

# SILVER STREAK

CONNECTING AND INFORMING TCU'S SILVER FROGS



VOLUME 6, ISSUE 3  
NOVEMBER 2021  
GRATEFUL

## So Much to Appreciate

by Sharon Harrelson

Take a moment to remember what our holiday season was like just two short years ago, even though those two years feel like some of the longest we've ever experienced. The holidays that year meant large group gatherings with family and friends—without a care in the world about distancing, supply-chain economics or who had been vaccinated (for anything). Looking back, it's eerie how unprepared we were for so much of our lives to come to a screeching halt in March 2020.

2019 feels light years away from what we were in the midst of last year at this time, finally able to get as many masks and as much toilet paper as we needed but uneasy about gathering at all. 2020's holidays did have us hopeful that our days of Zoom family events and closed dining spaces would be limited with the vaccines right around the corner.

And now that many of our friends and family members are vaccinated, and we have experienced getting out into the world again, this year has another very different feel to it. But we all know we're not done with this pandemic yet, and so our guard is still up. This isn't a "new normal" — it's just where we are on the spectrum of recovery. Things do not stay the same long enough for us to feel normal at any point, just resilient in a way we haven't had to be before.

The constant state of change has forced us to be grateful for all the little blessings along the way, things that were so easy to take for granted before. How wonderful to see each other in person at class, even with masks! What a delight to have special events returning! How lovely to see a friend's smile, to share a meal, to begin to travel. Each step forward is another reason to give thanks.



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## Spring Membership Registration Is Right Around the Corner!

Silver Frogs memberships sold out this fall, and there's a waitlist for the spring semester.



**Mark your calendar and renew YOUR membership  
between 9am on December 13 and 5pm on December 14.**



Current members are GUARANTEED a spot for spring if they register on one of those days. Non-member spouses of current members should call Extended Ed on December 13-14 to join.

Great news — no price increase from Fall'21 — the membership is still a very reasonable \$125! Instructors continue to receive a \$30 discount.

Persons on the waitlist can register December 15 and remaining seats open to the public on December 16.

## Worth Repeating: Classes Can't Teach Themselves!

Our industrious Curriculum Committee has been collecting proposals for Spring 2022, working hard to ensure that our catalog is filled with intriguing and thought-provoking classes. Things are going well; a lot of excellent proposals have been received so far. But we are still accepting more, so keep them coming!

### Have you considered becoming a volunteer instructor?

Teaching credentials are not required (although we love that). What you need is a passion for your subject and a willingness to share that. Fear not! If creating a PowerPoint presentation or handout isn't your forte, we have help available. New, more in-depth instructor training opportunities are planned for next semester.

Longtime Silver Frogs are always looking for new courses to take, but we have a lot of newer members as well, and so previously-offered classes are also welcome. If you've taught before and skipped a few semesters, come on back!

There are many different ways to offer a class: include a field trip relevant to your subject, or assign a book to read or a video to watch in advance for group discussion. Think about clever activities to inspire students to learn more. Team-teach with a friend. Be creative and have fun.

Another way we can help guarantee that there are always new courses and lectures offered is to recruit our talented friends—whether or not they are members—to become volunteer instructors. They don't even have to live in our area, since we offer online courses.

**Proposals will be accepted until November 24.** Instructors have two formats to choose from: in-person programs presented on campus in our Secret-Wible classroom, or programs delivered via Zoom. If you don't have a preference, please indicate that on the proposal form. We are still experiencing a campus space shortage so flexibility is greatly appreciated! The committee can schedule multiple sections of your course throughout the semester—just indicate that when you make your proposal.


[Here's the link.](#) 



## Can We Talk?

Our volunteer instructors work hard to put together engaging courses and exciting lectures. Whether in person or via Zoom, it takes time to come up with an idea, complete research, create a presentation, rehearse and then deliver the class. Imagine how disappointing it is for any instructor to see that out of 24 people signed up for class, only 12 show up! Or — equally distressing — for a course to be filled to capacity with a waitlist, and have a bunch of empty seats that could have been filled with interested participants.

