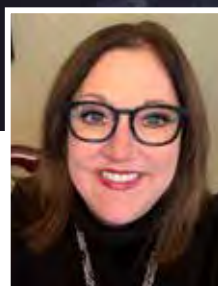


# THE BERKELEY PLACE POOBAH

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE BERKELEY PLACE ASSOCIATION, FORT WORTH, TX



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

**AMY ALLIBON, BPA PRESIDENT**

Happy New Year, Berkeley! I hope changing your calendar (electronic, paper, either, or both) provides the promise of hope for the upcoming year. Holidays are a time of joy but can also be a time of sorrow and reflection. There is something refreshing about a new year, though. I hope 2023 brings hope and renewal to each Berkeley family.

As we begin a new year, it is time to pay annual BPA dues. Included in this issue is a form you can mail with your payment and information on how to pay electronically using Venmo or Paypal. Thank you for

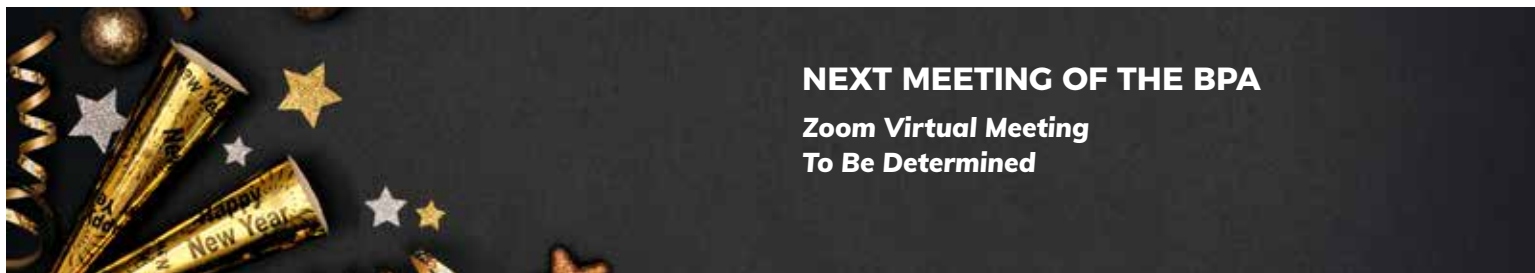
considering this voluntary but vital funding for BPA events.

I met many wonderful neighbors in the past two years in my service on the BPA Board. Having spent twenty-nine years living in Berkeley, uninvolved, I wish I could turn back time and hit a reset button to begin serving sooner. To all my neighbors, consider how you could give back to this wonderful community. You will meet incredible people and feel an even closer connection to this unique and exquisite neighborhood.

*(Continued on page 2)*

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### NEXT MEETING OF THE BPA

**Zoom Virtual Meeting  
To Be Determined**

# PRESIDENT'S LETTER (CONTINUED)

Here are the ways you could support our community:

**Social Committee:** Join or lead the teams that provide family fun for the Easter Egg Hunt; Independence Day Parade; Pumpkins in the Park; Sensory Safe Trick-or-Treating; Grown-Ups Giddy-Up; or Santa in the Park. These events require very little time compared to the positive social impact.

**Street Representative:** Street reps deliver the monthly *Poobah*, greet new neighbors and report their contact information to the Welcome Wagon chair (Debra Million), and decorate our light posts at the holidays. Most street reps would tell you that it takes thirty minutes to deliver the *Poobah*.

**Board position:** Consider if you are meant to lead on the BPA Executive Board. These are significant but fulfilling commitments for those with servants hearts who enjoy collaboration and leadership. The BPA Executive Board is seeking a treasurer and vice-president to begin service in 2024.

Martin Luther King said, "Everyone can be great because everyone can serve." I have learned through my work on the social committee and at the food pantry the power of the Bible verse, "Many hands make do indeed make light work . . ." (Nehemiah 3) We would love to have your hands helping this year. Happy 2023, Berkeley!

*You're So Close To Home.*

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# BERKELEY CHEERS

Give a shout-out to neighbors who have done something you appreciate! Send your cheer to [j.alter@tcu.edu](mailto:j.alter@tcu.edu) to be included in the next issue.

