

# Setting Sails



A Quarterly Publication For Friends And Consumers of San Antonio Independent Living Services

Winter 2018

## Casino Night Oktoberfest Fundraiser is a Success!



Dr. Kitty L. Brietzke,  
CEO/Development Officer of SAILS

On Friday, October 26, 2018 San Antonio Independent Living Services (SAILS) hosted a Casino Night Oktoberfest at the beautiful Rosenberg Skyroom at the University of Incarnate Word. Guests donned German hats and flowered hair bands. Everyone enjoyed entertainment by Terry Cavanaugh of The Alpine Express who provided lively songs and music from his accordion while “gambling.”

Tasty cuisine was donated by Walk-Ons and Madhatter’s Teahouse & Café. Fresh Horizon’s provided a wide array of cheeses, fruit and more! Delicious German streusel was dessert!

SAILS hosts a Casino Night every year to provide much needed unrestricted funds that can assist with emergency assistance, program and items that our contracts do not allow. SAILS board of directors and staff sincerely appreciate the kind and generous support from the Gordon Hartman Family Foundation as a Silver Sponsor. SAILS would like to also extend our warmest gratitude to the following corporate sponsors PCSI, Inc., Documation, AT&T Center/Spurs Sports Entertainment, and Mobility Works and to Al Cano and Company, Deaf Interpreter Services, Frost Bank, opSolutions, Thoa Vo, San Antonio Lighthouse for the Blind, Owl Radio & Low Vision Resource Center and SAILS Board members Rodney Harris and Dennis Wolf as table sponsors.

SAILS also appreciates the kind donations from Carol Kelly, Rene Gonzalez, David and Olga Massey and Premier Prosthetics towards the adult beverages for

our Casino Night Oktoberfest. Our volunteers were great! SAILS wishes to thank Curtis Granville, Albert Pulido, Belinda Womack, Sandra Ortiz, Gilbert Ortiz and Lisa Miele.



### Silver Star Sponsor



### Corporate Sponsors



Dr. Kitty Brietzke

### Table Sponsors



### Owl Radio

Ms. Thoa Vo

Ms. Dennis Wolf

### Low Vision Resource Center

Mr. Rodney Harris

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### Wine & Beer Sponsors

David & Olga Massey

Carol Kelly



Rene Gonzales

## “I Can Hear Much Better Now”: Juanita Hernandez

by Megan Zambo, IL Outreach Specialist

Consumer Juanita Hernandez has suffered with hearing loss for many years. Her old hearing aids finally gave out after struggling with them for a while. Ms. Hernandez wanted to be able to live independently by being able to talk with her family and hear on the phone. With previous hearing aids she needed to take them out to not get feedback while on the phone. Consumer said she “can hear much better now”. She can have conversation with her family and they no longer need to repeat themselves or yell for her to hear them. Ms. Hernandez’s daughter said she needs to get used to talking to her mother in a normal volume.

When Ms. Hernandez walked into the appointment to get her hearing aids, she was yelling to hear herself talk. After getting them fitted, she was just about talking at a whisper, the Audiologist said he needs to get hearing aids to hear her talk now.

She was able to get her phone and TV connected to a device that is connected to her hearing aids. So, she can easily hear the TV. If someone calls when she is watching TV, it will pause allowing her to answer and talk on the phone. After hanging up the show resumes. Both her and her daughter are very impressed with this technology advancement.

Ms. Juanita said they are working very well for her and that it is “a Blessing”. She is very happy and thankful for the help she got with SAILS.



Juanita Hernandez hears well now

## Support Group: Emergency Preparedness Presentation

by Corrina Hernandez

SAILS support group guests were treated to a very important presentation about emergency preparedness by Ms. Samantha Hayes from the City of San Antonio. She provided information for the guests to include in their personal emergency kits. Her focus for the session was to provide information on having an emergency plan for yourself, family and pets. She shared how important it is to be able to sustain and shelter in place if needed with a minimum of three days of supplies and to have plenty of prescription medications available.

Ms. Hayes stressed how important it is to get to know your neighbors. She covered weather related emergencies and other household emergencies such as fire and flooding. The Support Group guests asked many questions and were extremely please with the presentation.



Members of SAILS support group in a presentation by City of San Antonio, Emergency Preparedness



Questions and answers for participants

# SAILS Is For Consumers



## Holiday Fun for Peer Support Group

By Janice Berechi Onyejiako

SAILS Peer Support Group had a wonderful Holiday Luncheon at Pico de Gallo thanks to the very generous support of longtime friend of SAILS, Linda Knolton. Seventeen guests from the Support Group enjoyed the great food and conversations flowed throughout the meal. Some new faces have joined the group and friendships have formed over time.

SAILS staff and Support Group members would like to extend a warm thanks to Linda Knolton for the Holiday Party and goodie bag too!



Members of SAILS Peer Support Group having their holiday funs at a luncheon

## New SAILS Board Members

### SAILS Welcomes Board Member Scott Hesch!



SAILS Board of Directors and staff wish to extend their congratulations and warm welcome to Scott Hesch as one of our newest board members.

