

OPAWL



Jenny Long

President

Happy New Year! This holiday season was a whirlwind and I don't know about you but I am just starting to recover. I want to take a moment to say thank you to Cindy & Bill Brandom again for hosting a wonderful holiday party at their beautiful home. It was terrific to see everyone and enjoy some delicious dishes as well. We even raise \$400 from the raffle that was then donated to Charity on Wheels with an additional match of \$400 to total \$800.

It's 3 weeks into the new year so I'm due to start failing on those resolutions any day now. How are you doing? Is your New Year starting off the way you want it to? If not, maybe it's time to reassess and make sure you are focused on the things that really matter to you and will make you happy!

On a more somber note, I was very sorry to hear of the passing of our long time OPAWL member Kay Thompson. She contributed so much to our organization during her time with us and we will truly feel the absence of her friendship. I hope that we will all take the time to hug our loved ones.

If you have been considering joining any of the sections of OPAWL I hope that you will consider making this the month that you do it. We also have several sections that are in need of section leaders. If you would be interested in serving in this capacity please email opawomen.org@gmail.com.

The next fundraiser is our Chili cook-off scheduled for March 28th from 11am-3pm. This will be one of the biggest fundraiser for the year. If you aren't cooking the chili, please come out and taste it or volunteer to help work the event. We will also be collecting clothes as part of our fundraiser at this event so if you have some items that have been burning a hole in your closet please set them aside to drop off here. More information will be sent out on that soon.

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www.opawomen.org
opawomen.org@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS SOCIAL

December 8, 2019

OPAWL's Annual Christmas Social took place on Sunday December 8th at Cindy & Bill Brandom's beautiful home. As the guests arrived, they were greeted by Christmas themed tables, a perfectly tuned piano playing Christmas music, flickering flames of the fireplace and lots of boisterous laughs.

Since it was a potluck, each guest arrived with dishes to share. The main entrée was a huge ham and an incredible smoky brisket, compliments of Bill Brandom himself. He got up several times during the night to tend to the smoking meat and boy it did not disappoint. It was a favorite of the evening.

The bar cart was loaded with wines and spirits for all to share and when it was time for dessert, several dishes appeared and covered the dining table. The one dessert that stood out was a beautiful English Trifle with sherry and whipped cream. I even went back for seconds!

We invited Charity on Wheels to provide a 'giving tree' with wish lists from the homeless decorating the tree. Several guests grabbed a list and made it possible for a homeless person to have a nice Christmas and a gift to open at their Christmas dinner. In addition to the giving tree, we raised \$400 from the raffle baskets and donated that amount plus matched it for an additional \$400, making a grand total of \$800 donated to Charity on Wheels. The spirit of Christmas was alive that evening.

It was an evening of friendship, joy and giving.

Reported by: Emilia Sugiyama



REMEMBERING KAY THOMSEN

The JOY of knowing Kay

I met Kay when she and Pat lived in their first house on Meads. We and our children were in OABB 4H together. I remember when they were building their second house on Morada she was meticulous about everything that went into it. Pat was the builder, but, she liked making sure the details were perfect. The third house they built in OPA was another gem inside and out. This was on OP Blvd. and they generously let the OPA Women's League use it for garage sales. She was the "Queen" of garage sales. Jana and I helped her a few times and we had a ball. She made it fun and though they were Fundraisers that raised a lot of money for OPAWL, she was always kind, and generous with people who were on low income and they were appreciative of her generosity.



Kay got me involved with the Salvation Army yearly Luncheons held for Women who were in a "Recovery" Program. We have been doing it together for many years. She will be very missed.

Kay was also very artistic and crafty. Over the many years I knew her, she made many beautiful Baskets for The Christian Women's League of Orange, The Salvation Army, and OPA Women's League. She had a whole room set up with her collections of things to make baskets. "It was a Labor of LOVE" and many were blessed by her generosity.

Every House Kay and Pat lived in became a "gem" including the latest home that was on our OPAWL Home Tour. She always liked to show off her garden and her plants and often times would give you a tour of all her plants.

If you were fortunate enough to ever eat her "Pineapple Upside Down" cakes, wow, they were the best!!! She shared them with us often.

Another Big achievement was her dedication to filling boxes of goodies for the Franklyn Graham Foundation for many years. In 2019 she filled 200 boxes, herself for this purpose. She was a wonderful friend to me and to many others. She will be greatly missed, but, she loved The Lord Jesus and I believe that she is where she wanted to be for eternity.

I could go on and on.... And many others could fill in as much as well. She will be missed by many as she touched our hearts with her big spirit and even bigger smile.

Written by Lois Widly

CHILI COOK-OFF FUNDRAISER

to be held on March 28, 2020

Plans for our 8th Annual Chili Cook-off are well under way. This is one of our major fundraisers for this year and we will need a good turn out in order to generate adequate funds to support our Santiago Community College scholarship and the other local women-focused charities that count on us for support. We need everyone to help get the word out and encourage friends and family to attend.

The support of all of our members is critical to the success of our fund-raising endeavors. Each section is expected to enter the Chili competition and we are always looking for people to help cook and help serve the day of the cook-off. If you want to make chili or can help serve chili on the day of the event, just let me know.

