

Fort Leavenworth Spouses' Club Newsletter

# The Sunflower



December 2023



# Happy Holidays

From the Fort Leavenworth Spouses'  
Club Board

Seasons Greetings,

I cannot believe the holiday season is already upon us. We have had so much to celebrate so far this year and we can't thank our members enough for your continued support and participation. Speaking of celebrating, we just had a very successful Holiday Market last month. I have to take a minute to thank Dani, our Special Events Chair, for all of her hard work and dedication to making this past market one for the record books. Dani did a wonderful job from start to finish and we couldn't have asked for a better turn out. I also wanted to thank the board and all of our general club members for volunteering and for coming out to shop. You guys are the best!

This month we are so excited to be hosting our 1st Annual Wreath and Tree Auction, on December 13th. We would love for you to grab your spouse or a friend and come out and join us. We will have live music, a cash bar, and a silent auction with trees and wreaths full of fantastic items. It's the perfect way to snag some goodies for all those family members on your holiday list this year.

I hope you find time to take in all that Leavenworth and the surrounding areas have to offer this month. We are all so lucky to be living in an area full of endless holiday activities.

On behalf of myself and the entire FLSC board, we wish you a Merry Christmas and a very Happy Holiday season.

*Karly Gadell*  
FLSC President



# DECEMBER

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
26	27	28	29	30	1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
	BOURBON CLUB 1830		RUN CLUB 0515 BUNCO 1800	KNITCLUB 0930 BOWLING CLUB 1230	Happy Hanukkah	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
	PX GIFT WRAPPING	PX GIFT WRAPPING	RUN CLUB 0515 WREATH & TREE AUCTION 1800	BOOK CLUB 1000		WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA 1100
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
	PX GIFT WRAPPING			PX GIFT WRAPPING		
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
PX GIFT WRAPPING	MERRY Christmas					
31	1	2	3	4	5	6
	🥂	HAPPY New Year				🎆

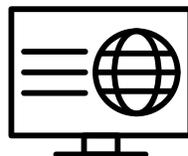
FOLLOW FLSC



FLSC facebook



FLSC Instagram



FLSC webpage



FLSC Sub Club  
Facebook group

FORT LEAVENWORTH SPOUSES' CLUB  
DECEMBER SOCIAL

# WREATH & TREE AUCTION



DECEMBER 13  
6:00 PM

FRONTIER CONFERENCE CENTER | 350 BIDDLE BLVD.  
OPEN TO THE FORT LEAVENWORTH COMMUNITY

RSVP ONLINE: [FORTLEAVENWORTHSPOUSESCLUB.ORG](https://fortleavenworthspousesclub.org)

All proceeds benefit local scholarships and community grants.

LIVE MUSIC    CASH BAR    SILENT AUCTION

Fort Leavenworth Spouses' Club's December Social is a Wreath & Tree Auction. All proceeds help us provide scholarships and grants for graduating seniors & military spouses.

December 13, 2023    6PM-9PM  
Doors open at 5:30PM

Cost to attend is \$31.20 per Guest  
Suggested attire: Cocktail Attire

**[CLICK HERE TO RSVP!](#)**



**THANK YOU TO EVERYONE WHO ATTENDED AND HELPED AT OUR NOVEMBER EVENTS**

We hope to see you again soon!



# Fort Leavenworth Spouses' Club

# BOARD

## EXECUTIVE BOARD

President- Karly Gadell  
1st VP- Angelica Diaz  
2nd VP- Vince Afaisen  
Secretary- Jeanell Hurley  
Treasurer- Sarah Custer  
Parliamentarian- Allison Burton

## GENERAL BOARD

Honorary President- Pam Beagle  
Honorary Advisor-  
Mandy Mosier & Cari Pavlichko  
CGSC Representative- Christina Dieppa  
Community Grants- Paula Skandis  
Historian- Courtney Ricard  
Hospitality- Meredith McKenzie  
International Liaisons-  
Anne Vaillancourt & Violetta Kopp  
Membership- Jeanell Hurley  
Newsletter- Brandy Conyers  
Property Manager- Helen Prassinis  
Reservations Chair- Pauline Williamson  
Retiree Liaison- Katie Payne  
Social Media Chair- Allie Cornell  
Scholarships- Jeannette Balboni  
Special Events & Fundraising Chair-  
Dani Lander  
Sub Club Chair- Angela Elgin  
Vendor Coordinator- Jackie Williams  
Volunteer Coordinator- Kendall Reese  
Ways & Means-  
Casey Black & Shanna Cheatham  
Webmaster- Patty Taguba



