

Santa Fe Trail Ranch Women's Group
September 17, 2011

Joan Beaumont was our very gracious hostess this month...among other goodies, she made sugar cookies, which this scribe will be happy to endorse. We started the meeting rather late as Barb W, Joan and myself were the only women in attendance. Mary Ghormley, Lynne Parker and Sue Downs pulled in just as we were taking our last nibbles of goodies.

First we reviewed the July picnic which we discussed as being a great opportunity to meet new friends and an opportunity for the Women's Group to raise money and provide our hospitality to our neighbors. Approximately 97 people attended, the count was being done while all of us were roaming around. We discussed the Bingo; did it meet the goal of getting people moving, laughing and meeting, we thought it did. We discussed the newly placed vendors, did they find value in setting up for sales, they said they did. We discussed June's layout of the picnic area. Did it alleviate the tents being set too far away from each other, did we circle the wagon a little closer, we said yes it did. We are ever grateful to June for designing our space. We especially liked the food traffic, the parking traffic and the greeting traffic, thank you Susan Coopet for all you did. We discussed the fire wagon displays and we greatly thank Jerry Withington, Bob Dye and Bob Scott for the use of their wagons. We also thank Bob Dye for lots of help the two days prior to the picnic. We discussed Will Dudley, our entertainer. We love Will's music and his innate ability to meet/greet people and tell great stories, we thought maybe next year, we could all circle a little closer and ask Will to give a concert for us. Thereby we could all experience the same music, fun and stories at the same time. The group thought this could be adopted at our next picnic.

The time of year and the frequency of the picnic were discussed as well. Kim suggested we move the date of the picnic to the fall, perhaps the same weekend as the annual POA meeting but maybe every other year. We realize that the July extreme heat may be a detriment to our neighbors having the best experience possible. We were all sad about the wind that blew our tents down, blew into our food and may have ended the picnic early. It was suggested that we perhaps we could set up the tents the day before the picnic, thereby making the best use of time the day of the picnic. It was also suggested that we color code the poles to the tents using spray paint or numbering them. THAT is a great idea and was so expressed. All of the ladies in attendance agreed to a season change for the picnic and further discussion at future meetings.

The annual POA meeting is Saturday, Oct 8, 2011 at 9am at TSJC in the Pioneer Room. Once again, we ordered 5 gallons of coffee but this year we ordered 9 dozen cookies. Kim made the call and arrangements with James Tonkovich at TSJC's catering company. Sue D and Kim agreed to pick up the tubs of logo wear from Barb's house the day before the meeting for set up at the POA meeting. The group felt that they would be able to get volunteers at the meeting to help sell the logo wear. We will ask Susan C to get the signage to us to use. We discussed making a sign reminding our neighbors that the coffee and cookies are provided by the SFTR Women's Group. Sue D will ask Francie for the use of her cowboy hat again this year. Sue D will bring her framed Santa Fe Trail poster for display and Kim will bring the easel again for signage. We discussed and agreed to sell the cookbooks again this year for \$10 at the meeting, as we have plenty left. Mary volunteered to make a "save the date" flyer for the Christmas Dinner that will be distributed at the POA meeting.

We discussed the Christmas dinner plan again this year and the day/date is Sunday, Dec 4th at Tequila's. Cocktail hour at 5pm and dinner at 6. We chatted a bit about moving the location, but after a few phone

calls we decided to keep the location the same. Again, we will offer 4-6 items from their menu and let each person decide and notify one of us, so that we can notify Tequila's in advance. The Women's Group will again provide dessert for the group.

A couple of phone calls are going to be made to Nancy Allred to confirm any new residents on the ranch and then we will notify our Welcome committee to distribute the Welcome Bags.

Lynne Parker will hostess our next meeting at her house Oct 22.....and as if all of this is not enough for a group of 6 women, the best was yet to be...Sue Downs gave a most beautiful recount of her months away from us in her condo in Hawaii. She described her other best friends, her church, her home and most of all her enthusiasm for life. We are happy she is back to her winter home to ski and sit with Lucky and Bandit and we know that we will all miss her while she is away again.

Very kindly,
Kim Pronovich