain closed with the exception of the walking trails and recently, the tennis courts have been allowed to open. We miss seeing you!

For an outing, perhaps now is a good time to visit the beautiful LSU Campus and Mike the Tiger, walk the levee trail, or enjoy the abundant flowers at the Hilltop Arboretum on Highland Road.

We are including several pictures from the Senior Spirit Garden Tours that took place last spring. Enjoy!



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Pictured at Clare Levert Harmon's garden are Karen Cordell, Andrea Normand, Fannie Easterly, and Clare Levert Harmon.

Shown at Marlene Curcio's garden are Karen Cordell, Jo Busse, Sara Grady, Marlene Curcio, and Sue Gauthreaux.

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit

July 2020 Activity Update

Message from Babs and Lucy:

As we move into July with coronavirus cases continuing to rise in West Baton Rouge Parish, a spokesperson for Anatole Vincent, Director of Parish Parks and Recreation, said that walking trails and all parish parks are open with the exception of the splash pads. Ball games are being held and spectators are encouraged to wear masks and practice social distancing at all events.

On a state level, Governor John Bel Edwards has pushed the state's reopening to July 24 due to an influx of new coronavirus cases and hospitalizations that have alarmed health officials. Most establishments like retailers, casinos, barbershops, restaurants, bars with food service and others are allowed 50% occupancy.

After seeing cases and hospitalizations rise sharply in some areas in recent days, health officials consulted by Edwards recommended halting the reopening to decrease the caseload. The state also plans to step up enforcement of social distancing rules at business places.

Stay safe and wear your mask!



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Senior Spirit members gathered at the Addis Community Center on January 28, 2020 to enjoy Bunco Game Day co-chaired by Joyce and Bubbie Barbier.

Pictured above are winners of the morning and afternoon sessions with Joyce Barbier. From left are Kathy LeBlanc, Ronnie Hotard, Emma Lefebvre, Julie Prejean, Karen Jewison, Shirley Barbee, Margie Landry, Eileen Brocato, Joyce Barbier, Virginia Buttia, Deannie DeJean, Jackie Tullier, and Walter Landry.

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit is a program of the West Baton Rouge Parks & Recreation Dept.

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit

August 2020 Activity Update

Message from Babs and Lucy:

We hope that our Senior Spirit group is doing well as we all face this global pandemic. We remain grateful to our group leaders: Carolyn Blanchard, Evelyn Clouatre, Judy Medlen, Sue Gauthreaux, Joyce Barbier, Julie Prejean and Joan Sharon. We miss the card games, dominoes, aerobics, quilting, Pokeno, trips and friendly contacts experienced with all. We look forward to the day when we once again enjoy the various activities. And, we are thankful for Stella Tanoos' help with the newsletter. Until we can have a regular schedule again, we will try and stay connected by writing various memories of past events.

MEMORIES OF ADDIS, MARCH 4, 2020

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit, the Town of Addis, the Addis Museum, and the online group, Our Ancestors in Photos, sponsored "The Memories of Addis" event. It was a gathering of friends and family with significant ties to the development of the community. Memories, both poignant and jovial were shared.

Frank Foret began with a presentation of the beginnings of the community. Originally called "Baton Rouge Junction" the area's development began when the Texas and Pacific railroad was built from Addis to New Orleans, in 1881-1882. The town's name was changed to Addis in 1910. J. W. Addis was a T & P leader. Frank, who grew up in Alexandria, LA and later moved to Addis, shared that his grandfather, George E. Booksh, was a T & P telegrapher, who was elected as the Village of Addis' first mayor in 1915. He served two terms, and was elected again in 1930, and served as mayor until his death in 1967.

Here are a few of the memories shared by participants:

Gene Bertrand – Gene noted that we were meeting in the "old fire station", now called the Addis Civic Center. The building first belonged to the railroad and was used as a blacksmith shop. The railroad donated the building to the Addis Fire Department. A deal was made with Rodosta Brothers, who tore the building down, kept half the lumber, and the other half was used in the construction of the present building.

Dolores Hebert White – Dolores was born in Addis. She remembered "the closeness we had as a community". Dolores attended Levert-Addis School, where Charles Lousteau served as principal.

Patsy Henderson Dorsey – Patsy grew up on Main Street. She, also recalled the "close knit community", and enjoyed walking to the local grocery for a "5 cents coke" and a "huge Moon Pie".

Betty Prejean Landry – Betty remembered the German prisoners who worked in the cane fields. She said the blond haired, blue-eyed young men were "good looking"! Betty also attended Levert-Addis school.

(Continued next page)

Lorena Hebert Russo – Lorena remembered the Troop Trains, and waving to the young men on board. She recalled walking a gravel road to the Levert-Addis School.

There are many more memories recorded by Billy Hebert. Perhaps in the future, we will be able to compile all of the memories in a booklet.