The magic of Santa was in full force at Lily B. when Santa arrived for the indoor version of Santa in the Park. The smiles, the laughter, and even the tears make for such warm memories. Cheers to the team of neighbors led by Amy Allibon and Jaimie Smith for organizing such a special event again. I do believe the kids in Berkeley are the cutest anywhere!

—Polly Hooper



I thank all my neighbors in the cul-de-sac of Berkeley Place for the wonderful gifts and thoughts you provided throughout the year. I wish you all a blessed Christmas and a healthy happy new year.

—Ole Lorrenzetti



Cheers to all who helped make our Santa in the Park (Lily B. Clayton cafeteria) a success. Thank you, Laurie George, for the vintage sofa we use every year for the photos of Santa and our families. Speaking of photos, thank you Polly Hooper, for once again capturing the spirit of the day with your photos and for getting them quickly sent out for our neighbors to see, enjoy, and download. I also want to thank Polly for helping me secure the backdrop for the photos. It was perfect.

I want to extend my gratitude to our BPA President, Amy Allibon, for getting the breakfast tacos, helping to set up, and greeting neighbors. Many asked for the source of the tacos because they were delicious. Thank you, Rob Allibon, for helping in the tear-down and clean-up process, and Tess McDonald, you were fantastic and so quick to respond to my many needs for checks to pay for various supplies and emergency venue fees. I also

had the help of three young ladies: Mia Shipman, Molly Byrne, and Ginny Byrne, thank you for your gracious service in working with the children to make ornaments and wreaths. Thank you!

Words cannot express my gratitude to Andrea and Ross Douglass, as well as my husband, Greg Smith. Without your emotional and physical support throughout the week, this event would not have happened as smoothly and as joyously as it did. I am forever grateful to you.

And, last, but not least, thank you to our families for coming to the event. I met so many new neighbors and it was a delight to see your children talk with Santa, make ornaments, and pose for funny photos. I hope this new year brings you all many happy memories and blessings beyond your imagination! Thank you!

—Jaimie Smith



BEAUTIFUL  
new  
YEAR



## BPA CENTURY HOME COMMEMORATIONS

BY HOWARD COX

Since many of the homes in our beautiful neighborhood are a hundred years old, or close to it, last year we began discussing ways of commemorating these grande dames in some meaningful way. We wanted something unique to our neighborhood and classic enough to be displayed prominently. Consequently, we worked with Ethan Carthel at Lone Star Awards to design and ultimately manufacture commemorative plaques to our specifications. The culmination of this effort is shown above. (The two dates on each plaque represent the year the house was built and the year it turned one hundred.) These plaques are 6" X 6" and ¼" thick. They will be made of aluminum with

a flash bronze finish, carry a lifetime warranty, and cost \$250 each. In addition, we will get quantity discounts per the table at the end of this article.

In order to manage the discounts, we will initiate an ordering process as follows:

Each year, in January, starting in 2023, an announcement will be made, either via a Buzz email or the *Poobah*, to place your request for a plaque by January 31 of that year. These requests will be collected, and on February 1, the quantity dis-

*(Continued on the next page.)*

# BPA CENTURY HOME COMMEMORATIONS (CONTINUED)

count will be determined, and each person will be billed accordingly. At that point, the orders will be manufactured with a process that will take approximately four to six weeks. Since this first order will likely be the biggest, you may order a plaque for your house in advance to take advantage of the quantity discount, which could be up to 25 percent. In other words, if your house turns 100 in the next few years, you might want to order a plaque now.

The purchase and payment of these plaques will be up to the individual homeowners; i.e., BPA will not be funding this effort.

So, specifically, for this year (2023), you may place a request by January 31 as follows:

Send an email to Ethan Carthel (Lone Star Awards) at [ethan@lonestarawards.com](mailto:ethan@lonestarawards.com) with a subject line of "Berkeley Place 100 Year House Plaque." Please CC me (Howard Cox) also at [chaaad614@gmail.com](mailto:chaaad614@gmail.com). In the body of the email, provide:

- Your Name:
- Address:
- Email:
- Year Your House was Built:

Ethan will collect the requests, calculate the discount, and bill the homeowner.

