

Newcomers Club of Nevada County

February 2016 Newsletter

President's Message

“Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring, all of which have the potential to turn a life around.” ~ Leo Buscaglia

I am so appreciative of all the rain we have been getting! It makes me really look forward to spring and what might be . . . an awakening of bright green pastures and fields and breathtaking flowers! The possibilities are endless, just as they are at the Nevada County Newcomers Club! You can make new friends, join new committees that are now forming, or even start your own activity group. **Please take a moment to fill out our Member Survey that is included in this newsletter.** It is one of the ways you can let us know what your interests are and how you might like to be more involved within our group. You can also speak with any of the committee chairs to find out more about what they do and where your skill sets might fit in. Your involvement with our group is what makes the Nevada County Newcomers so exceptional!

One more piece of exciting news – we have a Facebook page! Look us up at Newcomers of Nevada County and like our page and share it with your friends! It is another great way to get the word out about our group.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

February Luncheon Meeting

February 24, 2016, at 11:30 am

Alta Sierra Country Club

Cost: \$18.00 per person

February Program: Beaucoup Chapeaux (Many Hats)

Prepare yourselves to be transported to an exciting and beautiful world of joyful music! Four musicians will entertain us with a variety of international music and songs. The music is part Parisian Bistro, Macedonia Hafana, and Greek Taverna. Throw in a little Italian circus and American jazz; then sing the songs in 8 or 9 different languages and you have Beaucoup Chapeaux. Their music is authentic and promises to be toe tapping in a different style. CDs will be for sale before and after the luncheon. You may check them out on Facebook: “Beaucoup Chapeaux.”

February Luncheon Menu

Choice of

Chicken Florentine Crepes with Spinach and Mozzarella Cheese
topped with a Sherry Cream Sauce

or

Veal Pot Roast simmered in Root Vegetables with Garlic Mashed Potatoes
and Herbed Pan Reduction Gravy

or

Stuffed Manicotti with Roasted Veggie Ragout and Herbed Parmesan Risotto

All entrées will include Tomato Basil Soup,
bread and butter, coffee and tea

Strawberry Daiquiri Mousse Pie for dessert

To Make Reservations for February 24, 2016, please make your \$18.00 check (**Don't forget to date your check 2016**) payable to **NEWCOMERS CLUB**, and mail it to the Reservation Chair for February. You can find her contact information in your newsletter.

Checks must be received by **Monday, February 15, 2016**. Cancellations will be accepted before 5:00 pm on **Tuesday, February 16, 2016**. Please write **Feb-Chicken, Feb-Veal, or Feb-Veg** on the bottom of your check. After Tuesday, February 16, to see if there has been a cancellation or to have your name added to the waiting list, call the Reservation Chair for February. You can find her contact information in your newsletter.

March Luncheon Meeting

March 23, 2016, at 11:30 am
Alta Sierra Country Club
Cost: \$18.00 per person

March Program: Early Californians: Survival in the Pacific Coastal Area

Dr. Kent Lightfoot, anthropologist at the University of California, Berkeley, will speak on his studies of Native California peoples and their encounters with early European explorers and colonists. A significant component of his research is addressing how lessons from the past may

be relevant to addressing current landscape management issues in our public lands, particularly those that are concerned with enhancing the richness and diversity of native species, maintaining high levels of landscape productivity, and mitigating increased fire hazards due to climate change. He is also collaborating on evaluating ecological evidence of early landscape management practices using prescribed burning to enhance biodiversity of useful plants and animals in local habitats.

March Luncheon Menu

Choice of

Cider Brined Pork Chops with House Made Applesauce and Mashed Potatoes

or

Hong Kong Teriyaki Chicken Breast served over Jasmine Rice

or

Herbed Cheese Polenta Stackers with Lentils, Corn Crusted Tomatoes,
Tarragon Cheese and Manchego Cheese

All entrées will include Chicken Tortilla Soup, bread and butter, coffee and tea

Tuxedo Cake for dessert

To Make Reservations for March 23, 2016, please make your \$18.00 check payable to **NEWCOMERS CLUB** and drop it in the Check Box at the **February Luncheon**, or mail your \$18.00 check to the Reservation Chair for March. You can find her contact information in your newsletter.

Checks must be received by **Monday, March 14, 2016**. Cancellations will be accepted before 5:00 pm on **Tuesday, March 15, 2016**. Please write **Mar-Pork, Mar-Chicken or Mar-Veg** on the bottom of your check. After Tuesday, March 15, to see if there has been a cancellation or to have your name added to the waiting list, call the Reservation Chair for March. You can find her contact information in your newsletter

More Program Highlights

April 27, 2016: “Fresh Fashions in the Foothills,” our annual spring fashion show returns with the latest styles from local boutiques.

May 25, 2016: Sierra Stages, under the direction of Ken Getz, will once again delight us with a lively presentation of show tunes past and present.

Angels in the County **-The Christmas Families Project**

What is the real meaning of Christmas? Is it the gifts under the tree, the lights in the windows, the cards in the mail, turkey dinners with family and friends? Is this really Christmas? For the ladies of Newcomers Club, Christmas is about the Christmas Families Project, a time when we can be generous with our time and our fortunes to bring joy to people who share our town but don't have the extra money to buy presents for their children.

Through our generosity in 2015, we were able to support 131 children and for the adults of the family provide "goodie bags" consisting of simple necessities such as toothbrushes and hand lotion plus a grocery store gift card. Most of all, we "Christmas Angels," as we are often called, provided more than a bag of gifts; we provided a ray of light and hope to families who often see the world as a place turned dark and cold.