**Please, if you sign up for a class and cannot make it, alert Extended Ed — via phone or email — as far ahead of time as you can.** We totally understand that unexpected things come up, or plans change. But please take a moment to be considerate of both your instructors and your fellow students when this happens.

It's not just classes that deserve this thoughtful behavior. **If you sign up to participate in a special event or SIG activity, and then find you cannot be there, let the contact person know!** Our mothers worked hard to teach us good manners, and let's not forget to use them. 



# An Evening at Reata

by Susan Turner

On Wednesday night, November 10, 21 enthusiastic Silver Frogs gathered at Reata for an evening of fun, laughter, amazing food, flowing wine and a brush up on their fine-dining manners. Their first task was to set their own place at the table with lots and lots of flatware and glassware. It got mighty loud and crazy as they worked their way through which-fork-goes-where and wondering why they had sooo many knives and spoons!



"there's a bug in my salad" and more! (And NO, no bugs in the salad at Reata—ever).

The entree course saw folks cleaning their plates because, well, who can resist Reata's divine, cheesy grits? I even overheard a particular unnamed lady voicing her temptation to lick the last tasty morsel from her dinner plate (which I dared her to do).

As if everyone wasn't totally stuffed by then, out came coffee and dessert—apple crisp and chocolate chip bread pudding tamales! Oh my gosh—NOBODY does apple crisp like Reata. And that tamale?!? Well, let's just say everyone found room somewhere in their very full tummies for every last chocolate chip.



Next came a bit of a refresher on how to give the perfect toast. Each table practiced toasting their friends with a glass of delicious champagne. Ah, such elegant toasts—in spite of the laughter and silliness that was already ruling the evening.

The real challenge came at the end of the evening when it was time to get folks to leave. We were having SO much fun that nobody wanted to head home. If you were downtown that night as our group was departing Reata, you could have easily picked us out of the crowd. We were the ones holding our tummies (because they were so full of great food) while continuing to talk and laugh as we made our way to our cars.



After the toasts came a refresher on dining styles (American or Continental) and proper napkin etiquette with lots of funny stories of ways we've all seen people use their napkins in public! Mercy me, Silver Frogs—the things people do with their napkins!!



THEN the scrumptious food started coming and we thought it would never stop! AAAAAAmazing tortilla soup with a refresher on proper soup etiquette, of course, including a reminder that regardless of how divine Reata's pecan biscuits are...NO!...you may NOT dunk them in your soup. Sorry everyone!

Soup was followed by a delicious wedge salad—which explained why everyone was provided a salad knife. During the salad course, stories were shared about ways to handle those awkward moments like



Let's just say that *Dining Etiquette at Reata* was a real hit! There's nothing better than fine food, delicious wine and great company to make for a perfect evening. Love my Silver Frog friends!!



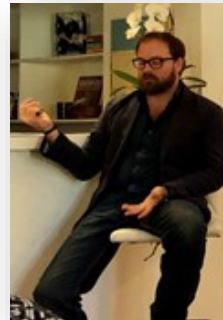
# Art of Fort Worth SIG: All Over Town

The Art of Fort Worth SIG took a guided walking tour of the art installations at the [Shops at Clearfork](#) on October 20. Our hosts from [Artspace111](#) were involved in the selection and installation of the various pieces and relayed wonderful stories. A sunny fall day, coupled with the lovely surroundings, made for a fun outing. After walking around, the group enjoyed visiting during a relaxing lunch on [Doc B's](#) patio.



—Lee Wimp and Penny McAdoo

The artful frogs had an enlightening visit on October 7 to [William Campbell Gallery](#), where we learned how the new ownership partners are excited to drive the gallery into the future. One thing we learned is that some galleries will hold your NFT ([non-fungible token](#)) until you can flip it. (Some of us don't get it, either.)