I want to thank each one of you for helping me put the inventory of homes together and getting this initiative started. I hope you like the plaque and, if you decide to order one, will display it proudly on or in your homes. If you have any questions, please contact me, Howard Cox, at the above email address or (817) 692-4072.

Quantity Discounts are shown below:

Qty: 6 = 5 Percent Off

Qty: 12 = 10 Percent Off

Qty: 24 = 15 Percent Off

Qty: 48 = 20 Percent Off

Qty: 96 = 25 Percent Off

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# HEROES COME IN SMALL PACKAGES

BY LINDA BLACKWELL SIMMONS

It was a cold night in North Texas that Friday, November 11th, the first freeze of the season. Soon midnight approached and Mary Ruth Jones, long time resident of Windsor Place, decided there was one plant in her front flower bed that needed covering. So, about 11:00 p.m., with wrapping material in her hand, Mary Ruth stepped outside and walked to the bed that was no more than ten feet from her front door. Thinking it would only take a moment to complete the task, she took neither her cell phone nor her life alert button. Placing her left foot in the flower bed for traction, she reached for the plant, but somehow failed to have the stamina to bring her foot back to the sidewalk. Remaining there, unable to move in either direction, she was stuck. Standing as long as her strength would allow, she eventually fell causing her knee to bruise. At first, she thought perhaps she could crawl back to her front door, but again, exhaustion and cold prohibited that. Mary Ruth had mustered all the endurance she had. She began to call for help. Three to four hours passed. The temperature continued to drop.

Elsewhere on Windsor Place that early frigid Saturday morning, most neighbors were snug in their beds asleep, staying warm. But there was one young girl, thirteen-year-old Mollie Mitchell, who somehow heard Mary Ruth's call for help shortly after three a.m. The amazing part of this saga is that Mollie's home is neither next door, nor is it directly across the street, but rather it is three doors down—and across the street. Mollie woke her parents, Maggie and Micah, and together they followed what was by now only a faint noise. Micah and Mollie carried Mary Ruth inside while Maggie waited outside for 911. By all accounts, it is estimated that Mary Ruth was outside between three and four hours and, according to the paramedics, was hypothermic.

While a frightening beginning, the story has a

good ending. Mary Ruth, after a few weeks in the hospital and rehab, is back home. Her goal is to return to as many of her normal activities as possible—spending evenings at TCU basketball games, attending church services, and traveling with family each year to faraway places such as Alaska, the most recent of her trips this past summer. And Mollie, back in school in this new year, will perhaps someday be able to share her story with her own children – the night she, along with her mom and dad—just possibly saved a life.

Welcome home Mary Ruth. And thank you Mollie, and Mollie's mom and dad, for being our heroes on Windsor Place.



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# BUDDY AND HIS ELVES SPOTTED IN BERKELEY



Photo courtesy Emily Nichols



Buddy the elf and his helpers



Robert Nichols and his elves, courtesy John Hobbs



Elves at work, courtesy John Hobbs

# A VISIT WITH SANTA PHOTOS

PHOTOS BY POLLY HOOPER







# BERKELEY HEROES AND LEGENDS— OLE LORENZETTI

BY SUBIE GREEN

The first question I wanted to ask Ole Lorenzetti when we met in his sunny garden room was how did he get acquainted with the musician Michael Martin Murphy, our former temporary Berkeley resident?

“I had heard Michael on tour in several locations and just emailed him to welcome him to the neighborhood. Since he and his wife, Cindy, lived next door while they were waiting for their ranch home to be finished, we were able to visit several times. He liked walking around Berkeley, and they picked this neighborhood because of the trees and the historic quality.”

Ole is a person that people gravitate toward—friendly, outgoing—not the characteristics that one expects in a pharmacology scientist. And despite his current mobility issues, Ole has had a great retirement sports career. Hanging from the mantle are dozens of ribbons he has won at 10K races, marathons, sprint triathlons, duathlons, and triathlons. He has participated in more than 420 events, all recorded carefully in a journal, representing locations around the world. He’s run the New York Marathon, the Bay to Bridges race in California, the Triple Bypass in Colorado, and hundreds in between.

