

# WIDOWED PERSONS SERVICE NEWSLETTER - JANUARY 2024

Serving Tarrant County and Surrounding Areas

Office Hours: 10 AM to 2 PM Mon - Fri

Phone: 817-551-2922

Fax: 817-551-2377

Web Site: [wpstc.org](http://wpstc.org)

Facebook: Widowed Persons Service of Tarrant County (closed group - contact office for access)

Email: [wpstc@att.net](mailto:wpstc@att.net)

## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE



Happy New Year to one and all! I hope you all had a good holiday.

I know that it can sometimes be difficult depending on our individual circumstances but as we adjust to our new life it should and will get easier. It has for me, and I hope for you as well.

If you did not attend the annual Christmas Banquet, you missed a real treat and opportunity to visit and get to know other WPS members. The Christmas atmosphere, food and entertainment were really excellent. Nancy Poole and her program committee did a great job in planning and executing this event this year.

By New Year's Day, I will have finished one year as WPS President. It has been a pleasure. I would not have made it had it not been for the Board Members and all the volunteers who helped and attempted to guide me in the right direction. As you know, the entire organization is run by unpaid volunteers. Some jobs are not easy, but someone always steps forward to perform them.

I'm looking forward to 2024 as a year our Board and volunteers TEAM together to have more activities and Grief Support sessions. Fundraisers are at times a lot of work, but I find them rewarding, and since they are fundraisers as well as social events, they are a vital part of our non-profit organization's livelihood. We do have expenses to pay - rent for the office, maintenance of equipment that keeps that office running, supplies, phone, internet, postage, and publications for Outreach. When you see someone working to make all our activities happen, please say a big "Thank you."

Here's to a great New Year and health and fun to all!

*Phyllis Weisheit*, President

## OUTREACH GRIEF SUPPORT

My dear WPS Family,

Here we are beginning another year of challenges that we did not choose or want. If you're like me, the new year always brings an opportunity for renewal and a fresh start. Except when you're grieving. When you've lost the husband or wife you loved recently, or even years ago, the new year can bring on a tidal wave of emotions and expectations. The idea of starting over in the new year can be overwhelming.

Be kind to yourself in the new year. You don't have to make the traditional fresh start, embrace diets, or start a daily gratitude list. Whether this is your first year or whether it's been many years since the loss, it's important to honor your feelings and give yourself the proper time you need to grieve. There will be other years in which you can feel celebratory again, but this year be gentle with yourself.

### *The Train of Life*

*At birth we board a train and meet our parents. We believe they will always travel by our side. However, at some station, our parents will step down from the train, leaving us on this journey alone.*

*As time goes by, other people will board the train, and they will be significant – siblings, friends, the love of your life, children, and many others. Some will step down and leave a permanent vacuum. Others will go so unnoticed that we won't realize they vacated their seats.*

*The train ride will be full of joy, sorrow, fantasy, expectations, hellos, goodbyes, and farewells. A successful ride requires having a good relationship with all passengers. We must give the best of ourselves.*

*The mystery to everyone is that we do not know at which station we ourselves will step down. So, we must live in the best way, love, forgive, and offer the best of who we are. It is important to do this because when the time comes for us to step down and leave our seat empty, we should leave behind beautiful memories for those who will continue to travel on the train of life.*

I wish you a joyful journey on the Train of Life. Reap success and give lots of love. More importantly, thank God for the journey.

Lastly, I thank you for being one of the passengers on my train and wish you a Happy New Year. Hugs!

*Ruth Turner*, Outreach Chairman & Certified Grief Support Facilitator

**NOTICE: The next Board Meeting will be held at the WPS office on Saturday, January 6, 2024, at 10:30 AM.**

**The first 2024 Grief Support session starts Jan 14. Refer to Page 3 for the complete 2024 schedule.**

### WAYS & MEANS

**Directory:** We are presently updating the WPS Directory database based on the 2024 Directory input sheets we have received and hope to have the results to the printer by the end of January.