## Featured board members

Each month we feature a selection of our amazing board members in the newsletter! This month you get to meet our executive board! They work hard everyday to make sure this club runs smoothly! Thank you!



Hello, my name is  
**Karly**  
PRESIDENT &  
PICKLEBALL  
SUB-CLUB LEADER

### about me

i am from Collinsville, IL- home of the world's biggest ketchup bottle! I've been married to my husband, Mark, for 16 years! We have three kiddos, Gavin (10), Gracie (8), and Ruthie Jo (3). I'm also a Dog Mom! As a family we love to travel and explore all the National Parks around the US.



### FAVOURITE COLORS



### fun facts:

1. I love playing sports!
2. I played college volleyball!
3. My favorite food & drink are pizza & cherry Coke!



Hello, my name is

**Sarah**

Treasurer

### About Me

I call the Midwest my home! I born and raised in Minnesota and went to college in South Dakota. My husband Brian and I have three kids (Addison, Toria and Ryker) and black lab (Sasha). I love to make desserts. My specialty is cheesecake. I also love to read, take bubble baths, and play sports (volleyball and basketball mostly). In addition to volunteering with FLSC, I also am a substitute teacher in USD 207!



Sasha

YUM!

### Favorite Foods

- **Savory food--** beef bulgogi and rice
- **Sweet food--** cheesecake or tiramisu
- **Drink--** Caramel apple Gluehwein



Hello, I'm  
**Wince**

2nd VP & Beer/Breweries  
Sub-Club Co-Leader

### About me

My spouse, Brandt, and I have one son, Kaden. He is 12! We also have one dog (Ellis Hugh- its sounds like LSU), two cats (Loki & Luka) and two turtles (Bowser & Mint)! I claim both Guam and Bellevue, NE as my home. I like to do everything! I love cooking, playing sports, traveling and exploring! I can't wait to meet new people and experience new things here!



Ellis Hugh



### fun facts

- I helped train Jeremy Allen White & Ayo Edebiri for the Netflix series "The Bear."
- Micheal Buble called me handsome on the Kelly Clarkson Show.
- I've met and mentored some chefs from MasterChef and Hell's Kitchen.

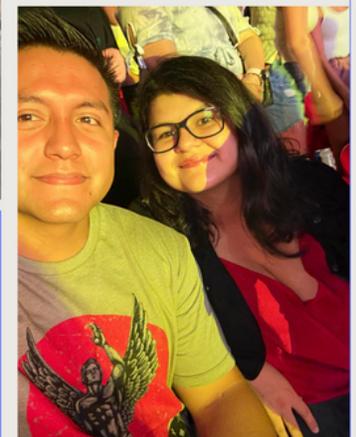


Hello I'm

**Angelica Diaz**

1st VP

I am married to my middle school sweetheart and we have a 5 year old son and a little 4 month old daughter. My husband and I are from California. Our son was born at Fort Campbell and Our daughter here in Overland Park, KS. We are what I like to call super permeant party since we have been here since April of 2019. We are big Marvel Fans and Lego Lovers.



### Things I love



Coffee



Music  
(all genres)

80s  
Movies



My  
family



MY FAMILY



# Alison Burton

PARLIAMENTARIAN

I am a mom to two kids, two dogs (Ace and Lucky) and wife to Jamie! We love to go on adventures and travel together. I love to bake, read, workout and volunteer in my "spare" time! I own a photography business. I also work with Stronghold Food Pantry, a nonprofit, to help our military families fight food insecurity!

