

## **SANTA FE TRAIL RANCH WOMEN'S GROUP MEETING--- 2/9/13**

The SFTR Women's Group met in the home of Sharon Beaver. Those attending included Joan Beaumont, Sharon Beaver, Susan Edholm, Mary Ghormley, Nancy Scott, Lenae Rossi, and Dena Wagner. Kim Pronovich, Carol Smith and Barb Wurfel sent regrets.

Lenae brought a feast, which everyone enjoyed over much significant discussion.

Much of the discussion centered on the topic of the Women's Group finances and the purpose of the Women's Group and the need for money. Nancy Scott shared that the "original" purpose of the first Women's Group had been "to enhance the Ranch" and perhaps to raise money for a community center one day. During the ensuing discussion, those present came to the consensus that they would be more comfortable with a purpose for the Women's Group of a more social nature and having much less emphasis on fund raising. All agreed perhaps our purpose might be better stated "to enhance the fellowship of the SFTR." In that light, all acknowledged that hosting events like the annual picnic and the annual Christmas party, as well as providing coffee and cookies for the annual POA meeting, all cost money and that we need to have some money-making projects to continue such opportunities. BUT so much emphasis on fund raising may be a drawback to encouraging more women to participate in the Women's Group more consistently. All agreed that we should be more proactive about sharing why we need any money we choose to raise.

Nancy suggested that we need to establish a yearly budget of sorts so that we could know/anticipate how much we would need to raise for each year. Lenae will go through the financial records and bring to the next meeting an idea of past years' expenses and some ideas for a yearly budget.

The discussion then centered on the responses to Barb's challenge to come up with money-making ideas. Lenae shared the scarf she and Kim had made from a T-shirt. It received a mixed review and the group can decide later if such an item might be a possible project. Carol and Barb both had done a lot of work and sent MUCH information about possible money makers, which the group discussed, with the following results:

----A Christmas ornament might be a possibility. Carol sent a sample of one she created and Barb sent information from Virginia about sizes she could create.

----Both Carol and Barb sent information about a perpetual calendar board, which also might be a possible project. But both the ornament and the calendar would be time consuming and may not be cost effective.

----The idea of a Sherpa throw for a silent auction met approval.

----Stationary and/or note cards with various possibilities may be another good idea, but we need to get more definitive information.

-----Some kind of raffle could be accomplished at the picnic again.

Susan suggested that we consider a community garage sale with all items being donated by any and all from the Ranch who wish to support such an event. This idea met with much enthusiasm from those present. It would be very nearly 100% profit and not take too much effort. (Susan

even volunteered to organize such a project.) Mary suggested that any items not purchased could be donated to the Noah's Ark Thrift "Shop just created. We should decide soon what time would be best for the sale and where to hold it. The fire station building is one possibility, and we need to investigate the cost to rent the facility.

It was also brought up that we need to "advertise" the change of date for the picnic so that people will know to adjust their plans for the May 25, 2013 event.

THE NEXT MEETING WILL BE MARCH 9 AT 10:00 A.M. AT THE HOME OF JOAN BEAUMONT, 33171 FISHER PEAK PARKWAY.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon Beaver