Peeler Howell (pictured, TCU class of 2003) was our wonderful host. Interestingly, two other partners are also TCU alums: JW Wilson, (2000) and Clayton Snodgrass (2010).

—Colleen Blair and Penny McAdoo

Local artists Scott Gentling (1942-2011) and Stuart Gentling (1942-2006) were the subjects of the Art SIG tour November 10 at the [Amon Carter Museum](#). Although some critics called them realists, the Gentlings rejected the label, arguing that imagination drove their artistic decisions.

Among their most familiar subjects were the watercolor of the Parker Cabin in Fort Worth's Log Cabin Village and their detailed drawing of the artwork that dominates the interior dome of Bass Hall. Scott was also the official portrait artist for George W. Bush, picturing him as governor of Texas and then later as president of the United States.



The exhibition *Imagined Realism: Scott and Stuart Gentling* runs through January 9, 2022.

—Carolyn Stephens



The pre-tour lunch was at [Righteous Foods](#).

## More from Special Interest Groups

### Photography SIG Captures First Meeting



The newly-formed Silver Frogs **Photography Special Interest Group** just completed its first activity on November 10. Ten of the members met at the [Fort Worth Botanic Garden](#) to experiment with taking portraits among the beautiful gardens. Nearly all members are inexperienced photographers so this was an opportunity to learn about the manual functions on their cameras, with help from the couple of more experienced members. This was also the first chance to get to know our fellow SF photographers.

This SIG provides a social and instructive forum for Silver Frogs members to learn more about photography, the operation of their equipment, and share their artistic work with others. A goal is to improve everyone's photographic skills and possibly capture photos of Silver Frogs activities for the *Silver Streak* newsletter.

The group plans to conduct at least one activity a month, with a goal of trying different types of photography in a variety of interesting settings around the DFW area. While there aren't any specific camera equipment requirements, we are focusing on learning to use digital SLR and mirrorless cameras in manual mode. There are still a few openings in the SIG and any Silver Frogs interested in participating are welcome. Please contact SIG leader [Randy Smith](#) for details.

Members of the **Bake Anything Better** SIG met on November 5 via Zoom, to learn more about baking cinnamon rolls. I demonstrated the shaping, Barbara Hayman baked along, and Mary Dulle shared a variation and made orange rolls. We had fun kitchen-related conversation (as always) and agreed to meet in person in December for a cookie exchange.



—Sharon Harrelson

### Current Special Interest Groups

#### CULTURE

**Art of Fort Worth** — contact [Penny McAdoo](#)

**German Conversation** — contact [Helga Gerlinger](#)

#### FOOD AND FELLOWSHIP

**Bake Anything Better** — contact: [Sharon Harrelson](#)

*Meeting virtually with Zoom.*

**Ladies Lunch Out** — contact [Virginia Dias](#)

**Men's Breakfast Group** — contact [Gary Harrell](#), [Jim Box](#)

**Positive Aging** — contact [Anne Carlson](#)

**Women & Wine** — contact [Sian Borne](#)

#### SPORTS AND GAMES

**Classic Canasta** — contact [Virginia Dias](#)

**Liverpool Rummy** — contact [Polly Hooper](#)

**Silver Frogs Fly Fishers** — contact [Ken Bowers](#)

#### WORKING TOGETHER. DEVELOPING SKILLS

**American Sign Language** — contact [Lisa Winter](#)

*Meeting virtually with Zoom.*

**Give Me A Break** — contact [Roger Norman](#)

**Photography** — contact [Randy Smith](#)

For details about a group, or to inquire about joining, click on a name above to contact the organizer. [Click here](#) to see the full descriptions on the Silver Frogs website.

When your SIG meets, be sure to take a few pictures! Then [send them to Silver Streak](#) to be featured.

If you don't see YOUR special interest represented here, you are welcome to lead your own SIG! [Simply send in a proposal](#) — it's just a short form where you can describe your proposed group — and you'll be contacted when it has been approved.