**Donate 2 Impact:** WPS receives approximately 9 cents per pound for items donated to Donate 2 Impact. Our next WPS Donate 2 Impact period is **January 22 to February 4, 2024**. Last year we received more than \$1,000 from that organization from members' donations. **See the attached flyer for details.**

#### **Dances:**

Debbie Smith and Eula Plummer will be hosting a WPS sponsored dance on January 10, 2024, at the Arlington Elks Lodge from 6:30 to 9:00 PM. Food will be available for purchase from 5:30 to 6:30 PM with food proceeds going to the Elks National Foundation. Come on out and dance (or just listen) to Stevie Rose & Rio Grande Band. **See the attached flyer for details.**

Ann Barnes will be hosting a WPS DJ Dance at the Burseson Senior Center on Friday, December 29, 2023, and also again on Friday, January 26, 2024. These dances are a lot of fun, and participation has been good. **See the attached flyer for details.**

**Travel:** WPS is sponsoring a 3-day bus trip to San Antonio leaving on Tuesday, May 14, 2024, and returning on Thursday, May 16, 2024. **See the attached flyer for details.**

Please start the new year thinking about WPS. Although our member participation in events has begun to increase, we must still rely heavily on Donations and Memorials to cover our expenses. Please consider Donations and Memorials to help. Your support is always appreciated.

*Ron Zembek, Ways & Means Chairman*

### WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

Bill Traylor	Linda Donahower
Cheryl Gomez	Rhonda Cone
Jerry Ogle	Sheryl Parks
Jody Smith	

### MEMORIALS

Margaret Davis in Memory of Jack C. Davis & Ed Baer

### DONORS

Carol Bennett	Sheila Franklin
Howard Sanders	Virginia Andrews
Marilyn Hicks	

### ILLNESSES

Barbara Bice  
Beth Dart  
Brenda (Huskins) Wright

### DEATHS

Tom Rose

### STILL WORKING?

For members still working, WPS offers a Facebook group and occasional Saturday brunches. Contact Robin Parr at [rparr822@sbcglobal.net](mailto:rparr822@sbcglobal.net).

### WPS OFFICE HOLIDAY HOURS

The WPS office will be closed Wednesday, Dec 20, thru Monday, Jan 1. It will reopen at 10:00 AM on Tuesday, Jan 2.

**WPS GRIEF SUPPORT SCHEDULE 2024****2:30 to 4:30 PM SUNDAYS\***

**\*NOTE:** Any changes to this schedule will be announced in both the newsletter and on our Facebook page, so check each month for any changes. For any other information on Grief Support, call the WPS office 817-551-2922 Mon-Fri 10AM-2PM, or Ruth Turner 817-713-9372. If no answer at either number, please leave a voicemail, and your call will be returned as soon as possible.

**JAN 14, 21, 28; FEB 4, 11** : Pleasantview Baptist Church, 4400 Pleasantview Dr, Arlington. Facilitator: Merryll Kloster.

**FEB 18, 25; MAR 3, 10, 17** : First Baptist Church, Burleson, 317 W Ellison St, Burleson (park behind church). Facilitator: Ruth Turner.

**MAR 24, (SKIP 31); APR 7, 14 21, 28** : St John Lutheran Church, 1218 E Debbie Ln, Mansfield (in Youth Bldg at back of church). Facilitator: Phyllis Weisheit.

