Editor: Glenn Schreyer www.uthro.org November 2026

UTHRO | The University of Texas at Houston Retiree Organization

The EVERGREEN Newsletter

# November 11

## *Annual Meeting, Holiday Luncheon, Door Prizes, UT Police Toy Drive*



We will have the Annual Meeting in the Rio Grande Room on the second floor at OCB from 11 AM until 1 PM, in which the President will present a look back on the year. We will also elect new Officers for a 2-year term. UTHRO will celebrate their traditional Holiday Luncheon with a non-traditional menu, but in the tradition of Thanksgiving it will be a genuine home cooked meal with all the fixings and at a price you can't afford to miss.

The Executive Committee will be doing the cooking this year again and is determined to not only have an excellent menu, but at the extraordinary price of $10.00 pp. It will be a prepaid event and the info is posted to your right.



Finally, the **UT Police** in collaboration with **UTHRO and UT Health employees** will hold its Annual Toy Drive benefitting pediatric and adolescent patients at Harris County Psychiatric Center (HCPC) and LBJ Hospital. We urge our members to get into the spirit of giving by bringing an unwrapped new toy to the luncheon to make a child happy at Christmas.

*RSVP by November 4 to Janice Thomas at uthro@uth.tmc.edu .*

*Parking arrangements are being made for those with limited walking issues. Let Janice know when you register if needed.*



# UTHRO'S

## *Thanksgiving Luncheon*

Prepared and Served by the Executive Committee

Wednesday, November 11, 2026

11 AM - 1 PM

OCB Rio Grande Room



Menu includes Fried Turkey, Ham, Cornbread Dressing, Cheese Grits, Candied Yams, Green Bean Casserole, Potato Salad, Salad, Rolls, and various Desserts

**Price: $10 Per Person**

*RSVP by November 4th to Janice Thomas at uthro@uth.tmc.edu . Make Checks payable to UTHRO and send to Sondra Faul, Treasurer*

*Bring your loose change for the Endowment Jar!*



# Spotlight on . . .

*Cathy Findley (UTHRO Vice President):*

I began planning for retirement about 10 years out from my target date. That's because I had many former coworkers tell me about all the fun they were having. So I retired in January 2020 and even though my retirement plans were interrupted by COVID, I kept busy. We were able to begin fostering dogs and since that time we have fostered more than 20 dogs and have only had one foster fail; our girl will be turning 7 soon. Once things settled from COVID I jump started volunteering at my favorite places. I had so much fun fostering I began helping at the rescue facility walking dogs, with cleaning duties, and events and still I continue helping there. In addition, I enjoy the theater so I volunteer as an usher and access member (we help patrons with mobility restrictions) at the Hobby Center. I am fascinated by nature and I volunteer at the Houston Botanic Garden helping lead school groups on work days, assist the horticultural staff or at events. I am also a member of other groups such as my community garden club and UTHRO. I was also excited to jump into beekeeping and even though I have become allergic to their venom I am having a difficult time giving up this hobby. I acquire most of my colonies from bee removal requests. Since some removals can be difficult/challenging I only agree to accept requests where the colonies are in places such as water meters, cable boxes, or trees. And more importantly I have to find time for travel; I recently took a rafting/camping/hiking trip along the Green River in Utah; there are so many amazing places to explore in the US but also enjoy foreign travel. So in short, I am thoroughly enjoying retirement and I feel extremely fortunate. I hope that I have many more years to keep having fun.

# Save the Date

In December on Thursday the 10th, we will make a bus trip to the Woodlands to see "Holiday on the Waterway". You can shop, eat, and see the Lights with your friends from UTHRO.

Sounds like a fun event, Save the Date: December 11 from 3:30-9 PM. More details in the December Evergreen.

# Annual Health Fair

In October, we had our Annual Health Fair. There were informational tables from UT Health Benefits, UT Dentists, Institute on Aging, Environmental Safety, UTHealth Wellness, University Federal Credit Union, UTHRO, as well as a Back Massages from Lynnette Lewis and "Skin Care for Seniors" by Pam Butler.