“Since I didn’t start running until I was in my sixties, I always came in either first, second, or third in my age group, which consisted of older athletes. My first effort was in an AARP Triathlon, and I came in first for my age group. I was hooked.”

But it doesn’t stop there.

Ole also started mountain climbing, making thirteen climbs greater than 14,000 feet. He’s climbed Kilimanjaro; Evans Peak, Pikes Peak, and Longs



Ole and his son, Dario, running at the 38th Parallel in Korea. The land was mined, but Dario knew where the mines were, and they dodged from side to side.

Peak in Colorado; Mt. Whitney and Mt. Shasta in California; Iztaccihual in Mexico; and on the second try after a total whiteout, Aconcagua in Argentina, to name a few.

“Climbing Kilimanjaro is not a technical climb,” said Ole, “you go straight up. But you leave from the basecamp at 2:00 a.m. There are lots of groups camped, ready to make the climb. Once I got started with my group, I realized they were all speaking German—I had gotten in with the wrong group. So, I summited with that group and on the way down I met up with my original group so I summited again. Not too many people can say they summited Kilimanjaro twice in one day.”

Eight years ago, Ole decided to take up scuba diving. He typically goes on diving trips three or four times a year. He’s been to Palau, the Caribbean, Fuji, Galapagos, Belize, Roatan, and the Caymans. It’s a sport he shares with his daughter Elizabeth Harvey and four of his grandchildren—

*(Continued on the next page)*

# BERKELEY HEROES AND LEGENDS— OLE LORENZETTI, (CONTINUED)

three generations of scuba divers in the family. He also has done sky diving with his son, Dario, and together they hiked the Appalachian Trail.

“I didn’t do any of these things when I was married. I was too busy working and didn’t want to take away from family time,” said Ole. “I ran about 120 miles a week and rode a bike, but then my wife, Joyce, was diagnosed with cancer in 1999. I left my job at Alcon in early 2001 and cared for her until her death in June 2001.



Ole at home with some of his medals.

“I loved my wife and after her death, I guess I went a little crazy. I bought a Vespa scooter, then a Ducati motorcycle, and got tattoos of the state of Texas and the yellow rose of Texas on my hips. I pushed the envelope as a way of grieving. But if there’s a safety issue and I’m not sure of the situation, I won’t do it.”

Ole was born in the northwest side of Chicago in 1936, making him eighty-six this year. His family spoke only Italian at home, so Ole didn’t learn English until he was seven years old. When he was about nine, Ole started working in a drugstore

making deliveries, mopping the floor, and when he was a little older, working at the soda fountain and mixing some of the ointments in the pharmacy. Who knew those early experiences would lead to Ole earning a BA in pharmacy from University of Illinois followed by a PhD in pharmacy from Ohio State University?

Ohio State was where Ole met Joyce, who was studying endocrinology. Ole considered a teaching career but once his degree was granted, he decided that he could earn more in industry. The couple moved to Elkhart, Indiana, where Ole went to work for Miles Laboratories, the maker of Alka-Selzer, among many products. Ole worked in their ophthalmic division and in 1969, he was recruited by Alcon in Fort Worth. He started as a senior scientist in pharmacology and eventually headed the Technical Services division, then he was Vice President of Research.

“One of the things that attracted me to Alcon, was that there were no social boundaries. Bob Alexander and Bill Conner would come to our home for parties. It was a great environment.”

While at Alcon, Ole patented BSS Solution (Balanced Salt Solution), BSS+ (with added Glutathione), and DuoVisc, products that have made billions for the company since they are used extensively in cataract surgery and other procedures. He also was instrumental in creating opportunities for women.

“Women had a hard time advancing in a male dominated culture, so I tried to promote them when I could. At one time only men were vice presidents at Alcon, and after about three years I helped get a woman hired as a VP. I also was able to bring the

*(Continued on the next page)*

# BERKELEY HEROES AND LEGENDS— OLE LORENZETTI, (CONTINUED)

first woman member into the Fort Worth South Rotary Club.

