

January 2016

Ladies of the Lake
by Barbara Galvin

The New Year 2016 arrived with expected cold and snow, but on [January 6](#), 2016, the Ladies of the Lake initiated a brand new kind of luncheon, the Brown Bag Luncheon. After several years of January and February weather being so brutal that luncheons were canceled, the ladies decided to try something new.

The Brown Bag Luncheon means that ladies bring their own lunches so that there are no formalities, like hostesses, decorating, or cooking for the usual potluck luncheon. Everyone seemed enthusiastic in December, but January was something else. The weather was not even stormy or freezing, but apparently the ladies took advantage of the mild weather.

Jane Stevens gave her regular reports and distributed the Ladies of the Lake 2016-2017 Directory. (Do remember to purchase one next luncheon! \$3.00)

Barb Dunlap provided ample entertainment with the unique winter decorations she and her husband Hank make. Barb began by showing off the snowman ornaments made for the car club they like and have membership in. Each ornament is special with dates.

Snowmen were also lighted to appear as a Jack or Snowman o'lantern. The faces of the snowmen are different. Barb explained how Hank selected specific "faces" for each member of the family being gifted.

Trees were another unique decoration. Some were adorned by bows; others had the snowmen in front to add to the season. All were hand-crafted by Hank and painted by Barb.

Another assortment of large wooden ornaments were: stars with holly, candy canes with garland and candle holders with a star-base. A teddy bear in a sleigh won everyone's cutest award!

Barb Dunlap saved the best for last--- games! Do you know how to play "Klackers?" Hank Dunlap made the dice game box. The workmanship is obvious in the game box from the perfect alignment of the numbers to be flipped over to the varnished box itself.

Another game you must be familiar with is Bean Bag Toss, which is usually huge and reserved for picnic parties and the lawn. But Hank and Barb have made the game smaller for the table top. Their "Mini Corn Hole Game" with bean bags is ready to go without picnic or lawn!

The Ladies of the Lake who enjoyed the first Brown Bag Luncheon were Jane Stevens, Peggy Garrett, Barb Dunlap and Barbara Galvin. Later, Barbara Jonckheere dropped by to say "hi!"

Barbara Jonckheere also manages the continued sale of Little Swan Lake sweatshirts in navy blue for \$25, moisture wicking short sleeved men's shirts for \$25, caps for \$12, and T shirts for \$15. Proceeds are to keep the memorial garden in shape.

The Ladies of the Lake wish everyone a healthy and happy 2016! Stay warm and curl up with a good book. No good book? Visit the local library or visit the Sandburg Mall Book Swap on the [second Saturday](#) of each month in the Sears Court from 11AM to 3PM. Remember, books can take you anywhere, even Florida! Enjoy.

Mark your calendar for [February 3rd](#)! Bring a Brown Bag lunch, your favorite of course, and see how all the Ladies of the Lake are doing.