

Welcome Back!

A lot has happened since our first edition. Our events have been so much fun and we've made many new friends. While Summer brought many hot days, we were able to enjoy our Sisters at Happy Hours, Lunches, Twisted Poker Run, Tap TV Trivia, Painting & Wine, and Wicked Happy Hour with a Witch's Hat Contest!

As we move into cooler weather, we're excited about the opportunity Fall brings for some outdoor events & gatherings. **Hav-A-Sis** was proud to walk in the Breast Cancer Walk last month. Not only did it raise money for breast cancer, but it gave us a chance to stand together as an organization and show our support for this very important cause.

We are also working diligently on our Mission of Giving, as we tackle the funding of the Parks & Recreation Scholarship Program to provide safe, structured after-school care and camps for the children of needy families. These economic times are truly wreaking havoc on families as they struggle with the cost of inflation, gas and everyday needs. Our children are our most precious resource and they deserve nothing but the best.

And, speaking of children...as we move into the Holiday Season, **Hav-A-Sis** is thrilled to announce that we are partnering to support & promote **HAVAdopt Children's Christmas Project**. No child should go without Christmas. You, too, can join in this worthwhile project. (See info inside).

As a Sisterhood of women committed to providing a friendly, positive social environment free of judgment, drama and negativity ~ a place filled with positive energy, smiles, joy and laughter ~ a haven for women to come together for a common goal to spread positivity in our community through a Mission of Giving ~ we invite you to join us. Are you ready to move away from negativity and drama? Are you ready to experience a calmer life? Are you ready to feel the power of positivity in your heart and soul? Then join us! Let's do this ~ together!

There are several ways to follow our event calendar. Follow us on Facebook, our website www.Havasis.org, River Scene Magazine, Best Bets in the News Herald, AdsPay Magazine or, if in doubt, you can always email us at Girlfriend@Havasis.org, utilize Messenger, or call 928-830-5566.

Sincerely,

Connie Alexander
Director

Connie's Corner



Hav-A-Sis Women of Distinction

This column recognizes outstanding Hav-A-Sis women whose lives and hearts reflect a history of philanthropy, community involvement and volunteerism, have a personal mission of kindness and respect for all humankind, and who are excellent role models for empowering other women. These women are dedicated to helping others achieve their goals in an uplifting, supportive, and sisterly way!



Oh my gosh, we are so in love with this woman and are very happy to introduce all of you to the latest member of our Hav-A-Sis **Women of Distinction** roster....**Lisa Bakken!** Lisa is a Hav-A-Sis Ruby Sponsor and spreads her beautiful (and recently bewitching!) smile and bubbly personality throughout the room wherever she is, as is evidenced in the photo at left from our recent Hav-A-Sis Wicked Happy Hour with a Witch's Hat Contest held at Grapes N Grains.

Like many of us, Lake Havasu started out as a part-time vacation getaway for Lisa and her husband. When he passed two years ago, Lisa decided to make Havasu her permanent home. Yay for us! She has kids and grandkids across the country but feels lucky to also have a son and granddaughters here in Havasu. She enjoys having them over for cookouts, pool parties, and spending family time together!

Now retired, Lisa enjoys daily yoga and some weight training, as well as decorating and her newfound passion for taking on home improvements to make her home just the way she wants it! Way to go, girlfriend! Lisa also loves spending time with her Hav-A-Sis sisters, no matter what kind of fun they're having!

Lisa found her way to Hav-A-Sis earlier this year when a Hav-A-Sis post appeared on her Facebook feed. She reached out to Connie Alexander on-line, who called her to tell her all about Hav-A-Sis. "But first, she asked about me, my story," says Lisa. "I felt welcome already and I hadn't even met anyone. I knew I had found my place." So, still grieving the loss of her husband and feeling stuck, Lisa attended the January luncheon and started connecting with other women "who get it, all the crazy" she was feeling. She knew she had found exactly what she was looking for and has continued to grow and heal ever since with the support and friendship of the wonderful women she has met.

