



DECEMBER 2023



Tis the Season

Dinner: The Larks will hold their annual Christmas Dinner at the Rib and Chop House on Monday December 11 at 5:30. There will be a gift exchange if you wish to participate and the monetary limit is \$15. Hope to see you there.

With all the crazy in the world today, we can all use some feel good stories.

There was a man taking a morning walk on the beach. He saw that along with the morning tide came hundreds of starfish and when the tide receded, they were left behind and with the morning sun rays, they would die. The tide was fresh and the starfish were alive. The man took a few steps, picked one up and threw it in the water. He did that repeatedly.

Right behind him there was another person who couldn't understand what this man was doing. He caught up with him and asked, "What are you doing? There are hundreds of starfish. How many can you help? What difference does it make?" This man did not reply, took two more steps, picked up another one, threw it into the water and said, "It makes a difference to this one."

What difference are we making? Big or small it does not matter. If everyone made a small difference, we'd end up with a big difference.

Moral of the Story: It's the little things that make a huge impact in our lives. Sometimes we ignore the small things that are already in front of us because we lose sight of what is important. A small act of kindness, actions that seem insignificant for most people could mean the world to another person!

(Source Internet 10 Short Stories with Positive Message)





*The featured book review this month is given by Karen Kent. She has just finished *The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd. It is set in 1964 in South Carolina. Lily is a 14 year old white girl who runs away from her abusive, windowed father, with her beaten up black nanny. The pair end up at the home of three black sisters, the oldest who has a successful beekeeping business.*

Lily is searching for knowledge about her mother who died tragically when Lily was 4. Through lessons in beekeeping and living with the sisters during the Civil Rights movement, Lily learns more about herself and her life than she could have ever imagined. Karen says it's an "easy" read and Heart Touching.

(The book was turned into a movie starring Queen Latifah, Dakota Fanning, Jennifer Hudson, Alicia Keys, Sophie Okonedo and Paul Bettany)



Julie, 7th Birthstone: Blue Topaz

MEMBERS - This month will feature Lynn Montoya and Karen Kent.

*Lynn is a very new member having just joined a few months ago. She was born in Denver Colorado and is married to Paul. Lynn's hobbies are traveling and cooking. She has four adult children and four grandchildren. Her favorite books are *Dog Years a Memoir* and any *Agatha Christie Books*. Flo adds she is involved with *Hopes for Meals* and got the Larks involved in a very fun event to bag meals with other clubs.*

Karen is a Wyoming native. She likes to bake, quilt, do needle work, hike and travel. She is married to Moss and has two boys Matthew 26, and Moss Jr 24. Flo adds if you ever need a cake for an event, call Karen. And her quilts and table runners are fabulous.

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Veterans Rock - As some of you know the thrift store at Veterans Rock (VR) has closed. Veterans Rock is still open to service veterans in need. They are using the extra space for reception, intake, classrooms, etc.

Everything from the thrift store has been either sold or donated. BUT VR still has a ton of Christmas Decorations to get rid of. They are going to hold a sale on December 9th.

If you have any decorations you want to purge and pass on, be it Christmas, Halloween, Easter, etc., and would like to donate, let me know. Trish and I are happy to collect.

Winter Hat Drive: The Larks have voted to donate winter hats/caps to Coalition for the Homeless. For those who may not know, our very own Darlyn is Executive Director of the Coalition. Her goal is 100 hats, and the Dollar Stores are a very good source for these. You can arrange for Darlyn, Mary Lee Dixon, Patty Benskin, or myself to collect, or you can bring to our dinner on the 11th.

***A Special Project:** Julie will be having surgery in the next couple of weeks. Karen has offered to put together a care basket for her. If you want to contribute consider perhaps “feel good” pampering products, inspirational, yummy, crossword books, etc. Questions? Call Patty at 630-3545 or Karen at 631-2235. You can bring to the dinner December 11 and Patty and I will collect.*

Did You Know? An Owl’s hearing is so acute that it can hear a mouse step on a twig 75 feet away. (Wyoming Wildlife Magazine Oct 2023)

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year!! “See You” next month.