Joyce and Ole had three children: Elizabeth, now a Chevron geophysicist who lives in Houston; Maria, an M.D. genetics researcher with Baylor Scott & White who lives in Belton; and son Dario, a West Point graduate and Army Ranger who was killed in Afghanistan in 2012, but whose widow, Kirstin, lives in Spring and is still very much a part of the family. Now there are six grandchildren and one of the great, annual family gatherings is making ravioli just before Christmas. It's been a family tradition for six generations.

Ole is still full of ideas for future activities. He's thinking that despite his spinal stenosis, he might still be able to scuba dive. And if anyone can, it will be Ole. What a sport!

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## 2023 BPA DUES

The Berkeley Place Association is our community that supports a friendly and connected neighborhood. Your contributions help pay for the publication of the award-winning monthly *Poobah*, the bi-annual neighborhood directory, and social events throughout the year. Your contributions also assist in neighborhood beautification efforts like the Christmas decorations for our streetlamps and the median on Ward Parkway. The BPA is led by elected volunteer officers who keep abreast of city issues, inform you, and fight for the best outcome for our neighborhood.

### Choose your level of support

- \$30 Resident Level
- \$50 Supporter Level
- \$75 Patron Level
- \$100 Super Fan Level

### Pay electronically or by check:

- **PayPal** - Berkeley Place Association In “add note” section, put your last name(s), address & the word “dues”
- **Venmo** - @tessmaster55 in the “what’s it for” section, put your last name(s), address, & the word “dues”
- **Check**- Include the word “dues” on the memo line of the check and mail to:  
BPA  
PO Box 11147  
FW 76110

You can also drop at Tess McDonald’s house @ 1912 Ben Hall Ct

Thank you for your support of the Berkeley Place Association.

# FROM THE STANLEY AVENUE HOLIDAY HAPPY HOUR



## TEQUILA OLD FASHIONED

### INGREDIENTS:

- 3 oz. Reposado tequila
- 3 dashes Angostura Aromatic Bitters
- 1 dash Angostura Orange Bitters
- 2 teaspoons Agave Syrup
- Luxardo Gourmet Maraschino Cherries

### DIRECTIONS:

Add all ingredients into mixing glass, stir, and pour over large ice cube, garnish with one or two cherries.



## WHIPPED GOAT CHEESE WITH WARM CANDIED BACON AND DATES

### INGREDIENTS:

- 6-8 slices bacon, chopped
- 2 Tbsp. chopped fresh rosemary
- 1 tsp. brown sugar
- 1/3 cup plus 1 tsp. spicy honey
- 1/2 tsp. cayenne pepper, more or less to taste
- 12 plump Medjool dates, pitted and torn
- 1 log (10 ounce) creamy goat cheese, at room temperature

*(Continued on the next page.)*

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# FROM THE STANLEY AVENUE HOLIDAY HAPPY HOUR (CONTINUED)

4 ounces cream cheese, at room temperature  
2 tablespoons extra virgin olive oil  
sea salt

## DIRECTIONS:

Preheat the oven to 400° F. Line a baking sheet with parchment paper. On the baking sheet, toss together the bacon, one tablespoon rosemary, the brown sugar, one teaspoon spicy honey, and the cayenne. Arrange in an even layer. Tear the dates and scatter them around the bacon. Bake 8–10 minutes, until the bacon is crisping.

Meanwhile, combine the goat cheese, cream cheese, olive oil, and a pinch of salt in a food processor and pulse until smooth and creamy. The goat cheese mix can be kept in the fridge for up to three days but bring to room temp before serving. In a small bowl, combine 1/3 cup honey, 1 tablespoon rosemary, a pinch of cayenne—to taste, and a pinch of salt.

Spoon the goat cheese into a serving bowl and then top with the warm bacon and dates. Drizzle over a little the rosemary honey. Serve with bread or crackers.