When asked what keeps her coming back, Lisa said that at first, it was because she was desperate for people after being alone for so long. Then she learned how this group is so much more than just getting together for a few laughs with girlfriends. In Lisa's words, "Everything we do is to benefit a need in our community, this year children. I love helping people and this gives me the opportunity to do that as well as enjoy the love and energy of the ladies!" Lisa and her beautiful smile are always there to lend a helping hand at luncheons and special events; loved the Kentucky Derby party and helping at one of the poker run card stops!



We are so incredibly blessed to know you and to have you (and all your crazy) as a Hav-A-Sis sister, Lisa Bakken! You fit in just beautifully!

Upcoming Hav-A-Sis Events:

Breakfast with Santa, Sunday, Nov 27, 9-12 pm, Four Clovers, 790 N Lake Havasu Ave #25. It's Breakfast with Santa for the whole family! Enjoy a delicious pancake breakfast, pictures with Santa & Mrs. Claus, goody bags, raffle prizes, and more! We will be pulling the lucky ticket for our Wine & Whiskey Wagon!**



**We are still selling \$10 sponsor scholarships to help pay for a needy child to attend the Havasu Parks & Recreation After School and Summer Recreation Program. Each \$10 sponsor card purchased gives you a chance to win this huge Wine & Whiskey Wagon to be given away at our Breakfast with Santa event! Still need a ticket or two? Stop by McKee's or Four Clovers Restaurant, or give us a call at 928-830-5566! (Need not be present to win!)



More info coming soon regarding a "Heroes in Heels" special event in February 2023! It's going to be awesome! Right, Cindy Azar???



Hey, Hav-A-Sis sisters - Got a favorite bar or restaurant you would like us to visit? Got an idea for the newsletter? Reach out and let us know!

Hav-A-Sis Board

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AS OF OCTOBER 2022, THE HAV-A-SIS FACEBOOK PAGE HAS OVER 1,200 FOLLOWERS AND THE HAV-A-SIS LADIES GROUP HAS 790+ MEMBERS! THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR YOUR AMAZING SUPPORT AND PLEASE CONTINUE TO SHARE OUR MISSION OF GIVING WITH OTHERS!

Hav-A-Sis is proud to sponsor and support HAVAdopt Children's Christmas Project this year! If you wish to make a donation or sponsor a child by purchasing items on their Christmas list, please like and follow HAVAdopt on Facebook, and fill out a Sponsor Interest Form!



HAVAdopt Children's Christmas Project is a gift-giving program for local Lake Havasu City children in need during the Holidays. We are a federally recognized 501(c)3 non-profit organization. We connect with struggling families that have been identified by the school district, daycare centers, Milemarkers, The Head Start Program, and other charitable organizations serving Lake Havasu.

Parents complete an application and agree or confirm:

- they and their children are local Lake Havasu City residents
- their children are not enrolled in any other gift-giving program structured like HAVAdopt for the 2022 Holiday season
- they were not recipients of gifts from our program the previous year
- they understand, agree, and sign that HAVAdopt cannot give gift cards, cash or electronics

HAVAdopt recruits our families, friends, neighbors, businesses and other charitable organizations to either sponsor a child, donate a gift item, donate gift wrapping supplies or make a cash donation.

Sponsors shop for the child they adopted, bring the gifts to HAVAdopt, then our wonderful volunteers wrap the gifts so parents are able to pick up the gifts just before Christmas. If a child has not been adopted, HAVAdopt utilizes the cash and general donations received to fill the gap.

We hope you can help us with our mission to make sure every local Lake Havasu child in need has a joyful and bright Christmas! Thank you to Hav-A-Sis and to each of you for your kindness and generosity!

For additional information, visit the HAVAdopt Facebook page, visit our website (havadoptccp@gmail.com) or give us a call at 928-275-1277.

Merrilyn Thompson, President