



# NATURES TALES

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LIVING LIFE NATURALLY



*Natures very own Christmas Parade*

## **Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!**

The Christmas season has flown by in a flurry of activities: A Christmas parade (the best we have ever had!), Gift Exchange with the Elves, Caroling, Cheese & Wine on Christmas Eve, and finally Christmas dinner on December 25th.

The old year has drawn to a close, but before we start 2019, we should look back and remember the blessings we received during the year.

The greatest blessing at Natures is our Natures family. Over the past 12 months there have been a number of people who visited Natures for the first time, and these folks are now firmly entrenched in our family, and we are grateful for these new friendships.

After a very active spring season and a super hot summer, we have enjoyed a fun-filled fall season with many activities, all coordinated by the Fun Association Board, and spearheaded by many coordinators. All these people played a part in enriching our lives, and have been a blessing to us.

As we look towards the New Year, it is our hope that 2019 will be a year filled with good friends, good health, and joyous times and we look forward to sharing it with all of our Natures Family.

## **Tidbits from Cally, Natures Proud Cat!**

What a busy time I have had running from one activity to the next. I don't know how my Natures Family keeps up with everything!



- A new group has been started at Natures. It is called NUGS - Natures Ukulele Group. Who would have thought that there were so many people at Natures who play the Ukulele! If you are interested contact Cassandra.
- The Elsa H.E.B. was reaching out to Winter Texans, and invited us to a brunch where we made some useful contacts in the various departments. It was an interesting time learning about some of their special services.

- Another 'Days for Girls' workshop was a huge success. In the month of December 75 kits were sent to Tijuana and another 75 to India. The DFG Distribution Coordinator was very impressed with how quickly we were able to respond to their urgent request for kits. We were only able to have this quick response time because of all the help that we received. It takes a whole village and we are grateful for all the help at the workshop.
- What is Christmas without some Christmas Caroling? A large group toured the park enjoying the Christmas lights and singing carols and Christmas songs in both English and French, while others patiently waited (with cookies and refreshments) for the group to arrive and sing to them. All in all a very successful and fun evening for everyone.
- What a turnout we had to decorate the clubhouse for Christmas. A big thank you to everyone who spent time trimming trees, hanging icicles and snowflakes, and making the clubhouse look festive. It's sad to realize that it is already time to take the decorations down.
- Our Fall Barbeque is a double whammy! It is a fun event in itself, and it raises funds so that we can have more fun later! Many thanks to the organizers, chefs and participants for making this event so successful!
- There are a lot of happy boys and girls in Monte Alto thanks to Santa Clause and the generosity of our Natures Family who sponsored 7 families for Christmas, making sure that the children received the gifts on their wish list as well as a large hamper of food for each family.
- The lights went out about an hour before the dance to celebrate those who had turned 75 was to start. What were we to do? Never fear! Dean's generator provided electricity for the music, and

the emergency lighting, flashlights and an extension cord from Leroy's motor home gave us enough light - and the dance took place as scheduled. Many thanks to Cassandra for her DJ work, much of which was done in limited light!

- The Christmas lights around the park have been so pretty, with some people stringing lights high in the trees, others creating beautiful scenes and even decorating one of the stop signs. Thank you all for making the park look so festive.
- The Elves were back for our Annual Christmas Gift Exchange. It's a good thing that Santa was not there because he would have seen a lot of people being nasty and stealing other people's gifts! An exciting addition to the gift exchange was the Mystery Gift. If you were not there, you missed a really fun evening. Many thanks to Jan and Steve and the Elves.
- Christmas dinner was delicious! Our hosts did a great job of organizing the event as well as cooking all the hams. Many thanks to them, all their helpers and everyone who shared a side dish or dessert. If anyone went home hungry it was their own fault!
- What fun everyone had at the Cheese & Wine party on Christmas Eve. It was a good opportunity for everyone to socialize as well as play an assortment of games. Many thanks to our hosts and their helpers for a well planned event.

It's been fun reporting all the happenings over the past 12 months and now I'm looking forward to our New Year's Eve party, and having some delicious Moose Milk on New Year's Day. I wish everyone a very Happy New Year, and I'll continue to be your very own cat reporter for 2019.

That's all from me!



## **January Special Events**

**1st New Year's Levee** 12 noon (Moose Milk) This is great way to start the year.

**3rd Open Mic/Karaoke** 7 p.m.

**4th Days for Girls Workshop** 1 p.m.  
Everyone is welcome to join in assembling re-usable health kits for girls and women around the world who do not have access to disposable feminine products.

**5th Breakfast** 8 a.m. Please sign up

**8th Blood Drive** Please consider donating. It could save a life!

**12th Breakfast** 8 a.m. Please sign up

**13th Birthdays & Anniversaries** 6:30 p.m

**14th Dance** 7 p.m. Music by Rick McEwen

**19th Members' Meeting** 9a.m. If you are at Natures, you are a member and are encouraged to attend so that you can know what fun activities are ahead. Complimentary coffee and donut

**20th Open Mic/Karaoke** 7 p.m.

**24th Tater Night.** Please sign up

**26th Breakfast** 8 a.m. Please sign up

**26th Dance** 7 p.m. Gatos Locos

**31st Monte Carlo Night** This our second Monte Carlo Night. The first one was a huge success, so don't miss out on the fun.

## **Weekly Schedule:**

### **Monday:**

8:00 a.m. (Golf) outside park)  
8:30 a.m. Morning Exercise  
9:00 a.m. Pickle Ball  
9:30 a.m. Advance Exercise Class

11:00 a.m. Ruthi's Dance Class  
2:00 p.m. Petanque  
2:00 p.m. Water Volleyball  
7:00 p.m. Country Club Dance Night  
7:00 p.m. Country Club Dance

### **Tuesday:**

8:30 a.m. Morning Exercise  
9:00 a.m. Pickle Ball  
2:00 p.m. Petanque  
2:00 p.m. Water Volleyball  
3:45 p.m. N.U.D.E. Wii Bowling

### **Wednesday**

8:00 a.m. Golf (outside park)  
8:30 a.m. Morning Exercise  
9:00 a.m. Pickle Ball  
9:30 a.m. Advance Exercise Class  
2:00 a.m. Petanque  
2:00 p.m. Water Volleyball  
4:00 p.m. Happy Hour at Sandy's

### **Thursday**

8:30 a.m. Morning Exercise  
9:00 a.m. Pickle Ball  
11:00 a.m. Veggie Joe  
2:00 p.m. Petanque  
2:00 p.m. Water Volleyball

### **Friday:**

8:30 a.m. Morning Exercise  
9:00 a.m. Pickle Ball  
9:30 a.m. Advance Exercise Class  
1:00 p.m. Crafting in the Corner  
2:00 p.m. Petanque  
2:00 p.m. Water Volleyball  
6:15 p.m. Bingo

### **Saturday:**

9:00 a.m. Pickle Ball  
10:00 a.m. Texas Hold'em  
2:00 p.m. Petanque  
2:00 p.m. Water Volleyball  
7:00 p.m. Darts

### **Sunday:**

9:00 a.m. Pickle Ball  
2:00 p.m. Petanque  
2:00 p.m. Water Volleyball