## QUICK & EASY WARM CAPRESE DIP

### INGREDIENTS:

1 (8 oz) block of cream cheese, at room temperature  
1/2 cup basil pesto (approximately)  
10-12 cherry tomatoes

### DIRECTIONS:

Cut cherry tomatoes in half and roast in oven with a little salt/pepper. Once roasted, top cream cheese with about 1/2 cup of basil pesto and tomatoes. Serve with pita chips, crackers, or a baguette.



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# AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD

They're a sociable bunch on Stanley Avenue. A group of ladies from Stanley/Warner started the holiday festivities off with their annual Favorite Things Party. They adopted two families from Paschal's Adopt-a-Panther program and began the party by wrapping gifts for the families. Then the women shared favorite beauty products from the year with each other and had a great time!



Next came the annual progressive happy hour. Almost forty neighbors were part of the event this year. Four stops offered appetizers and cocktails. There were some delicious cocktail recipes (think the tequila old fashioned and bourbon champagne punch as the biggest hits) along with some appetizers that people loved!

Special guest of honor at Stanley Avenue get-togethers is thirty-year resident Carol Moore who celebrated her ninetieth this last summer. Younger residents say they love hearing about her life wisdom (she worked at TCU, lived in London, etc), and she is always up for joining all Stanley Avenue social events.





# AROUND THE NEIGHBORHOOD (CONTINUED)



Thanks to Kate Cochran for keeping us up to date on the doings on Stanley.



The Berkeley Babes Book Club held its annual Christmas party and book exchange in early December at MaryLou Froh's home on Hawthorne. Lots of food, maybe a little wine, laughs, memories of books read, discussion of books to be read, and lots of stealing during the book exchange.

First row left to right: Jamie Luebbehusen, MaryLou Froh, Linda Simmons, Orlew Lauger, Doris Watkins. Second row left to right: Tess McDonald, Melissa Inman, Randi Thistlethwaite, Polly Hooper, Stephanie Monks, Tracy McMillan, Lliisa Lewis. Photo by Polly Hooper. Thanks to Linda Simmons for reporting.



Attention Neighbors!

Our 2023-2024 directory is being updated.

Every two years our neighborhood directory is printed. *Now* is the time to get your new and updated information in. If your information is still good, *do nothing*.

Please submit new information to me on the form below and drop this sheet off to your

Street Representative or to me

Tess McDonald, 1912 Ben Hall Court before the end of the month.

You may also email it to me at

[Tessmaster55@Yahoo.com](mailto:Tessmaster55@Yahoo.com)

REQUIRED:

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

OPTIONAL:

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren) Name \_\_\_\_\_

**Example:**

Tom and Linda Smith

1313 Winslow Road

(T) 817/333-3333      (L) 817/666-0000

(T) tom@charter.com      (L) linda@att.net

Children: Cindy, Albert, Brady



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# "KENNEL COUGH"

BY JOHN MINNERLY, DVM,  
UNIVERSITY ANIMAL HOSPITAL



Over Thanksgiving, many boarding places had outbreaks of “kennel cough.” Many of the animals were coughing, sneezing, and feeling bad. So what happened?

The reason is that not all “kennel coughs” are caused by the organisms that the vaccines are effective against. Most vaccines usually cover Bordatella and parainfluenza. Some vaccines only have the Bordatella bacterin. These are both the most common cause of respiratory issues in boarding and grooming pets.

Another disease that is becoming more prevalent in recent years is Canine Influenza. Many places have not required vaccination for the flu. There are two sub-types of Canine flu (CIV). Most newer vaccines contain both types. Canine Influenza causes higher temperatures and more severe symptoms. Traditional antivirals don't help with CIV. Supportive care and waiting it out are currently the only treatments. This is different from human influenza and cannot be passed back and forth.

Another organism that causes an upper respiratory infection is mycoplasma. There is not a vaccine for this. Antibiotics that work well on other bacterial infections don't work as well with this organism. Many dogs can have a sub-clinical infection of this and be able to pass it on to other dogs.

Strep has been identified in several of the infections locally. This is unlikely to be passed on to owners. But it is possible in theory.

