

# Woodwind Lakes

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2024



*Mother Nature tried to spoil plans for the Christmas on the Lake annual event, but we are going to bounce right back and reschedule it for*

**Saturday, December 14.**

*No Grinch is going to steal the fun!*





WOMEN'S CLUB  
*Christmas Luncheon*

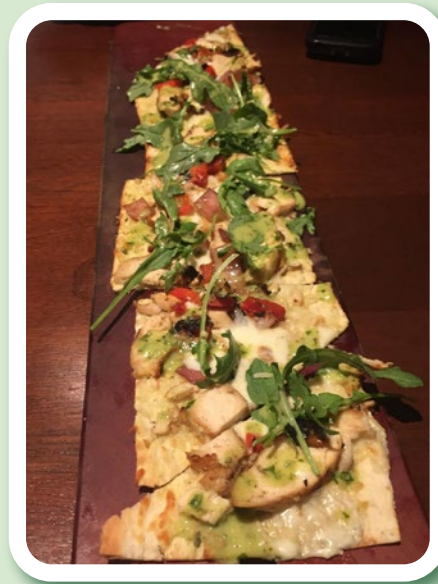
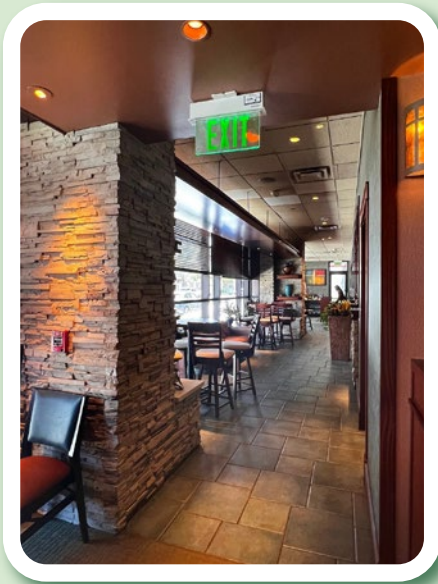
**Tuesday, December 17, 2024, 12:00 pm**



Season's 52, City Centre  
842 W Sam Houston Parkway North  
713-464-5252

For more information or to RSVP contact Ann Tatum:

[anntatum9203@gmail.com](mailto:anntatum9203@gmail.com)



*Hope we see you there!*

# Nature's slowpokes

Cheryl Conley, Lake Creek Preserve Board of Directors

Yes, snails are slow. Part of the reason is because they carry a heavy calcium carbonate shell on their backs. Having only one foot is the other reason. That foot is on the underside of the body and is covered in mucus. When the foot contracts, it compresses the slimy mucus into a liquid that allows the snail to glide. Depending on the number of times the foot contracts and the amount of mucus it produces determines the speed of the snail.

Snails belong to a group of animals called mollusks. Other animals in this group include clams, oysters, squids and octopuses. They are born with a shell that grows as they grow. The shell protects the tiny organs and protects the snails from predators.

Unlike animals that have to chase their prey, most snails eat plants, decaying matter or marine animals that are anchored in place like sponges. Thank goodness they don't have to chase their prey because they'd starve.

Are snails good for anything? Of course, they are. Every animal has a place in our ecosystem and the snail is no different. They are a food source for hedgehogs, some birds, frogs, beetles and centipedes. People eat them in many parts of the world including the USA and are considered a delicacy.



Escargot (a French word meaning "snail") is served in many restaurants and refers to snails cooked in butter and garlic. I'll pass on this one.

Snails feed on rotting vegetation, garden debris and fungi and have been spotted eating excrement and carcasses from other animals. Their shells serve as a source of calcium for other critters. Did you know that snails are pollinators? Pollen attaches to their bodies as they go from flower to flower.

Even after the snail has died, its shell can provide a place for the *Osmia*

Conjuncta, red-tailed and Sicilian snail-shell species of mason bees, to lay their eggs. After the bee lays its eggs, it seals the opening with mud, pebbles and plant material.

Empty shells can be ground up and added to your compost. Snail shells have also been used in medicine to treat wounds, skin conditions, nosebleeds, headaches, diarrhea, incontinence and may be a potential cancer treatment.

I've seen some lovely jewelry made from snail shells as well.

## INTERESTING SNAIL FACTS

Snails have the most teeth of any animal, with a garden snail having around 14,000 teeth and some species having over 20,000. Their teeth are arranged in rows on their tongue.



*We have only 32!*

Depending on the species, snails can live 5-25 years.



*Happy Birthday, Snail!*

They can pull their body inside their shell and then seal the entrance with slime to keep moist. Some desert snails have thick shells that allow them to stay sealed inside their shells for more than two years.

Snails are hermaphrodites meaning they have both male and female reproductive organs.



Snails have four tentacles on their heads, two for touch and two with light sensors that act like eyes. However, they can't hear because they don't have an ear canal or ear. Instead, they use associative thinking to sense their surroundings.

Snails make great pets. No hair to vacuum, they do not smell, you don't have to walk them and they take up very little space.



Now that you know more about snails, I have to ask. What's not to love?