**JUN 2, 9, 16, 23, 30** : Pleasantview Baptist Church, 4400 Pleasantview Dr, Arlington. Facilitator: Arlyne Clements.

**JUL 14, 21 28; AUG. 4, 11** : Genesis United Methodist Church, 7635 S Hulen St, Ft Worth. Facilitator: Ruth Turner.

**AUG 18, 27; (SKIP SEP 1), SEP 8, 15, 22** : Lucas Funeral Home, 1321 Precinct Line Rd, Hurst. Facilitator: TBA.

**HOLIDAY GRIEF SUPPORT : Time & Date TBA.**

**DEC 8** : CANDLELIGHT MEMORIAL SERVICE : 3:00 PM, St. John Lutheran Church, 1218 E Debbie Ln, Mansfield.

**DONATION OPTIONS****for**  
**MEMBERS, FAMILY & FRIENDS**

- 1. Cash or check to the WPS office.** See form below.
- 2. Electronic Bank Transfer** to Routing # 311 981 614 and Account # 0008 196110.
- 3. Kroger Community Rewards Program.** Call 866-221-4141 or register online at [kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/](https://www.kroger.com/account/enrollCommunityRewardsNow/) with your Kroger Plus Card number or alternate ID (your phone number). Enter Organization #IA786 (Widowed Persons Service of Tarrant County). To re-enroll (if "WPSTC" is not at bottom of receipt), use same procedure.
- 4. Qualified Charitable Distribution (QCD).** Contact your financial institution for details.

**BUSINESS PARTNERS**

Donate 2 Impact  
Kroger Markets  
Mastercraft Printed Products and Services  
Spring Creek Barbeque

**EVENT VENUE PARTNERS**

Arlington Elks Lodge #2114  
Burleson Senior Center  
First Baptist Church, Burleson  
First Methodist Church Mansfield (games)  
Genesis United Methodist Church, Fort Worth  
Lucas Funeral Home, Hurst  
Pleasantview Baptist Church, Arlington  
St John Lutheran Church, Mansfield  
University Christian Church, Fort Worth

**CASH OR CHECK DONATION OPTION**

To mail a donation to WPS, please provide the information below and mail to:

Widowed Persons Service of Tarrant County, 2906 SE Loop 820, Suite A, Fort Worth, TX 76140-1030

Amount of donation: \$25 \$50 \$100 Other \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Specify if donation is a Memorial gift In memory of (name) \_\_\_\_\_

Specify where to send donation acknowledgement:

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_



*Widowed Persons Service  
of Tarrant County*

2906 S E Loop 820  
Suite A  
Fort Worth, Texas 76140-1030

NON-PROFIT ORG.

U. S. POSTAGE

PAID

FORT WORTH, TX

PERMIT NO. 2389

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

**DATED MATERIAL: PLEASE DELIVER BY JANUARY 1, 2024**

**OFFICER AND BOARD MEMBERS**

**WIDOWED PERSONS SERVICE OF TARRANT COUNTY FOR YEAR 2024**

**OFFICERS**

President : Phyllis Weisheit  
Vice President : Ruth Turner  
Secretary : Judy Baker  
Treasurer : Nancy Stepp

**BOARD MEMBERS**

Barbara Brickley  
Arlyne Clements  
Sharon Ellershaw  
Kay Hall  
Jane Morton  
Nancy Sheffer-Poole  
Carol Stacy  
Diane Bowman  
Margaret Davis  
Gary Frye  
Bob Howard  
Eula Plummer  
Debbie Smith  
Ron Zembek

WPS of Tarrant County is a Grief Support Program for widowed persons of all ages

WPS of Tarrant County is a TAX EXEMPT NON-PROFIT Organization funded by Memorials, Gifts and Donations

**WPS PURPOSE** : To aid bereaved men and women of all ages regardless of race, creed, and/or economic status, to adjust more effectively to the loss of a spouse through death and to build a new life.

## RECURRING EVENTS

### Host Still Needed for Arlington Dinner !!!

A volunteer is still needed to host the Arlington Dinner. For many newly widowed persons, WPS sponsored meals are their first exposure to WPS. Hosting a meal is simple and does not require a great deal of time. If you would be willing to host this event, please contact Diane Bowman at 817-996-2337.