At the closing of the event, Billy announced the Acadian Heritage Celebration, was scheduled for August 15, 2020. This program would coincide with the Canadian celebration of “National Acadian Day”. Due to the present pandemic, this celebration has been postponed.

West Baton Rouge Parish is grateful to Addis Mayor David Toups, Frank Foret, Jocelyn Gauthreaux and Billy Hebert for their help in planning and making the “Memories of Addis” possible.

In Memory: *Carroll P. Bourgeois*, Mayor of Addis from 1980 – 1999, passed away on July 29, 2020 and *Lisa Batts*, who served as Chairwomen of the Addis 75th Birthday Celebration in 1990, passed away on June 17, 2020. May they rest in peace.



WBR PARISH COMMUNITY CENTER TAX ELECTION ON AUGUST 15, 2020

A 3 mill tax renewal will provide approximately \$1.33 million annually for the operation of the parishes community centers for 10 years. The funding includes the West Baton Rouge Parish Senior Center on Elaine Street. Please remember to vote on August 15, 2020.

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit

September 2020 Activity Update

Message from Babs and Lucy:

We hope that our Senior Spirit group is doing well as we all face this global pandemic. We remain grateful to our group leaders: Carolyn Blanchard, Evelyn Clouatre, Judy Medlen, Sue Gauthreaux, Joyce Barbier, Julie Prejean and Joan Sharon. We miss the card games, dominoes, aerobics, quilting, Pokeno, trips and friendly contacts experienced with all. We look forward to the day when we once again enjoy the various activities. And, we are thankful for Stella Tanoos' help with the newsletter. Until we can have a regular schedule again, we will try and stay connected by writing various memories of past events.

Humanitarian Award February 4, 2020

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit was awarded a Humanitarian Award at the Annual Banquet of the West Baton Rouge Chamber of Commerce on February 4, 2020. The award recognized the 12-year old organization for its work in the community. Beginning as a small group of bridge players meeting on Tuesday nights in 2008 in a classroom at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church to its own facility at 225 Elaine Street in Brusly, West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit has grown from a group of 35 interested participants to over 400 members. Lucy Landry and Babs Babin co-direct the 12-year old organization which provides activities for persons 50 and older. Group leaders manage the individual activities.

Initially over 100 people identified their interest in participating in the organization as a result of information gathered at two public meetings and written survey responses. Participation in activities is open to anyone in WBR Parish, however prior registration is required. As interest in the organization grew, a number of Iberville Parish residents have also joined WBR Senior Spirit.

On September 8, 2008, West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit kicked off with a "Walk in Alexander Park" and the opening of the WBR Senior Center on Elaine Street in Brusly. WBR Senior Spirit is sponsored by the WBR Parks and Recreation Department in cooperation with the Town of Brusly and St. John the Baptist Catholic Church.

A strength of the organization is that it allows for self-direction and informal exchange among participants. Group leaders direct the regular activities which include aerobics, bouree, bridge, dominoes, hand and foot canasta, pokeno, quilting, and tripoley. Additional activities include trips, pot luck lunches and suppers with guest speakers, and holiday socials. Each month a newsletter and calendar are distributed to participants.

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit provides a lively environment for its members and we hope to soon restart activities again.



West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit

October 2020 Activity Update

Message from Babs and Lucy:

Greetings to our Senior Spirit friends. We hope that all are well.

On **Friday, October 23, 2020**, at 9:00 a.m.--10:00 a.m., we invite you to gather at Alexander Park in Brusly. For those who wish, we can walk the sidewalk path, sit under the pavilion or sit under the trees. Bring your own chair if you wish to sit. We will stay at a safe distance and wear protective masks as necessary. You can bring whatever refreshments you want to enjoy. Let's wish for a nice, crisp cool day as we try this first activity since March. Please call Babs, 749-2518 or Lucy, 749-2981 with any questions.

We are publishing this newsletter with the help of Stella Tanoos, WBR Parks and Recreation, and the Town of Brusly. We thank them for their help.

PICTURES FROM OUR TEXAS TRIP, APRIL 30--MAY 2, 2019

This two-night trip to Tyler, Dallas, Forth Worth, Palestine and Jacksonville was filled with many various activities. The Tyler Rose Gardens are in full bloom in April and October, and are beautiful. We enjoyed the AT&T/Dallas Cowboys Stadium tour, the Bush Library, Southfork Ranch, Palestine Railroad ride, and a visit to the Texas Basket Company in Jacksonville.



THE AT&T STADIUM GROUP PICTURE

The tour included the Cowboys Locker Room, Media Press Box, Cotton Bowl Offices and more. Of course the highlight was the great view of the stadium, field, and the giant screen!



THE TEXAS BASKET COMPANY

On May 2, the day that Senior Spirit visited the basket company, it was celebrating its 100th Anniversary. It is the only remaining basket making company in Texas. It originally made baskets for shipping peaches and tomatoes, and now has a greatly expanded business. Its products may be ordered online.