There are many other bacteria and viruses that can cause upper respiratory infections if given the right circumstances. Many dogs will bark at each other in the kennel. Being away from home is also stressful for many dogs. This lowers the immune

system and make them more susceptible to developing an infection.

What do you do if your dog comes home coughing? If the appetite is good, activity normal, and only coughing when they get excited or go outside in the cold, then let it run its course over ten to fourteen days. Lots of fluids to help keep it from getting worse. If there is a lack of appetite, a honking cough, or lethargy, then a visit to the vet to get started on some antibiotics or antivirals, cough suppressants, and possibly some probiotics.

How to keep a pet from coming down with “kennel cough?” Keeping up with the vaccinations for Bordatella, Parainfluenza and Canine Influenza is the best way. But understand that your pet may come home with a cough. Stay healthy!

## BPA BANK ACCOUNT BALANCES

BY TESS MCDONALD

Savings account	\$15,017.96
Checking account	\$36,989.15

*Submitted 12/2022*

# 2022 BPA BUDGET

AS OF DECEMBER 15

INCOME	BUDGETED	ACTUAL TO DATE	VARIANCE
Poobah Ad Revenue	\$8,220	\$7,780	\$440
Directory Ad Revenue	\$0	\$0	
Annual Dues Collection	\$19,935	\$19,850	\$85
Designated Donation July 4 (Quievdo & Brewer)	\$500	\$500	
Designated Donation October (Loftin—Pumpkins in the Park)	\$500	\$500	
<b>2022 INCOME</b>	<b>\$29,155</b>	<b>\$28,630</b>	<b>\$525</b>

EXPENSES	BUDGETED	ACTUAL TO DATE	VARIANCE
BPA Board Insurance	\$744	\$698	\$46
Lily B. Auction Donation	\$750	\$750	
Annual Due Letter Postage	\$685	\$91.97	\$593.03
Berkeley Place Events	\$4,825	\$4,087.60	\$737.40
SquareSpace—BPA Website	\$250	\$233.82	\$16.18
Website Management Fees	\$100	\$20	\$80
Domain Registry	\$190	\$190	
BPA All Adult Dinner	\$4,500	\$3,792.76	\$707.24
Dropbox/PO Box	\$380	\$385.29	-\$5.29
Poobah Printing	\$8,784	\$8,359.68	\$424.32
Zoom Membership 1 yr	\$159.20	\$159.20	
Poobah Newsletter Layout	\$1,100	\$1,280	-\$180
Printing—Directory****	-\$3,800	\$0	-\$3,800
Ward Parkway* (One time contribution)	\$5,000	\$5,000	
NUSA Officer Fees	\$600	\$0	\$600
Misc (new ribbons for light poles, BPA special mailers)	\$500	\$619.74	-\$119.74
Refunds from Security Camera	\$0	\$200	-\$200
Block Parties (added 6/7/22)	\$3,400	\$395	\$3,005
Paschal High School Donation	\$750.00	\$750.00	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$28,917.20</b>	<b>\$27,013.06</b>	<b>\$1,904.14</b>

# PETS OF THE MONTH

BY ROBIN FULTON



Snowball, Tinsel, Cocoa, and Sugarplum were busy at Santa's workshop making toys for all the good boys and girls over the holidays. They are about ready for adoption now that they've grown a little bigger. We are taking applications by email at [MeowtownAR@gmail.com](mailto:MeowtownAR@gmail.com) to meet them. Snowball and Cocoa are boys, and Tinsel and Sugarplum are girls. Available through Meowtown Animal Rescue based in Fairmount.

Please remember that a kitten is not a casual gift. It is a commitment for the lifetime of the cat, so think carefully before you choose one of these adorable Christmas babies. They deserve a good home for a lifetime.

Unable to adopt at this time? Please consider donating/volunteering; always appreciated! Happy 2023!



*(Continued on the next page)*

# PETS OF THE MONTH (CONTINUED)



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*We always enjoy seeing Dr. Loftin's Berkeley neighbors in our practice!*

# THE JOY OF MEDICARE

BY FRANCES LOOK

Those Pesky Calls (and some Medicare info!)