### ARLINGTON

**Lunch : JAN 11 ONLY, 11:45 AM : Division Street Diner, 1800 W Division St, Arlington. Contact Rita Sanders, 817-907-7878.**

**Dinner : CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE.** Host needed for this event.

### BURLESON

**Breakfast : Every Tuesday 8:30 AM : Our Place, 950 N Burleson Blvd, Burleson. Contact Diane Bowman, 817-996-2337.**

★ **Lunch : JAN 13 ONLY, 11:00 AM : Texas Road House, 1125 N Burleson Blvd (12301 South Fwy (I-35)), Burleson. Contact Ann Barnes, 817-774-6073. (NOTE TIME & DAY CHANGE - SATURDAY 11 AM - NEW RESTAURANT - FOR THIS MONTH ONLY)**

**Dinner : JAN 15 ONLY, 4:30 PM : Antonio's Mexican Restaurant, 344 SW Wilshire Blvd, Burleson. Contact Arlyne Clements, 817-366-0430.**

### GRAND PRAIRIE

**Brunch: Every Wednesday 10:30 AM : Theo's Bar & Grill, 107 NW 8th St, Grand Prairie. Contact Debbie Smith, 469-684-9982.**

### MANSFIELD

**Breakfast : Every Saturday 8:30 AM : The Porch, 2771 E Broad St, Mansfield (across from Methodist Hospital). Contact Arlyne Clements, 817-366-0430. CANCELLED FOR DEC 23 & DEC 30 ONLY DUE TO HOLIDAYS.**

**Lunch : JAN 5 ONLY, 12:00 NOON : Fish City Grill, 581 W Debbie Ln, Mansfield. Contact Judy Baker, 817-320-3825.**

**Dinner:: JAN 17 ONLY, 4:00 PM : Buffalo Wild Wings, 1716 N US-287 Frontage Rd, Mansfield. Contact Ann Barnes, 817-774-6073.**

★ **Games: Every 2nd and 4th Tuesday 1:30 - 4:00 PM : First Methodist Church Mansfield, 777 N Walnut Creek Dr, Mansfield. Contact Jane Morton, 972-977-7899. CANCELLED FOR DEC 26 ONLY DUE TO HOLIDAYS.**

### NORTHEAST

**Breakfast : Every Saturday 9:00 AM : The Corner Café, 7901 Mid Cities Blvd, Ste 242, N Richland Hills. Contact Sharon Wallace, 817-226-5095.**

**Lunch : JAN 10 ONLY, 1:00 PM : Olive Garden, 8020 Bedford Euless Rd, North Richland Hills. Contact Alice Baum, 817-793-6015.**

**Dinner : JAN 16 ONLY, 5:00 PM : Red Lobster, 7800 Bedford Euless Rd, North Richland Hills. Contact Linda Turner, 817-475-3014.**

### SOUTHWEST

**Breakfast : Every Thursday 9:00 AM : Cracker Barrel, 8010 SW Loop 820 (exit Winscott Rd), Benbrook. Contact Carol Stacy, 817-360-8066.**

**Lunch : CANCELLED FOR JAN 1, 2024, ONLY DUE TO HOLIDAYS. WILL RESUME IN FEB 2024.**

★ **Dinner: JAN 16 ONLY, 4:00 PM : Olive Garden, 4700 SW Loop 820 (across from Hulen Mall), Fort Worth. Contact Joe Harris, 817-929-8658, if you plan to attend (restaurant needs a head count). (NEW EVENT)**

## SPECIAL EVENTS

**Friday, DEC 29 : DJ Dance, Burleson Senior Center. See the attached flyer for details.**

**Wednesday, JAN 10 : Dance, Arlington Elks Lodge. See the attached flyer for details.**

**Friday, JAN 26 : DJ Dance, Burleson Senior Center.**

Sponsored by Widowed Persons Service

Come Dance/Listen to  
Country & Western  
Songs from the Past and Present

with

Travis Moncrief as Disc Jockey

Friday, December 29, 2023

6:30 to 9:00 PM

Admission: Donations Only

Snacks provided at the break

Although it **won't** be **New Year's Eve**,  
**let's celebrate as if it is!**



Bring Your Family & Friends !!!