# Member Spotlight: Jim Godfrey

by Ann Shelton

Jim Godfrey is a familiar face around Silver Frogs – as an active member, frequent instructor, and vice president of the Advisory Board. A history enthusiast and strong proponent of lifelong learning, his lectures have told us great stories from the past.

His most recent Silver Frogs lectures include *Operation Vengeance*, *The Assignment of Admiral Isoroku Yamamoto*; *The Invention of the Modern Self-Service Grocery Store: The Story of Piggly Wiggly*; *The Lady Be Good: The Story of a Lost Bomber and the Efforts to Find the Crew*; and *When the Afrika Corp Came to Texas*.



**Silver Streak:** How did you hear about Silver Frogs?

**Jim Godfrey:** I first heard about Silver Frogs from several people at church who were long-time members. They told me how much they enjoyed the organization so my wife, Jean, and I finally got in after being on the wait list!

**SS:** Tell us about your background before coming to Silver Frogs.

**JG:** I grew up in Jacksonville, a small East Texas town. After high school I earned a BBA at the University of Texas at Austin and later an MS from the University of Southern California. While at UT, I was in ROTC and graduated with a commission as a second Lieutenant in the US Army. I also earned an airplane pilots license through ROTC.

Following college, I was a paratrooper and Ranger with the 82nd Airborne Division before going to helicopter flight school. I spent the next year flying gunships in combat in Vietnam. After Vietnam, I spent my remaining two years teaching instrument flying at Fort Rucker, Alabama. At one time I held commercial and instrument flying licenses for both airplanes and helicopters and an instructor's rating for airplanes.

After leaving the Army I spent a career in manufacturing and sales mostly for the commercial radio and television industry with the last 20 years traveling Mexico, Central and South America finally retiring in 2019.

**SS:** Please share a little about your family.

**JG:** Jean and I have lived in Fort Worth for over 25 years with family nearby. We have two children and three grandchildren.

**SS:** What made you to decide to become a Silver Frogs instructor?

**JG:** I wrote a history article for a veteran's magazine a few years ago and it became a lecture that I presented a number of times. I decided the subject might be of interest to Silver Frogs. From there, all of the classes have been history related, mostly focusing on aviation, World War II and Vietnam.

The class about Piggly Wiggly and the background of the grocery industry was related to my father's career. My father and his partner owned 26 or so Piggly Wiggly stores out of Jacksonville, Texas. They also supplied groceries to another 28 or so Piggly Wiggly stores as far west as Mineral Wells.



**SS:** Tell us something we'd never guess about you.

**JG:** Most people would probably not know that I play bluegrass music on the five-string banjo.

**SS:** Anything else you would like us to know?

**JG:** Jean and I have enjoyed our involvement in Silver Frogs very much.



## Being Thankful

Greetings fellow Silver Frog members. I hope that you are enjoying the change in temperatures as we get ready for the holiday season. I am very thankful for each of you and your membership in Silver Frogs – what a great organization to be a part of! I am especially thankful for the support and organization of our Extended Education staff and hope that you will also find time to let Julie and her team know how much we appreciate all they do each semester to keep Silver Frogs running.



I am thankful for our Advisory Board members, volunteer instructors, SIG contact persons, committee chairs and members and newsletter staff – without all of your hard work, we could not be such a vibrant, fun group to learn with and be a part of.

As we prepare to celebrate Thanksgiving, I wish each of you a safe holiday.

– Siân Borne

## Hoppy Holidays!



Join Silver Frogs as we learn about our favorite brews, do some sampling and take a tour of the brew house at

**Martin House Brewing Company**  
220 S. Sylvania Ave #209, 76111

**Wednesday, December 8**  
**2:00pm**  
**\$35**

Event is limited to the first 25 who [register here](#) by November 19!