Reminiscing over the Texas trip helps us to look forward to the time when we can once again travel and enjoy all of the other Senior Spirit activities that bring us together.

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit

November 2020 Activity Update

Message from Babs and Lucy:

November greetings to our Senior Spirit Friends! On October 23, 2020, sixteen of us gathered at Alexander Park in Brusly for a visit and walk. We enjoyed visiting, and all expressed an interest in resuming those activities which are possible during Phase 3 of the Covid pandemic.

We contacted WBR Parks and Recreation, and Anatole Vincent, Director, asked that we open activities where participants can be six feet apart, wear masks when possible, and limit the number of participants to 20 people at the Brusly Senior Center. Group Leaders Carolyn Blanchard, aerobics; and Joan Sharon, quilting, agreed to re-start these activities.

AEROBICS

Aerobics will begin on Monday, November 9, 2020, 9:00 a.m. at the Senior Center. Carolyn is contacting participants, however, if you are not contacted and want to exercise, please call Carolyn at 225-223-3707.

QUILTING

Quilting will re-start on Thursday, November 12, 2020, 9:00 a.m. Joan is contacting participants. If you wish to take part and are not contacted, please call Joan at 225-749-8327.

POKENO AND HAND AND FOOT CANASTA

If it can be arranged to safely play Pokeno and Hand and Foot Canasta, we will start those activities in December 2020. If you are interested in playing Pokeno, please call Evelyn Clouarte, 225-933-8924. Please call Julie Prejean, 225-776-4433, if you are interested in playing Canasta.

NEW ACTIVITY – LIGHT BREAKFAST BRUNCH

Wednesday, December 2, 2020, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., Port Allen Community Center

Senior Spirit is hosting a light breakfast brunch on Wednesday, December 2. Four people will sit at a round table, which will be safely arranged according to current guidelines. To enter, **one must wear a mask**, which may be removed when eating.

To register, please call or email Babs Babin, 749-2518 / bbbabin@cox.net or Lucy Landry, 749-2981 / lucyplandry@bellsouth.net by Friday, November 27, 2020. We are limiting the number of participants to 40 people, so try and call as early as possible. It certainly will be good to get out and visit!

October 23, 2020

Alexander Park in Brusly for a visit and walk



Front Row: Walter Landry, Carolyn Blanchard, Sue Gauthreaux, Elaine Richard
Second Row: Lorraine Landry, Babs Babin, Jennifer Landry, Betty Landry, Bobbi Graham
Third Row: Joan Diamond, Riley Diamond, Tonya LaBauve, David Fontenot, Donna Reff, Claudette Fontenot.
Not pictured Lucy Landry.

West Baton Rouge Senior Spirit

December 2020 Activity Update

Message from Babs and Lucy:

Greetings to our Senior Spirit friends. We are grateful that two of our Senior Spirit activities have been occurring during the last month. Our thanks to Joan Sharon, Quilting, and Carolyn Blanchard, Aerobics for leading these activities. Also, we thank Stella Tanoos for her continued help with the newsletter.

We scheduled a breakfast brunch at the Port Allen Community Center for December 2, and a number of you have responded. Unfortunately, because of the uptick in the Covid19 cases, that event will be postponed. We were looking forward to gathering, however, we plan to have a similar event in the future.

NEW ACTIVITY – LIGHT BREAKFAST BRUNCH

Wednesday, December 2, 2020, 10:00 a.m.-11:00 a.m., Port Allen Community Center

Senior Spirit is hosting a light breakfast brunch on Wednesday, December 2. Four people will sit at a round table, which will be safely arranged according to current guidelines. To enter, **one must wear a mask**, which may be removed when eating.

To register, please call or email Babs Babin, 749-2518 / bbbabin@cox.net or Lucy Landry, 749-2981 / lucyplandry@bellsouth.net by Friday, November 27, 2020. We are limiting the number of participants to 40 people, so try and call as early as possible. It certainly will be good to get out and visit!

BRIDGE PLAYERS

For our bridge players, we have some information to share. There is an online bridge site called Bridge Base Online. Several of us have been playing once a week, and while it is not the same as playing in "real life", it is enjoyable. BBO is free, and if some of you would like to start a table, Bobbi Graham is willing to help you get started. Her telephone number is 636-5248. The four of us who play also remain on a conference call for the 2 or 3 hours that we play. That way, we can talk as usual!

KEEPING IN STEP AND IN SHAPE!

On Monday, November 23, 2020, these four Senior Spirits were doing low impact aerobics at the Senior Center. We congratulate them for their perseverance and look forward to the time when more can join them. Exercising are Carolyn Blanchard, Mary Kay Vince, Jocelyn Gauthreaux and Elaine Richard.

