

Women's Group November 23, 2024 meeting minutes

Attendees: Lori Clark, Claudia Henning, Laurie Nielsen, Nancy Scott, Patty Thomas, Mary Bishop, Sue Downs, Amanda Korth, Gayle McCrary, Maureen Latham, Jean Busch, Barb Wurfel, Carol Smith

Our November meeting had been postponed due to a winter snowstorm earlier in the month, and we are glad those in attendance were able to be together this day and visit and plan.

Thank yous were extended to all who were able to help with the UPS packages that were brought to the MOC to be picked up. UPS had an over abundance of packages during the snow storm and unable to deliver many of them to the homes due to the roads and driveways. Those who could get out of their drives after several days, were able to pick them up at the MOC. Those WG members who helped were: Maureen Latham (and Bill), Barb Wurfel, Claudia Henning, Carol Smith, Patty Thomas, Shannon Youngquist, Susan Edholm (and Steve), Teresa Wallace, and Lori Clark.

Luau Dinner was reviewed. The money spent was \$2180.85 and the money made through tickets was \$1808.00. Deb Johnson made the appetizers at cost, and Cyndi Hamilton donated the cost of the desserts and her time (with several other women helping her with creations). Three dinners were paid for by the Women's Group (Deb J., Cyndi H. and John Gerald, who did our slide show and music videos). All were wonderful!

Several things to note: It was a fun time; the \$34/person was not seemingly an issue for the cost; the food was very good, but not hot enough; the caterers were beginning to pack things up before all got the chance to go up for seconds; we need to be VERY STRICT on the RSVP and payment, as each year we have some who say they will pay at the dinner but then do not show, or some RSVP after the deadline, or some who do not RSVP but come that evening; appetizers and desserts were great;

Suggestions to think about - Should we do the dinner earlier in the fall, or have a "Spring Fling"? - perhaps have a spring dinner and fall picnic to spread things out?; could we include a food drive and/or toy drive along with our events? Should we have an auction at any other event besides our raffle at the picnic?

If we have our Fall dinner around the same time next year, a suggestion is to have the theme be "Ski Lodge". - hot chocolate, pretend fireplace, skis, boots, pom-pom snowballs, crutches, etc to think about.

We will need to discuss it early next year in order to have a timeline for planning.

The Welcome Committee over the past 4 years has been Pat Nash (and Tim at times), Claudia Henning, and Millie Straabe as able. Others have helped out from time to time. They are wishing to pass the baton now. Several have expressed an interest including Amanda Korth, Sara Joy, Teresa Wallace, Jean Busch, and Lori Clark. Anyone interested should note that after the holidays we will schedule a special meeting to review what the welcome gals do, how it is organized, the materials they feel is important to present, common questions asked, knowledge of the covenants and ranch in general, what materials are given out, how we get names of

newbies, etc. It is also important to be an active member of the Women's Group. There will be a notice passed on through our email list once the date and time is set for this information meeting.

Firehouse Usage was discussed by Sue Downs as to whether the Woman's Group would consider holding some of our meetings at the Firehouse on Fox Trail instead of the MOC. This would make it a closer drive for some, as well as give some funding to the Fisher Peak Volunteer Fire Dept. The Fire Dept would charge \$25 for the use for a meeting.

Years ago, when the firehouse was built (year 2000?) by volunteer owners on the SFTR, we had at that time 13 firefighters that lived on the ranch. We now have 3. There are several Women who are part of the Women's Auxiliary for the firefighters, including Sue Downs, Nancy Scott, and Carmen Richards. (As a note, the recent dinner and auction garnered enough funds to pay for some needed radio equipment. Thanks to Carmen for her work on this, and others who donated items for the auction and the bake sale).

Some questions arose as to how clean the place is - would we need to give it a good cleaning before use each time?...How big is the space...are there chairs and tables...how much parking space is there...? Some of these questions will be answered after a group of several gals volunteered to check it out and take pictures and report back at our January meeting.

A thought is perhaps to first hold a Meet and Greet evening or afternoon so owners can see it, know where it is, and maybe have the newly formed group concerning responding to early smoke or lightning strikes present some material. - more will be discussed after the January report.

Christmas Solar Lights will once again be placed around the ranch. Barb W. tested the lights, and all work. We have 14 sets - some areas may require one set and some two.

A sign up sheet was passed around and all suggested areas are now covered. They are:

- Guard Shack - Joni Lerner English and Carmen Richards
- Little Bear/Oak Park - Lori Clark
- Cottonwood/Mountain View - Claudia Henning
- MOC - Maureen Latham
- Timber Park/Fishers Peak - Shannon Youngquist
- Mountain View/Tall Oaks - Amanda Korth
- Gallinas/Fisher Peak - Gayle McCrary
- Fishers Peak/Alpine Meadows - Cyndi Hamilton
- Cottonwood/Elk Park - Jean Busch
- Fishers Peak/Old Mission Ridge - Laurie Nielsen
- Fishers Peak/Cottonwood - Carol Smith
- Timber Park/Old Mission - Laurie Nielsen

Thank you all for brightening up our holidays! Reminder lights should be taken down after the New Year and returned to the MOC. The lights can be placed on a tree, bush, etc. Lori suggested using a staked down, upside down tomato cage if no good bush is available.

WG Christmas Party We have had some good times the past few years gathering for a Christmas brunch. As we reviewed schedules of our own and things going on in town on the Dec weekends, we decided to hold this year's Party for our group on Thursday night, 5-8 pm on December 12 at the MOC. Each person is to bring an appetizer to share, BYOB, and a gift for exchange with a \$15 limit. Sure hope you can join us!

Sue (Lily) Richter has been spending time doing her Plein Air style painting. Last year she held an open house, but this year plans to hold an on-line auction, with some proceeds going to the Women's Group and some to the Fire Dept. More details will follow, although it will not be before the New Year. She does beautiful paintings !!!

Those of us able to stay a little longer created Christmas cards to give to the local Trinidad Nursing Home. The line dance gals from the ranch will take them there on Dec 4th. It was fun, and the creations will be appreciated I am sure!

Wishes for all to have a wonderful Thanksgiving! And a busy but fun Holiday season!
Carol Smith for the Women's Group