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Your Board of Directors

LOAFERS, Inc. is incorporated as a not-for-profit 501(c)3.

Officers

Roxanne Cherico President
 Lavita Marks Vice-President
 Dawn Harrell Treasurer
 Janis Smith Secretary
 Arden Eversmeyer President Emerita

Directors

Danita Cole Director
 Lucretia Copeland Director
 Margaret Thibodeaux Director

Newsletter

Janis Smith Co-Editor
 Danita Cole Co-Editor
 Dawn Harrell Typesetter



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Issue: No. #2021-6

July 2021

July Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

- Thursday, July 8** **Board of Directors Meeting** **6:00 pm**
 Online Via Zoom
- Saturday, July 10** **Womyn on the Move** **3:00 pm**
 @ Neon Boots
- Sunday, July 18** **Meet and Greet** **2:00 pm**
 @ Neon Boots
- Saturday, July 24** **LOAF Goes Bowling** **1:00 pm**
 Delmar Lanes-3020 Magnum Rd.
- Thursday, July 22** **Newsletter Deadline** **COB**

Meet-n-Greets

July 18th

We will meet At Neon Boots on Sunday, July 18th from 2-4 pm. This will be us Celebrating LOAF returning to the "new" normal. It has been quite a while since we could all gather and see each other Face-to-Face.



LOAF will reserve a few tables and snacks will be provided for the party. Come out and visit with everybody! Let's get back into the groove of things! And.....dance, dance, dance!!

Note: As of the time of this publication **FACE MASKS ARE STILL REQUIRED AT NEON BOOTS** -- your temperature will be taken when you walk in.



LOAF 2021 Concert Series

Gaye Adegbalola 2:30 pm August 15
Mama's Black Sheep 2:30 pm November 21

July Birthdays

1	Suzanne Fox
3	Jeniver Lauran
3	Linda Shirley
6	Beverly Taylor
9	Lisa Fitzgerald
9	Pat Gandy
10	Rikki Shaw
11	Dr. Heidi Choney
11	Mary Sorensen
11	Melody West
12	Lorrie Price
12	Lee Utley
12	Dee Wigal
15	Susan McCoy
17	Raquel Cedillo
20	Leslie Aaron
20	Betty Cutaia
22	Janice Ives
23	Maureen Pidhirny
24	Lauran Jenivar
25	Donna Meade
27	Melissa Stephens, DC
27	Bette Weiss
28	Beverly Bedeaux
29	Paula Restivo
30	Jana Bowen

In Memoriam - July

1989	Johnnye Kebodeaux
1997	Marleen Biehle
2010	Doris "Junior" Vaiani
2016	Karen Bourque
2017	Debbie Hunt
2017	Jean Lloyd

Newsletter Edits

If you have a correction or addition for our newsletter, please send an email to loafhouston.tx@gmail.com.



August newsletter articles are due by July 22nd.

Dues Reminder

Dues are due each year in January. Please, if you have not already; mail your 2021 dues donation. \$30 Individual /\$45 Couple to LOAF, P.O. Box 7207, Houston, TX 77248-7207 or Zelle it from your bank to loafhouston.tx@gmail.com.

Membership Updates

If you have moved or experienced a phone number change and need to update your membership records, provide that change to any Board member, or email your changes to loafhouston.tx@gmail.com.

About LOAF

LOAF is a social networking and support group for lesbians fifty (50 years of age and older, and their partners, whatever their age). LOAF is incorporated without a formal membership, so we do not have dues, but instead request contributions. This allows us to avoid submitting membership rolls to the State. This money is then used to cover the cost of the newsletter, website, supplies for some of the socials, etc. **Contributions are \$30 per single and \$45 per couple.**

Please Zelle contributions from your bank to loafhouston.tx@gmail.com or mail contributions to

- LOAF
PO BOX 7207
Houston, TX 77248-7207

Contributions will be prorated. All participants are to renew their membership in January of each year. A lapse of 3 months will prevent individual distribution of the newsletter. We offer a trial period for distribution of the newsletter to interested prospective members for 3 months. If, after the trial period has expired, the prospective member has not become a member, distribution will be discontinued.