WOMEN'S CLUB

Thanksgiving Potluck Luncheon

Held at the home of Merrell Greene



Fantastic Memories!



Great Friends!



Good Food!



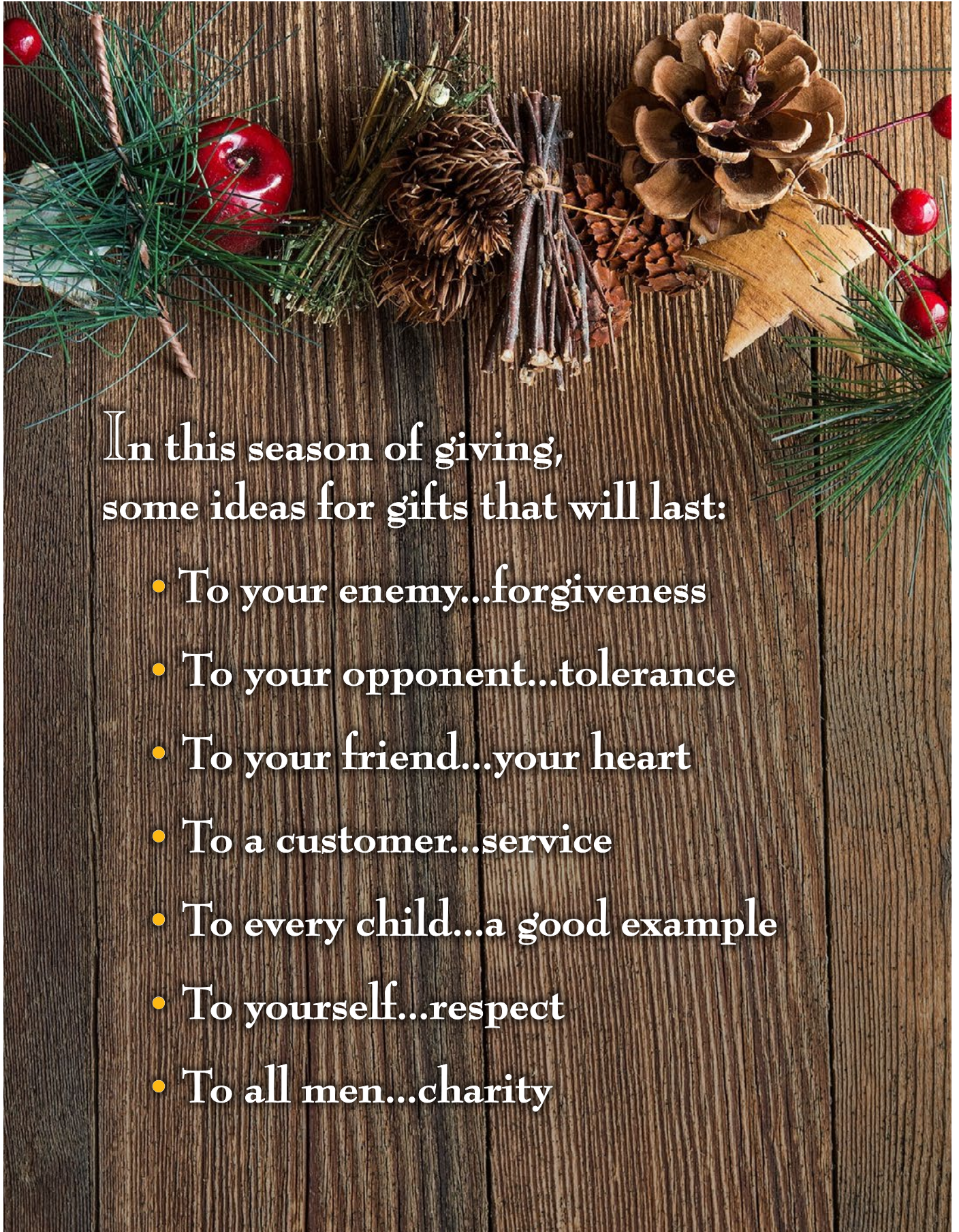
President Lynn Collins & VP Ann Tatum



Gulshan Hira & Treasurer Sue Preston



Hostesses Melissa McCloskey & Merrell Greene



In this season of giving,  
some ideas for gifts that will last:

- To your enemy...forgiveness
- To your opponent...tolerance
- To your friend...your heart
- To a customer...service
- To every child...a good example
- To yourself...respect
- To all men...charity

## MONARCH LANDSCAPE MANAGEMENT

# Woodwind Lakes Monthly Services Update

**November completed events**

- Irrigation inspection (completed 11/22)
- Site audit
- Seasonal color change-out (completed 11/20)
- Ant Bait (completed 11/14)
- Irrigation inspection extra time from walk (11/22)
- Cul de sacs irrigation PVB winterization
- Turf fertilization w/PM (completed 11/21)

**December upcoming events**

- Irrigation inspection (TBS)
- Site audit
- Shrub and groundcover fertilization w/InD (TBS - weather delay)

**Details we are focusing on this month**

- Curb line cleaning and crack weed treatment
- Dead plant removals in phases continues
- Limb pick-up in natural areas in phases