Mr. Hesch is the General Manager of Frontier Burger. He is responsible for the entire operations, including the marketing, profit and loss, recruiting and training of employees.

He is very excited about assisting SAILS with fundraising and events to help us “reach the next level.”

### SAILS Welcomes Board Member Roman Juarez!



SAILS Board of Directors and staff wish to extend their congratulations and warm welcome to Roman Juarez as one of our newest Board members. Mr. Juarez is employed at ECO-Staff, LLC and handles job postings, job placements, following up with employers and human resource issues.

He is very proud to be working on completing his Bachelor’s degree and is currently taking accounting classes at night. He says, “ I look forward to being an asset to SAILS in fundraising.”

SAILS Office Hours  
Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:00pm

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# SAILS Is For Consumers

## 2018 SAILS Casino Night Oktoberfest

Photos by Frank San Miguel



2018 Casino Night Oktoberfest!



Casino guests enjoy the food!



SAIIS consumers, on our website. Rodney Harris & friend enjoying themselves



"A little poker game"



Terry Cavanaugh entertains guests



Guests play roulette

# SAILS Is For Consumers



## 2018 SAILS Casino Night Oktoberfest

Photos by Frank San Miguel



Let's thank our sponsors



Ms. Olga Massey



Auction items at the Casino Oktoberfest Night



Winners at poker table!



"Dressing the part"



Guests enjoy different game tables at the Casino night

# Calendar of Events: Nov, Dec and January

## November 2018

- 2- SAILS Support Group Meeting
- 6- Fish City Grill Fundraiser
- 9- Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon
- 13- SAILS Staff Meeting
- 14- SAILS Board Meeting
- 22-23 SAILS Thanksgiving Holidays

## December 2018

- 4- SAILS Staff Meeting/Presenter Yolanda Ortega/Advocate
- 7- SAILS Support Group Holiday Party/Social
- 14- SAILS Staff Holiday Luncheon
- 17- SAILS Holiday closure through January 1

## January 2019

- 2- SAILS offices re-open
- 4- SAILS Support Group/Presenter from Dispute Resolution
- 8- SAILS Staff Meeting/Presenters from Warm Springs & Fish City Grill Fundraiser
- 12- SAILS Board Meeting & Board Retreat
- 25- 1st ADA Planning Committee Meeting
- 29- SAILS Staff Meeting

You can sign up to volunteer,  
to help people with disabilities,  
SAILS consumers, on our website:

<http://sailstx.org>

Click link tab "Volunteer"

Online Request For Services, SAILS Consumers:

<http://sailstx.org>

Click link tab "Contact",  
and then "Request For Services"

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## Our Mission:

To advocate for the rights  
and empowerment of  
the people with disabilities  
and to provide needed services  
to people with disabilities in order  
to increase their self-determination  
and independence

# SAILS Is For Consumers



## Lester Holub: A Consumer Who Is Empowered And Independent

by Marjorie Anders

Lester Holub, is a senior living in Port Lavaca, Texas. He has physical disabilities but is now feeling much more empowered and independent. He is so happy and thankful to SAILS since he received a table for his bedside.

He says, "thank you so much for the time and money in getting the table. It comes in handy every day and night. I can read, eat, drink, and do my puzzles." Mr. Holub can also wash his face and hands from a small pan of water and a washcloth. He keeps a walkie-talkie on the table for communication with his wife when she is outside tending to the chickens and picking eggs. SAILS is so happy for Mr. Holub's new independence.



Lester Holub is empowered and independent using an utility table by his bed side

## SAILS Honors Volunteers at Annual Appreciation Luncheon

by Kitty Brietzke, J.D.

On Friday, November 9, 2018 SAILS honored many people who took time to volunteer throughout the year. Volunteers were treated to a wonderful meal at The Barn Door. Janice Berechi, SAILS IR/Volunteer Coordinator did an excellent job planning the event and ensuring that all the guests enjoyed themselves. She was assisted by SAILS IL Specialists who helped present the volunteers with their certificates. SAILS is grateful for our guest sponsors David and Olga Massey who enjoyed the luncheon.

The surprise was saved for the end when Mr. Donald Cloman were awarded Volunteer of the Year! SAILS congratulates him and everyone who helped make our year a great success.



Donald Cloman receives the SAILS Volunteer of the Year Award, presented by Dr. Kitty Brietzke, CEO of SAILS



Guests enjoy at the 2018 SAILS Volunteers Appreciation Luncheon

**Secure Online Donations to SAILS**

<http://sailstx.org>

**Click link tab "Donate"**

San Antonio Independent Living Services  
1028 S. Alamo Street  
San Antonio, TX 78210



## OTHER FORMATS ARE AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

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Megan Zambo	IL/Outreach Specialist
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Marjorie Anders	IL/Outreach Specialist (Victoria)
Josephine Salas	Receptionist (Victoria)

#### SAILS Board of Directors

Dennis S. Wolf	Chair
Miguel Castro	Vice Chair
Rodney Harris	Secretary
Donna McBee	Board member
Gary Owens	Board Member
Scott Hesch	Board Member
Roman Juarez	Board Member

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