



President: Jan Lemaire
Secretary: Gloria Brady-Cross
Muster Master: Nancy Arce
Newsletter Editor: Gloria Brady-Cross



Vice President: Bob Comeaux
Treasurer: Bob Theriot
Historian: Denny Olvany
Webmaster: Charley LeBlanc

President Jan Lemaire's Message:

Wow! It's hard to believe that this is my last newsletter message to you. Four years ago, when I became acting President, I had no clue. I had not been in the club long enough to know what the expectations were to be. With the help of a VERY strong and experienced Board and all of our members, I have made it through 4 years (give or take a month or two) and a very capable Bob Comeaux will take over in December after the Installation.

Our chapter has grown by approximately 30% thanks to your recruiting efforts and the members' investment in the chapter is noticeable. I'm so proud of our chapter—even in the face of recovery from the pandemic. We still need a candidate for Vice president and I hope you are thinking of good suggestions.

Thank you for your time, interest, laughter, love and support! This chapter is a VERY fun place to hang out!

♡Jan

Jan Lemaire, President

Newsletter Editor Message: I missed not having Jessie help me in taking pictures of the muster but I received some pictures from various members who documented our meals, seminar, games, tours, laughter and comradery that were shared by all. Thanks to all who helped in making this newsletter. I am still ready to have the newsletter editor position taken on by another chapter member. You don't have to do it like me. Put your own spin to the newsletter if you wish.

Treasurer's Report: None. Anita James is still recuperating from her heart surgery and at the time of this newsletter, our newly appointed Treasurer, Bob (Robert) Theriot has not been accepted by Region's Bank as our new chapter Treasurer. The Fisher House reserve is **\$294 as of May**. The amount that was collected for the 50/25/25 Raffle was about **\$161**. The Silent Auction was about **\$90** and the flag auction collected **\$120**. These funds are to be added to the Fisher House reserve.

Health and Wellness Update of MS Magnolia Members

Nancy Arce volunteered to take care of Brown Bag Auction and collect door prizes for Central Regional. She was installed as our new chapter Muster Master and is working on a Campground Notebook for future musters.

Francis Arceneaux was diagnosed with pneumonia last week but is recovering.

Elaine and Bob Comeaux cooked a meal for the muster and will be cohosts for the Christmas Muster in Picayune, MS.

Frank and Linda Coates were inducted into the STAR Chapter for five new SMART members and they state they have about six more couples interested in joining. They will also be cohosts of Christmas Muster.

Ron and Patsy Erieg cooked a ham meal for our muster even though she had been ill the week before the muster.

Mary Ferguson is visiting her daughter in Virginia but plans to attend the Christmas muster.

Lou Finkle and Diane Thompson are advertising their Class C Motorhome for sale. They plan to attend the Christmas muster. Diane was commended for the beautiful chapter basket for the National Muster by the Blaneys from North Carolina who won the basket.

Warren Kelly and Kathryn Crews made it to the muster and we were all treated to Warren's fruitcake cookies he is well known for making.

Frank and Pauline Krenkel sold their MH and were guests of the Glaziers so that they could attend the muster. They are doing ship cruises instead of RVing the last few months.

Jesse and Anita James came to the muster for a few hours of visiting. Anita still has not fully recovered from her heart surgery. She requested to no longer be the chapter treasurer.

Ben and Tee Lane attended the muster, but Ben had difficulty using his electric scooter in the campground and accessing the clubhouse because of the uneven bricks.

Charley LeBlanc drove in Wednesday to attend the golf game and business meeting. However, Dianne is still in rehabilitation for her back surgery. They have had to cancel a muster and a caravan so far, but hope to make it to the Christmas muster.

Jan and Dave Lemaire are the hosts for the Anniversary Muster. They plan to attend the Regional.

Denny and Ann Olvany joined us for the muster. Denny says the treatments for his cancer are still being taken, but sometimes the side effects cause some difficulty. The hope to attend Regional.

Congratulations to Bob Theriot in the appointment of chapter Treasurer. He was initiated into collecting money for auctions and raffles for Fisher House at this muster.

Bob Zeller's Halloween costume was based on the same character as Nancy Arce's costume and they tied as contest winners. He plans to attend the Christmas muster.

I hope everyone else is doing well. Hopefully, some of you will send updates after receiving this newsletter.

Welcome to a New Member!

Ron Kirkland came to visit our chapter after joining SMART as a new member a few months ago. He joined as new member for the MS Magnolias Chapter after being with us for a few days. Besides being a veteran, Ron is also a retired firefighter.