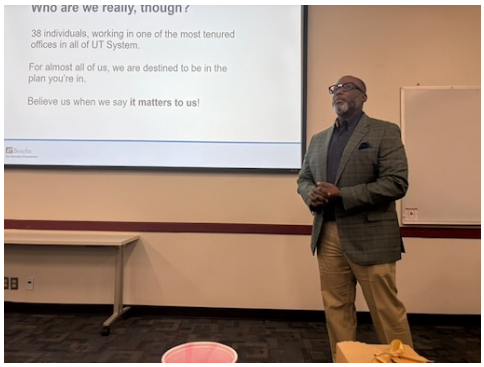




There was food for the attendees



and speakers from UT System Benefits and BCBS/ UT Care.



# Remembering Barry Rittman



Barry Rittman passed away October 3, 2026. Barry and his wife, Gillian, served as Event Organizers for UTHRO for years. If you would like to view his Obituary, follow this link.

From Peggy O'Neil:

Barry was a colleague of mine at the School of Dentistry for many years. He was an excellent and passionate teacher of histology and anatomy. He was well liked by the students, though they sometimes had difficulty with his English accent. His forte was his humor, and he loved to laugh at his own jokes. He and his wife, Gill, were dedicated members of UTHRO and served as the directors of activity for several years. He was a good friend and will be missed.

# UTHRO Travels: Spain's Classics & Portugal



Today we are on our way to Granada, Spain. Granada is a historic city in southern Spain's Andalusia region, famous worldwide as the home of the Alhambra palace and fortress complex.

Granada sits at the foot of the Sierra Nevada mountains at the confluence of four rivers, the Darro, the Genil, the Monachil and the Beiro. It is the 20th-largest city in Spain and an important wine growing region. Granada was the last Muslim stronghold in Spain before it fell to the Catholic monarchs, in 1492.

Upon our afternoon arrival and hotel check-in, you may want to take a stroll to enjoy the stunning architecture and historic landmarks. Our hotel is a ten-minute walk from the Granda Cathedral, the seat of the archdiocese of Andalusia. It was built on top of the city's main mosque, as are most Cathedrals in the Andalusia region, after the reconquest of Granada. The Cathedral lies on one of central Granada's charming boulevards, surrounded by its most prestigious department stores. Be sure to be back in time for our tour provided dinner at a local restaurant.

Our morning will be spent with a local expert on a tour of the Alhambra complex. The Alhambra sits on an outcrop of the Sierra Nevadas overlooking the city. It is one of the most famous monuments of Islamic architecture and one of the best-preserved palaces of the Islamic world. The Alhambra become a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1984. The Alhambra has long been a bucket-list destination for me. I am excited and feel privileged for this opportunity to view one of the most significant Moorish architectural structures in Europe.

Next, we are off to Seville! Don't miss out on this fabulous experience!

Hasta la Próxima
Barbara Kelly

## UTHRO OFFICERS 2026

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|---|---|
| ***President*** | Barbara Kelly |
| ***Vice-Pres*** | Cathy Findley |
| ***Secretary*** | Claire Brunson |
| ***Treasurer*** | Sondra Faul |
| ***Events*** | Janice Thomas |
| ***Web Admin*** | Pat Grealy<br>Glenn Schreyer |
| ***Newsletter Editor*** | Glenn Schreyer |

UTHRO has a general purpose email address: uthro@uth.tmc.edu . This is a "forwarding" email that will send copies to designated committee members who will then forward to the appropriate person.

Including the recipient's name in your subject will be very helpful; e.g. Subject: For Janice, BBQ lunch.

If UTHRO members already know the phone number or personal email address of an officer then continue using that for your communication needs.

## UTHRO

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To update your address or phone number please contact us at 281-902-9488 or uthro@uth.tmc.edu