**It's Open to the Public**

Burleson Senior Center

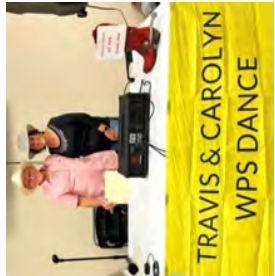
216 SW Johnson Ave, Burleson



NEXT DJ DANCE -

FRIDAY, JAN 26, 2024

6:30 - 9:00 PM



NEXT DJ DANCE -

FRIDAY, JAN 26, 2024

6:30 - 9:00 PM

Information: Ann 817-774-6073

Sponsored by Widowed Persons Service



Come Dance/Listen

to

**"Stevie Rose & Rio Grande Band"**

Wednesday, January 10, 2024

6:30 to 9:00 PM

\$10 PER PERSON AT DOOR

BRING YOUR FAMILY & FRIENDS !!!

**IT'S OPEN TO THE PUBLIC !!!**

Arlington Elks Lodge

601 W. Pioneer Pkwy, Arlington

Serving Food 5:30 to 6:30 PM @\$6 per Person

- Grilled Chicken & Grilled Hamburgers
- Beans, Potato Salad & Chips

Proceeds from food go to **ELKS National Foundation**



Drawing: Door Prizes and MORE!!

Information: Debbie 469-684-9982 or Eula 214-668-7999





**Get Rid of those clothes that don't fit you anymore or extra household items you don't need, and WPS will receive a donation.**

Donate 2 Impact is a non-profit organization that accepts items for resale and reimburses other charitable organizations for them at a rate of \$0.09 per pound. WPS has signed up with this organization, and they have given us the **donation period of January 22 to February 4, 2024.**

Items may be dropped off at the following location: **6020 S. Cooper St. Arlington.** Their hours of operation are Monday – Saturday 9:00 AM to 7:00 PM and Sunday 10:00 AM to 6:00 PM. **Donations must be made during the WPS Donation period for WPS to receive credit.**

When you drop off your items make sure you tell them that your organization is **Widowed Persons Service of Tarrant County (WPS).**

You also have the option to have them pick up your items. You must schedule the pickup between **January 22 and February 4, 2024,** and you must have the items outside your house for pickup. Call (972) 619-7880 to schedule a pickup. When you schedule a pickup, they will give you a date that they will pick up. They can schedule up to 2 weeks after the WPS donation period. Again, make sure you tell them that your organization is **Widowed Persons Service of Tarrant County (WPS).** They also request that items be separated as much as possible (i.e, clothing, shoes, appliances) and that breakable items be protected with packing.

**Below is a list of Items that they Accept:**

Clothing (all types and sizes), Shoes, Purses/Backpacks, Jewelry & Accessories, Linens/ blankets, Household items, Bath and Kitchen items, Books, Toys, Electronics, Small Appliances, and Small Home Décor.

**Below is a list of items NOT Accepted:**

Any used Medical Supplies, Anything Toxic or Flammable, Blinds, Building Materials (bricks, lumber, fence posts, tile, etc.), Cabinetry, Chemicals/Oils/Paints, Countertops, Doors, Food (animal or human), Hospital Beds/Adjustable Beds, Hot Tubs, Large Appliances, Large Exercise Equipment – Heavy Dumbbells, Light Fixtures, Magazines, Mattresses/ Box Springs, Newspapers, Office furniture, Cubicles, Desks, File Cabinets, Pipes, Scrap Fabric, Sheet Rock, Sinks, Soiled/Torn/Damaged/Stained Furniture, Swing Sets, Tires, Toilets, Trash, Tube TVs, CRT and Projection TVs, Unframed Mirrors, Unprotected Glasses, Used AC/Heating Units, Water Beds, Water Heaters, Weapons/Guns,/Swords/Knives, Wet/Rusty/Broken Items of any kind, Windows.