We will need volunteers for a number of things the day of the Chili Cook-off including help selling tickets, help with set up and help with trash pick up and clean up and someone is needed to make and sell coleslaw.

We are also asking for beverage donations. Can you donate beer, wine, sodas or water? If you have not signed up yet to do something to support our Chili Cook-off, please contact me and let me know what you will do to help. Lastly, please contact Emilia Sugiyama in order to purchase your OPAWL t-shirt. We have new ones with new logo on them.

Sue Moore VP, Ways and Means

Suemoore1970@gmail.com / phone: (714) 343-8908

OPA WOMEN'S LEAGUE

8th Annual



The Chili Cook-Off flyers are available to download on our website under the "Upcoming Events" tab. Please distribute to friends and family.

OPAWL SHIRTS – Now Available wear them with pride...



Our new LOGO is now on our shirts. The beautiful and flattering “peacock” color is still our signature shirt color.

\$15

If you would like to purchase your shirt, please contact Emilia Sugiyama at (310)569-4662. Available sizes are M, L & XL. If you are volunteering at the Chili Cook-Off, please contact me for a shirt. Thank you!

RECIPE OF THE MONTH



CAJUN CRAB DIP

THIS CAJUN CRAB DIP IS PERFECT FOR THE HOLIDAY SEASON! JUST THROW ALL THE INGREDIENTS IN A BOWL, GIVE IT A STIR, AND POP IT INTO THE OVEN FOR 30 MINUTES!

PERFECT FOR YOUR SUPER BOWL PARTY.

Cajun Crab Dip

Prep Time: 15 **Cook Time:** 20 **Serves:** 6-8

Ingredients

- 8 oz lump crab meat
- 8 oz cream cheese, softened
- 1/4 cup mayonnaise
- 4 green onions, chopped
- 1/2 cup shredded Italian-blend cheese
- 1 T worcestershire
- 1 tsp hot sauce
- 1 T Old Bay
- 2 T creamy horseradish
- 1/2 cup chopped onion
- 1/3 cup shredded asiago cheese

Directions

1. Preheat the oven to 350F.
2. Mix together all ingredients except asiago cheese, reserving 1/4 of the chopped green onion.
3. Spray an oven safe baking dish with cooking spray and spread the mixture in the pan.
4. Bake in preheated oven for 20 minutes.
5. Sprinkle the remaining green onion and the asiago cheese over top, bake an additional 10 minutes. Serve hot.

SECTIONS – What have they done?

This years **Hot Trotters** Christmas Caroling was a blast. The community came together and the turn out was amazing. We had about 50 riders and their horses. The music was loud, the Christmas spirit was in the air and everyone was singing and having a merry time. The horses did so well with all the bells and decorations. I can't wait until next year. Thank you everyone for your help and support and a special thanks to the homeowners that hosted.

Reported by Sara Nzala, Hot Trotters Leader



Photos from OPA Facebook



FOODIES SECTION

For the month of December, the Foodies group had Christmas putluck at Barbara Grabills home.

In November, the Foodies Group experienced the Hibachi Steak House in Anaheim. In attendance were Ann Webb, Jenny Long, Paula Fisher, Shirley Mullen, Sherrie Rouse and Phyllis Helt. The place would not seat us until everyone was there. Once we were seated, the chef began grilling without any interaction with his audience. The food and the experience was average. They served a lot of food for the money. However, I thought the food was bland. With that being said, we did have a wonderful time sharing experiences. Check your evite for our next adventure.

Reported by Phyllis Helt



SECTIONS & OTHER INFO

LITERATURE GROUP

Please contact Kathy Manulkin at (714)639-8686 & current book listed on website.

HOT TROTTERS GROUP

Contact: Sarah Nzala
sarahnzala@gmail.com

HOME & GARDEN

Contact Rose Ellen Cunningham
(714)532-1326

FOODIE LUNCHEON GROUP

The luncheon is a great time to connect with other members and enjoy a great meal. Check your email for the monthly Evite. Please contact Phyllis Helt for any questions (714)744.9269.

BUNCO GROUP

Our Section meets on the third Friday of most months at 7PM. Bunco is an easy dice game, learned in a few minutes. It's \$10.00 to play and there are money prizes for the winners of different categories.

Our leftover monies is donated to BEVERLY HOUSE for the young women and BETHANY HOUSE for the older women during the holiday season.

All are welcome to join us. Call Section Leader Linda Mazzara 714-633-9079 for particulars for the upcoming

GAD-ABOUTS GROUP

We are needing a new leader. If you like adventure and are interested please let Jenny Long

BEGINNING BRIDGE

Contact Annette Mason (714)538-4683

DEC Birthdays

7 - Chris Hooker
10 - Chris Cormack
11 - Rebecca Shirley
14 - Niki Davidson
17 - Julie Shaw
29 - Emily Newbert
31 - Nancy Ronk



JAN Birthdays

2 - Annette Mason
6 - Suzanne Seegers
21 - Sue Moore
26 - Maureen Krueger
30 - Diane Skirzynski