Any woman experiencing financial hardship may participate on scholarship, free of charge. Scholarships are confidential. Contact any officer on the Board of Directors.

The newsletter team welcomes input for publication, i.e., articles of interest, poetry, etc. Please contact any Board member or email your submission to loafhouston.tx@gmail.com.

LOAF Spotlight

Honoring Loaf Veterans (by Lucretia Copeland)

LOAF recognizes and honor our LOAF Women Veterans during July as part of our July 4th celebration! The following veterans allowed us the privilege of their veteran’s biographies:



Evolution of Gay Rights in the Military

- 1940s : Unofficially considered LGBTQ identifiers mentally ill and disqualified them from service
- 1982 : DoD officially stated "homosexuality was incompatible with military service"
- 1993 : "Don't ask, don't tell" was enacted
- 2010 : Repeal of "don't ask, don't tell"
- 2013 : Spousal and family benefits were extended to same-sex married partners in the military
- 2016 : Certain transgender individuals were allowed to serve while adhering to biological sex standards
- 2021 : Executive order enabled transgender individuals to serve

Phyllis Frye – United States ARMY. 1st LT, 1970-1972, forced out for wanting to be a woman. She fought for and received an honorable discharge!

Jean Gill – United States Marine Corp. & Texas State Air Guard. The locations where she served: South Carolina, New York, and California. She served USMC '73 -'75, TXSAG '2005-'2013.

Awards and Commendations: USMC National Defense Medal, TXSAG Airman of the Quarter and Year, NCO of the Quarter and the Year, SCNO of the Quarter and the Year. Four times awarded the Governors Unit Citation. She also was five times awarded the National Award Meritorious Unit Award Citation.

She had to be closeted, no matter where or when!



Leslie Bryant – Leslie served in the United States Air Force for 28 years, under "Don't Ask, Don't Tell Military policy!" She served in Sierra Leone, Nigeria; Zambia; Bosnia and Herzegovina, Nicaragua; Kapaun Air Station, Germany; Incirlik Air Base, Turkey; Andrews Air Force Base in Maryland; Boiling Air Force Base, Washington, DC; Fort Benning, Georgia; Randolph Air Force Base, Texas; The George Washington University, Washington, DC; Shepherd Air Force Base, Texas; and Keesler Air Force Base, Mississippi. Leslie worked in four career fields, including nursing, law enforcement, criminal investigations, forensics, and intelligence.

Awards/Decorations: Defense Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, Air Force Meritorious Service Medal with 3 Oak Leaf Clusters, Joint Commendation Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal with 1 Oak Leaf Cluster and numerous others.

Serving under DADT military policy, Leslie survived countless purges of LGBTQ members by the Department of the USAF and Air Force commanders in violation of a compromise allowing LGBTQ service members to serve as long as they did not openly serve as gay or in engage in LGBTQ sex. Leslie survived by constantly changing career fields and being the best in each field so she could retrain into the next career field. Leslie acknowledged that DADT was a horrible, unnecessary policy that resulted in over 100,000 LGBTQ service members being dishonorably discharged on nothing but rumors, gossip, and innuendos. Leslie describes "on coming out to my former bosses and former employees after my service, they all said, 'we knew you were gay and we didn't care because you were a nice person and a great boss.'" Leslie believes that the pain of serving under DADT military policy can never be erased.



Womyn On The Move

We are Back at Neon Boots

Starting July 10th, Second Saturdays of the month from 3-5 pm, is the return of our long-awaited chance to dance at Womyn on the Move! Dust off them boots or whatever you put on your feet and come on out to boot scoot and visit! No Cover Charge either. This event is **OPEN TO ALL** and the more the merrier!



Note: As of the time of this publication **FACE MASKS ARE STILL REQUIRED AT NEON BOOTS** -- your temperature will be taken when you walk in.

Upcoming Socials

July 24: LOAF Goes Bowling



Join us at Delmar Lanes, 3020 Mangum Rd, Houston, TX 77092, on July 24 from 1-3 pm to bowl a few games and have a little social interaction. This activity is always a

good time and we usually have great participation. Now that is what I'm talking about!

LOAF will pay for the bowling and the shoes of Members only; any other expenses are up to you. After the bowling is wrapped up and we have worked up an appetite, those that are interested are invited to join us around the corner at Los Cucos to grab a bite to eat.