**DONATE 2 IMPACT**

**WIDOWED PERSONS SERVICE OF TARRANT COUNTY**

**DONATION DROP-OFF/PICK-UP FUNDRAISER**

**FUNDRAISER**

**DROP-OFF LOCATION:**  
 6020 South Cooper  
 Arlington, Tx

**WHAT TO DONATE:**  
 Clothing, shoes, accessories, jewelry, kitchenware, books, toys, linens, small appliances, & electronics

**SCHEDULE PICK UP**  
**CALL 972-619-7880**  
**OR VISIT US**  
**DONATE2IMPACT.COM**

donate2impact.com (214) 257-7199

# WPS / FIRST TRAVEL OF BURLESON PRESENTS

## San Antonio, TX



### INCREDIBLE PRICE INCLUDES:

- ◆ Motorcoach transportation
- ◆ 2 nights lodging in the San Antonio area
- ◆ 4 meals: 2 breakfasts and 2 dinners
- ◆ Guided Tour of San Antonio
- ◆ Cruise at San Antonio's famous River Walk District
- ◆ Visit to the famous ALAMO and IMAX Theater presentation: "ALAMO...The Price of Freedom"
- ◆ Visit to the Institute of Texan Cultures
- ◆ Visit to the San Antonio Missions

For more pictures, video, and information visit:  
[www.GroupTrips.com/FirstTravelofburleson](http://www.GroupTrips.com/FirstTravelofburleson)

# \$455\*

## 3 Days 2 Nights

\*PER PERSON, DOUBLE OCCUPANCY

(Tue - Thu)  
 May 14 - 16  
 2024

**Departure: First National Bank,  
 740 Southwest Wilshire Blvd, Burleson, TX @ 8 am**

**Day 1:** Board your spacious, video and restroom equipped Motorcoach and set off for the beautiful city of San Antonio - Home of the Alamo. Upon arrival, you'll enjoy a GUIDED TOUR OF SAN ANTONIO. The tour includes visits to San Fernando Cathedral, and the King William Historical District. After Dinner, you'll visit San Antonio's famous RIVER WALK for a SCENIC CRUISE! Tonight, you will check into your San Antonio area hotel for a two night stay.

**Day 2:** Start the day with a Continental Breakfast. Afterwards, depart for a visit to the SAN ANTONIO MISSIONS NATIONAL HISTORICAL PARK. Experience the "Queen of the Missions" - Mission San Jose, established in 1720. Later, go to the IMAX Theatre at San Antonio Rivercenter to see "ALAMO ... The Price of Freedom." Then, stand where history took place when you visit the buildings and grounds of the ALAMO - "The Shrine of Liberty." This evening, enjoy a lovely Dinner complete with entertainment.

**Day 3:** Today, after enjoying a Continental Breakfast, you'll visit the INSTITUTE OF TEXAN CULTURES. The Institute is devoted to the 26 different cultures that settled Texas. Later, you'll leave for home... A perfect time to chat with your friends about your exciting getaway and where your next group trip will take you!

### ADD PEACE OF MIND TO YOUR TRIP...

With Diamond Tours Exclusive *Travel Confident*® Protection Plan.  
 See separate advertisement...

\$75 Due Upon Signing. \*Price per person, based on double occupancy. Add \$60 for single occupancy.  
 Final Payment Due: 3/7/2024



Stand where history took place at the Alamo



Relax on a cruise at the famous River Walk



Mission San Jose is one of America's great landmarks



Enjoy the sights and sounds of San Antonio

**FOR INFORMATION & RESERVATIONS CONTACT:**

**Lila Glazener @ (817) 447-8747**