## Thanksgiving Proclamation

Governor William Bradford of Massachusetts made this first Thanksgiving Proclamation in 1623, three years after the Pilgrims settled at Plymouth:

Inasmuch as the great Father has given us this year an abundant harvest of Indian corn, wheat, peas, beans, squashes, and garden vegetables, and has made the forests to abound with game and the sea with fish and clams, and inasmuch as He has protected us from the ravages of the savages, has spared us from pestilence and disease, has granted us freedom to worship God according to the dictates of our own conscience.

Now I, your magistrate, do proclaim that all ye Pilgrims, with your wives and ye little ones, do gather at ye meeting house, on ye hill, between the hours of 9 and 12 in the daytime, on Thursday, November 29th, of the year of our Lord one thousand six hundred and twenty three and the third year since ye Pilgrims landed on ye Pilgrim Rock, there to listen to ye pastor and render thanksgiving to ye Almighty God for all His blessings.

William Bradford  
Ye Governor of Ye Colony

# Silver Streak Staff



**Siân Borne (SIGs)** A Silver Frog since Spring '17, Siân came to Fort Worth in 1973, after moving to the US from England. She has two daughters and five grandchildren. She loves to read and travel, serves as Advisory Board President, is the SIG Chair, and is active in several Silver Frogs committees.



**Mary Dulle** joined Silver Frogs in 2020 when the pandemic abruptly halted her travels and classes went virtual. She retired after a 25-year career in public relations and now enjoys gardening, reading, cooking, baking and playing with her cat, Sparky.



**Diane Griffin** has enjoyed Silver Frogs since Spring 2016 and is an enthusiastic advocate for lifelong learning. She is a retired business owner who loves reading, writing, listening, travel, theater, volunteering, and frequent interaction with family and friends.



**Sharon Harrelson (Editor)** is a Fort Worth native who's been editing various publications for work and fun since middle school. She's delighted to be a Silver Frogs instructor as well as a student; she also enjoys cooking/baking, gardening, games and being a band mom to twin high-school seniors.



**Richard Ranc** came to Silver Frogs following an affiliation with Senior University in Georgetown. He's a retired VP of Investments at Wachovia Securities. He is a Silver Frogs instructor who serves on the Curriculum Committee in addition to writing for Silver Streak.



**Ann Shelton (Spotlight)** is a charter member of Silver Frogs. She retired after many years as an Administrative / Executive Assistant, and now enjoys being a grandmother, playing tennis and volunteering.



**Carolyn Stephens** came to Silver Frogs four years ago following a career in journalism, public relations and crisis communications. She loves the concept of lifelong learning and enjoys reading, cooking, gardening and new adventures.

What do you enjoy about *Silver Streak*?  
[Click here](#) to send feedback. [Click here](#) to view past issues.



Office of Extended Education  
817-257-7132  
[lifelong@tcu.edu](mailto:lifelong@tcu.edu)  
[Visit the Silver Frogs website](#)

## BE A CONTRIBUTOR!

The *Silver Streak* team produces three newsletters each semester, reporting on Silver Frogs activities and need-to-knows.

We also ask for contributions to our themed magazines, which highlight recommendations and creative pursuits by our members. Here's what we're requesting for the December issues by **December 10**:

**Books: what are you reading?**  
**\*\*what books do you love to give?\***

**TV/Movies: what are you watching?**  
**\*\*holiday shows earn extra credit!\***

**Restaurants: where are you eating?**  
**\*\*special occasion eateries too!\***

**Activities: local places to visit**  
**\*\*holiday displays, anyone?\***

**Foodie Feature: winter warmers**  
**\*\*share your favorite hot toddy recipe\*\***

**Seasonal Photos**  
**\*\*your home, your pet, or you!\***

[Email to \*Silver Streak\*](#)  
[or use our handy survey](#)

## Dates to Remember

November 22-26  
**NO CLASSES**

November 24  
**Final Day for Course Proposals**

December 5  
**Scrooge in Rouge (Stage West)**  
*sold out*

December 8  
**Martin House Brewery Event**

December 10  
**End of Session III**  
**Silver Streak Deadline**

December 13-14  
**Spring Membership Registration for**  
**Current Members**