Because this event is sponsored by our John Steven Kellett Foundation, Inc. grant, it is open to LOAF Members Only. Non members are welcome to join us on a self-pay basis.

Note: As of the time of this publication **FACE MASKS ARE STILL REQUIRED AT DELMAR LANES** and your temperature will be taken at a kiosk when you walk in.

All LOAF "Socials" events are made possible by our John Steven Kellett Foundation, Inc. grant.

Thoughts and Prayers

Please keep the following LOAF members in mind. A card, email or phone call is always welcomed.

- Janan Crowder passed away April 6, 2021. Longtime member of LOAF who had moved to San Antonio a couple of years ago. Condolences to her niece Jerry Morgan and family/friends that loved her.
- Phyllis Frye: Condolences to on the loss of her wife of 47 years, Trish Frye, who passed away on September 28, 2020, PRFrye@aol.com, 713-227-1717.
[The legacy of Trish Frye: Finding love and fighting for it](#)
- Susan Fronck (she is house bound) 4010 Feagan Street, #2, Houston, TX 77007 713-861-8427.
- Pam Kunkle-Moberley (condolences for loss of her wife, Connie Moberley) 832-275-0724, kunklepa@sbcglobal.net
[Link to Obituary](#)
- Continued well wishes to Roxanne Cherico for a speedy recovery from her recent hospital stay.

If you would like to be added to this list, or know of someone who should be either added or removed from this list, send an email notification to loafhoustontx@gmail.com.



Open Invitation

LOAF BOD meetings are currently being held via Zoom on the 2nd Thursday of the month. They are always open to the membership. If you would like to attend, please email your request to loafhoustontx@gmail.com.

Past Social

June: Steak Night at Pearl Bar



LOAF Steak Night Social, June 17, 2021, at the Pearl Bar was a delicious hit!! Twenty-two LOAF members enjoyed steak, baked potato with all the fixings, and a salad graciously funded by our John Steven Kellett

Foundation Grant. We mixed and mingled had great conversations while enjoying the outdoor patio. Julie Mabry, owner of Pearl Bar, went out of her way to make us comfortable and welcomed us with free drink tickets and free cold water! It was just delightful to be out with friends we haven't seen in forever.

If you haven't been to the Pearl Bar lately, check out their Thursday Steak night for \$18 and a casual and comfortable indoor / outdoor setting. Don't miss out on the fun. Check out the website and newsletter for upcoming events.

See pics below of the many smiling faces that attended Steak Night at Pearl Bar!!



Volunteer Opportunities

Would you like to help?

If you have 2-4 hours of free time each month and want to reach out to members, contact Roxanne Cherico @ 713.598.6875.

Call for Volunteers

We need volunteers to serve on the many committees, such as Socials Committee and Meet and Greet Committee. Please email Lavita at lavitasm@aol.com for more information.

Potpourri: Dinosaur Valley State Park Camping (By Lavita Marks)

May 2, 2021, Janice and I headed to Dinosaur Valley State Park, located just outside Glen Rose Texas, Southwest of Fort Worth for some glamping, biking, and exploring. Dinosaur Valley is just a little over a 4-hour drive and so very worth it. Our trip highlights were Fossil Rim Wildlife Center and the hike to the river to see actual dinosaur footprints!

The Wildlife Center is an 1,800-acre drive through reserve that contains more than 1,100 animals and 50+ species including our favorite ... GIRAFFES! The park rangers gave us a cup of feed and a pictorial listing of all the types of animals we could see. We drove slowly through the reserve feeding the various animals, like antelopes, rams, and more. It was very exciting to find and check off all the species on the listing the ranger provided. The scenery was lush and cool. This trip is truly a "must do" experience!

Dinosaur foot prints!!! We waded through the cool waters of the Paluxy River to look for Dinosaur tracks, and we found them! We found the saucer-shaped foot prints of Sauropods and the three-toed tracks of the Theropods. Imagine!! These tracks are 113 million years old!

And this amazing this experience is just a 4-hour drive from Houston!

<https://tpwd.texas.gov/state-parks/dinosaur-valley>