How do we do it? The project is run and fueled by our members who donate time and money to shop, to wrap, to pack, and to provide special items such as bicycles, beds - even a rocking horse. As the Founder and Project Chair says, "Our program is unique and personal. We help those families and foster children who are trying but need some help over Christmas."

The heart of the Christmas Families Project is not the gifts but the members who open their hearts and give of their time to bring joy to children who often write to the "Christmas Angels" saying, "This was the best Christmas ever!"

Each year our project grows because the number of children who need our help grows. In 2016, we want to get started early. We'll be collecting "goodie bag" items each month at the luncheon. And, most importantly, we'll be looking for new angels to join the experienced angels so we can meet the needs of all the children who are referred to us for help. Do you feel a "Christmas Angel" stirring in your heart? Get in touch with the Project Chairs. You can find their contact information in your newsletter. They'll find just the right spot for you. It's not too early to get involved; we want our 2016 Christmas Families Project to be the best ever!

2015 Christmas Families Project Donor Merchants

K-Mart Bikes, helmets and a highchair
Barbara Reed-Asst. Manager
111 McKnight Way, Grass Valley

J. C. Penney Clothing
Chris Pflaffeo, Manager
732 Freeman Lane, Grass Valley

Ben Franklin Crafts and Frames

Art supplies

Josh McGovern, Manager

598 Sutton Way, Grass Valley

Quietech Geek Boutique

Computer repair

Melissa Hannebrink, Owner

309 Neal Avenue, Grass Valley

PAWS'itive Pal

Dog training

Lauren Hayes, Owner

530-559-3341

pawsitivepal@gmail.com or www.pawsitivepalnc.com

Sierra Movie Theaters

Movie passes

Debbie Hendrickson

Sewing machine repairs

Sewing Machine Repair Shop

245 East Main Street, Grass Valley

Christmas Families Monthly Goodie Bag Project

The hard-working parents of the children enrolled in our Christmas Families Project need a little Christmas too. So, we give a small “goodie bag” to the mom and the dad of the family. When we wait until the end of the year to fill these goodie bags, it can be a scramble to get all the desired donations on time; hence the **Monthly Goodie Bag Project**. Each month we will highlight a needed item with the hope that members will bring that item to the luncheon. For February, the “goodie” is a **TOOTHBRUSH** - adult or child. Please bring as many new toothbrushes as you like to the February luncheon – we’ll need hundreds!

Activities

Newcomers Club is known for our fun activity groups. There are lots to choose from – book groups, bridge, cooking, and more. Look in your roster to find the activity or activities of your choice and contact the group leader for more details. If you are interested in something new, please contact me, the Activities Coordinator, and we can work together. You’ll find my contact information in the newsletter or in your roster. Look in future newsletters for a member survey about interest in a special tour of Beale Air Force Base. Please be thinking about whether you would like to participate. More later!

BRIDGE PLAYERS! Our 2nd Tuesday bridge group is almost complete. It’s not too late for you to join us! Please contact the Treasurer. Her information is in the newsletter or in your roster.

Sunshine

If you know of a member who has been ill, or who might be in need of comfort or condolences, please contact our Sunshine Chair, so we can let that member know we are thinking of her. You'll find her contact information in the newsletter or in your roster.

Website – NewcomersNC.org

Do you have a friend who might be interested in becoming a member of Newcomers? If so, the best place for her to see what we are about is our website, www.NewcomersNC.org. The website contains information on our charter, clubs, luncheons and special programs. It also contains the membership application form along with instructions on how to join.

If you personally haven't checked out the website, you should! We won't be listing member contact information online, so you'll still need to refer to your newsletter for instructions on mailing your reservation checks, etc. But . . . if you want to know what programs are coming up, or what we'll be having for dessert at the upcoming luncheon, visit the website for a quick answer.

If you have read the Newsletter up to this point, you're likely looking for the information on how you can win this month's free lunch drawing. It's easy; just fill out the **Member Survey** attached to the end of this newsletter. *Even if you have submitted one in the past, please fill it out again.* We'd like to know about your current interests. The surveys help keep our club running smoothly. Please drop it in the mail or bring it with you to the February luncheon, and your name will be placed in the drawing. One lucky lady will win a free Newcomers lunch! And, this time, you need not be present to win.

Membership

E-Mail Changes, Membership Questions: If you've changed your e-mail address or have questions about membership, please contact the Membership Chair. You can find her contact information in your newsletter or roster.

Welcome to our New Members

We welcomed six new members this month. This brings our membership total to 288.

Newcomers Club of Nevada County has launched a Facebook page: www.facebook.com/NewcomersNC. You can always check the page for our current newsletter and interesting photos, articles, and luncheon information. Like, Share and Follow if you wish.

We would like to post photos of our activities on our web page, our Facebook page, and the Chamber of Commerce website. **If you do not want your picture posted anywhere**, you need to contact the Historian or the Membership Chair. Their contact information can be found in your newsletter or roster. If you notice someone taking your picture and do not want to be in it, please make sure you remind them and mention it to the photographer.

Thank You to our Generous Contributors and Supporters

Please patronize the businesses that provide us with donations. While you are there, mention to these businesses that you are a Newcomer member and appreciate their support.

Alta Sierra Country Club

Kane's Family Restaurant

Bamboo Home Store

Passé Boutique

Baskin-Robbins

Scraps Dog Bakery

Briar Patch Co-op

Sierra Cinemas

Fable Coffee

Tess' Kitchen Store

Fetzer Wines

Your Pets Dog & Cat Grooming

Incredible Pets