Ron says he has been RVing for much of his life and hopes to be able to join some SMART caravans to see more of America that what he has traveled in the past with his wife. She passed away last year.

Musters of the MS Magnolias

Nov 10-16 2024 at Sun Outdoors RV Park and Resort, Robert, LA., Central Regional Muster. Hosted by Smart Cajuns, all info about the Regional Muster is on the website.

Dec 8-12, 2024 with departure on Dec 13. Christmas Muster at Sun Roamers RV Park and Resort, Picayune, MS: Cohosts are Linda and Frank Coates with Bob and Elaine Comeaux. This is a free muster for all MS Magnolia members. Guests must pay \$20/pp. We will have our Dirty Santa Game as usual. Check out the website for more info and registration forms.

Central Regional Muster, May 12-16 2025 at Coachlight RV Park in Carthage, Missouri.

Sep 15-19 2024, Mineola, Texas, SMART National Muster. All info is on the SMART website.

Nov 30-Dec 4 2025 with departure on Dec 5. Christmas Muster at Sun Roamers RV Park and Resort, Picayune, MS: Cohosts TBA. This is a free muster for all MS Magnolia members. Guests must pay \$20/pp. We will have our Dirty Santa Game as usual. Check out the website for more info and registration forms.

Winners of Games

Beanbag Baseball: Winners: Lou Finkle, Alan Esterly, Linda Coates, Melody Thomas, ?

50/25/25 Raffle: Linda Coates, Frank Coates, Gloria Brady-Cross

Hand and Foot Winners: ?? Sorry but I forgot and did not have any pictures to help remind me.

Skipbo Game Winners: Linda Coates and Bob Glazier

We were unable to get a MS Magnolias chapter muster group picture for this muster but we do have a lot of pictures that were taken by various members attending this muster!

Oct 2024

MAGNOLIA MESSAGE

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Many more than could be fit into this newsletter is on the SMART Facebook page for those of you who are on Facebook.

Left: Crafters who were taught by Nancy Arce. (center) Denny Olvany and Paul Thomas (Left) 20th Anniversary cake for MS Magnolias



Pictures of the various animal trainers at the Mammal Research Center the MS Magnolias toured all morning long.



MS Magnolias toured the Chandeaur Brewery in Gulfport and learned how they brewed their beers and tasted some samples. Left: Ben and Tee Lane with Melody Thomas. Center: Members posed in front of brewery. Right: Bartender talked about the brewery process.



Left: Silent Auction items (Center): Pauline paying Bob Theriot for her Silent Auction items (Right) Flag Auction which collected \$120.



Left: Bean Bag Baseball Game Center: Hand and Foot Tournament. Right: New Game of Left, Right and Center is being taught.



Left: Soup being served for Monday night dinner. Center: Warren Kelly. Center2: Frank Krenkel taking a nap. Right: Breakfast crew every morning of the muster.



Some of the costumed MS Magnolias who were not in the group pose. Frank Krenkel, the Van Devenders, Linda Coates, and the Eriegs.



Winners of the Halloween Costume Contest: Paul Thomas, Bob Zeller and Nancy Arce, and Denny and Ann Olvany.



Group Picture of Most of the Halloween Costumed Attendees



Denny Olvany did a 20th Anniversary of MS Magnolias Chartering Presentation to the muster attendees Tuesday morning. Some facts he presented were that the original meeting scheduled in Aug 2004 at Parker's Landing in Biloxi, was postponed until Sept 2024 due to an approaching Hurricane. Bill Esterly was at these meetings and confirmed these facts. Bill also stated that there had been an earlier chapter, known as the MS Coasters but it had been dissolved.

Once the charter meeting occurred Dick Axtell requested SMART HQ to charter the MS Magnolias. Denny Olvany and Bill Esterly are considered charter members. Unfortunately, a list of charter members has not been found in the chapter history files or at HQ.

There have been twelve presidents in the past 20 years which include: Dick Axtell, Doug Johnson, Denny Olvany, Bob Glazier, Warren Clark, Larry Sockwell, Larry Pousson, James Stubbs, Bulous LeFlore, Charley LeBlanc, Dennis Bowen, and Jan Lemaire.

Denny and Gloria have compiled many original records of the musters held, business minutes written and newsletters printed. They do not have 100% of the chapter history but what they do have are in various notebooks and digitized for anyone interested in seeing our chapter history.

SMART is a not-for-profit 501(C)19 Veterans Organizations all Donations are Tax Deductible

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