Were there more calls, mailers, Internet, and TV ads this year? Not only Medicare but warranty and “free trips”?

Here are some tips to reduce all those calls, Medicare included: Be sure your home and cell are on the “National Do Not Call Registry.” Use “spam blocker” on the phone. If an “unknown” number comes in, let it go to voice mail. Hit “unsubscribe” on emails. Try the “Opt-Out” on the bank and credit card sites. All are part of a huge re-circulating database—if you answer or click a site, it throws you back into the “pool.”

The good news is that Texas DPS & DMV can no longer sell your vital information, as of Fall 2022! Wait! What? Yes, sold, for a paltry fee at that.


Back to a “now or never” time period for Medicare Advantage Plans. This is like a one time “get out of jail free” period if you were persuaded to switch or buy a plan that you now don’t want. January 1 to

March 31 is called the “Open Enrollment Period” or “OEP.” This period is only for people who already have a Medicare Advantage Plan, not Medicare Supplement/MediGap plans. Legally, there is no advertising for OEP.

Changes that can be made in Medicare Advantage OEP:

- Switch Medicare Advantage plans
- Drop Medicare Advantage plan coverage/return to Original Medicare
- Add a standalone Part D drug plan if you drop Medicare Advantage coverage
- Switch from a plan with no drug coverage to one that does have drug coverage.
- Opt out of a Medicare Advantage plan—If not done in OEP, you will have to wait until October 15 to switch.

*(Continued on the next page.)*



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# THE JOY OF MEDICARE (CONTINUED)

What cannot be done:

- Switch from Original Medicare to Medicare Advantage.
- Move from a MediGap/Medicare Supplement Plan to a Medicare Advantage Plan.

The effective date for any changes will be the first day of the month following the change during Medicare Advantage Open Enrollment Period (“OEP”).

If review of your current plan indicates a change, go ahead and use your one time, now or never (October 15) opportunity in OEP.

Why change?

- You called that 800 number and got sweet talked into some plan you don’t like, want, or trust.

- You were just too busy or just goofed
- You are going to travel more or not travel this year
- Your doctor or specialist is not in the plan

If you drop your Medicare Advantage Plan during OEP, you have a second opportunity to get Medicare Supplement (Medigap) coverage if you want it. But unless you are in the twelve-month “trial” period for Medicare Advantage, you will have to go through underwriting. If you end up not liking the new plan, you can change again during Medicare Advantage Annual Enrollment Period (“AEP”) in October of the same year.

[missmedicare101@gmail.com](mailto:missmedicare101@gmail.com)  
972-510-7660



*March-a-thon*



*The Paschal Marching Band March-a-thon once again began at Lily B.*

# A QUICK SURVEY ABOUT TREES

The Texas Trees Foundation and the City of Fort Worth are developing an Urban Forest Master Plan (UFMP) for managing the city's trees to enhance quality of life in Fort Worth. Want to be part of it and make your voice heard? Read about it and fill out the survey. [Fort Worth Urban Forest Master Plan—Texas Trees](#)



*On December 11th, our Lily B Girl Scout Troop #3029 celebrated the holidays by decorating gingerbread houses, painting ornaments, and caroling on Windsor.*

# TEN REASONS TO LOVE BERKELEY

BY MARYEMILY PARDUE AND MARY KELLER

MaryEmily Pardue, her husband Bill, and their three girls moved to Berkeley in the summer of 2021. MaryEmily's mother, Mary Keller, subsequently moved here a few months later (across the street from the Pardue family). Mother and daughter have been talking about why they love Berkeley, so they collaborated on this "David Letterman-like" list:

10. Convenience to just about everything
9. The *Poobah*
8. The Berkeley Buzz & Howard's Referral Partners List
7. Small town gem in the heart of the city
6. Caring kids, neighbors, and community
5. Walkable and friendly walkers
4. Sweet Lily B. Clayton
3. Iconic homes maintained with love
2. Friendly, engaged residents
1. Wonderful neighbors



*Lily B. Girl Scouts caroling. Thanks to Emily Mundt for photos.*

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