MY FAVORITE FOODS



# Hi, I'm Jeanell

SECRETARY  
and  
CORKS & BOARDS  
SUB CLUB LEADER



## About me

I am a 3rd generation Army brat, Army Veteran, and Army Spouse! My husband and I have one son, two maincoons and two dogs! I love to craft and can't live without the sun!

Fun Fact about me:  
I worked at the White House before I joined the Army!



Family

I love pickles



## WAYS & MEANS

Come to a FLSC Social to shop with our amazing Ways & Means Team, Casey & Shanna!



# SUB clubs

Book Club- Leader: Jenna Farquhar  
Bowling Club- Leader: Angela Elgin  
Bourbon & Spirits Club- Leader: Laura Brown  
Breweries & Beer Club-  
Leaders: Vince Afaisen & Christina Dieppa  
Bunco Club- Leader: Connie Papacek  
Coffee Club- Leader: Paula Skandis  
Corks & Boards- Leader: Jeanell Hurley  
Craft Club- Leaders: Mallory Hill & Maggie VanHassel

Knitting Club- Leader: Jenna Farquhar  
Pickleball Club- Leader: Karly Gadell  
Retiree Club- Leader: Katie Payne  
Restaurant Explorers-  
Leaders: Angela Elgin & Rachel McCarty  
Run Club- Leader: Maria Duncan  
Trivia Club-  
Leaders: Catherine Sincere & Connie Papacek  
Wine Club- Jeannette Balboni

## Sub Clubs of the month

### Bunco

Leader: Connie Papacek



Bunco is one of our most popular sub-clubs! Connie creates fun themed Bunco nights every month for our members--anything from PJs to red carpet! Anyone from the most seasoned to brand new Bunco players are welcome! They also end the night with a game of left-right-center and the infamous money dump video! If you haven't been to a Bunco event yet, be sure to check it out!!



### Trivia

Leaders:  
Catherine Sincere  
& Connie Papacek



Trivia Club, co-lead by Catherine and Connie is another one of our fun, returning sub-clubs! Teams compete in multiple rounds of Trivia at monthly themed events. Themes are anything from specific TV shows to holidays to general knowledge! Not sure if you are knowledgeable on a particular topic? That's ok! Still come out and have a great time with friends!



### Coffee

Leader: Paula Skandis



Coffee club is a returning FLSC sub-club that was brought back by new leader Paula! Meet with other members at local coffee spots for a drink and conversation! Paula typically hosts multiple meetups every month to try to work with everyone's schedules! This is a great club to meet people and a grab a warm beverage, especially with the cold months arriving!



For more information on these sub-clubs and more



**JOIN THE SUB-CLUB  
FACEBOOK GROUP!**



NOVEMBER





CHECK THIS OUT

Need centerpieces, tablecloths, backdrops or a Santa suit for your upcoming event?

We have items available to rent!

Contact the Property Manager at [propertyflsc@gmail.com](mailto:propertyflsc@gmail.com) for more information!!



SAVE THE DATE

International Luncheon

JANUARY 24TH 2024

## Gift Wrapping Fundraiser

FLSC WILL BE WRAPPING GIFT AT THE PX FOR DONATION ON THE FOLLOWING DATES.  
COME SEE US!

DECEMBER 11, 12, 18, 21 & 24



Interested in helping FLSC wrap gifts and raise funds for Scholarships & Grants?  
[SIGN UP HERE!](#)



REMEMBER the Fallen. HONOR those who Serve.  
TEACH our children the value of Freedom.  
On December 16, 2023 at 11:00 am (Wreath Placement Immediately Following Ceremony), Fort Leavenworth Spouses' Club will be helping Fort Leavenworth National Cemetery to Remember and Honor our veterans by laying Remembrance wreaths on the graves of our country's fallen heroes.



Please help us honor and remember as many fallen heroes as possible by sponsoring remembrance wreaths, volunteering on Wreaths Day, or inviting your family and friends to attend with you.

Help us reach our goal and sponsor a wreath here:  
[www.wreathscrossamerica.org/KS0121P](http://www.wreathscrossamerica.org/KS0121P)

# Sponsors

Thank you to the businesses who support our club and our community. Be sure to check them out and tell them thank you.

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