

Nevada County Newcomers Club

January 2018 Newsletter

President's Message

*Happy New Year
Happy New Dreams
Happy New Days
Happy New Desires
Happy New Ways
Happy New YOU*

~anonymous

WOW!! Our Christmas Families Project was unbelievably amazing this year. We were able to get everything shopped and wrapped for our children and families, and mostly delivered, by mid-December. Many thanks to all of you and your husbands and friends who contributed so much and worked so hard getting it all done in record time. I'd like to extend my heartfelt gratitude to all.

Our Live Auction Committee will begin meeting this month to plan for this coming year's fundraiser. If you are interested in joining us, please contact me. I have volunteered to be one of the Co-Chairs of this lively committee.

The January Luncheon program will be special! A research physician from UC Davis will be telling us about new ideas for treatment of retinal disease. Maybe you know someone who has a personal interest in this subject. If so, invite him/her to be your guest!! And, get your checks in early.

I am looking forward to seeing you this year, and I wish you all the best in 2018!

January Luncheon Meeting

**January 24, 2018, at 11:30 am
Alta Sierra Country Club**

Cost: \$23.00 per person

January Program: Dr. Susanna Park - Advances In Retinal (Eyesight) Research

NOTE CHANGE OF PROGRAM

Our original January Program, *Alternative Medicine* (which had to be postponed to a later date), HAS BEEN CHANGED to *Advanced Eyesight Research and its Medical Applications*.

Our eyesight changes with aging, a problem that typically affects everyone. Dr. Susanna Park, a top expert in retinal research and treatment at UC Davis, will present her work in advanced

eyesight research and medical application including stem cell regenerative medicine. She received her M.D. and Ph.D. from Yale University School of Medicine. Dr. Park conducts clinical trials in advanced medicine, including stem cell research, in conjunction with Dr. Jan Nolta (Director of Stem Cell Program at UC Davis). Dr. Park also provides both surgical and medical management of all vitreoretinal disorders including macular degeneration, diabetic retinopathy, retinal detachment, posterior uveitis and trauma. This is a program not to be missed. Non-members are invited to attend this timely subject as guests.

January Luncheon Menu

Choice of

Meat Loaf Tournedos – meatloaf medallions wrapped in bacon and served with a bourbon peppercorn demi-glace and creamy herbed risotto

Panko Crusted Chicken Parmesan with provolone and Parmesan cheese, served with house marinara, creamy herbed risotto and fresh garlic bread

Portabella Eggplant Napoleons stacked with fresh Parmesan, tomatoes and basil, topped with marinara and Alfredo sauces and served with a creamy herbed risotto

All entrées will include Navy bean soup, bread and butter, coffee and tea

Tuxedo Cake, a chocolate sponge cake with cocoa buttermilk and whipped cream frosting for dessert

To make reservations for January 24, 2018, please make your **\$23.00** check (**dated 2018**) payable to **NEWCOMERS CLUB** in the amount of **\$23.00**, and mail it to the Reservation Chair for January. Her information is listed in the newsletter.

Checks must be received by **Monday, January 15, 2018**. Cancellations will be accepted before 5:00 pm on **Tuesday, January 16, 2018**. Please write **Jan-Beef** or **Jan-Chicken** or **Jan-Veg** on the bottom of your check. After Tuesday, January 16, 2018, to see if there has been a cancellation or to have your name added to the waiting list, call the Reservation Chair for January. Her information is listed in the newsletter.

February Luncheon Meeting

February 28, 2018, at 11:30 am
Alta Sierra Country Club

Cost: \$23.00 per person

February Program: Niel Fischer - Fire Control in Northern California Forests

February 28, 2018 – Niel Fischer, California Registered Professional Forester, will speak on our Northern California forests, fire control, the drought, and the respite from the drought. He is the Director of the California Fire Safe Council and the former Director of the California Licensed Foresters Association. Living in our beautiful forest environment brings with it the danger of forest fires. You cannot miss this timely subject.

February Luncheon Menu

Choice of

Baked Salmon with a whole grain honey mustard glaze, served over rice pilaf

Lingonberry Chicken wrapped with prosciutto ham, seared and served with a lingonberry demi-glace and rice pilaf

Herbed Cheese Polenta Stackers with lentils, corn crusted tomatoes, tarragon cream and Manchego cheese, served with rice pilaf

All entrées will include Caesar salad with Romaine lettuce and radicchio, house made croutons and Parmesan chips, bread and butter, coffee and tea

Chocolate Pear Williams Torte with poached pears, chocolate mousse and ganache for dessert

To make reservations for February 28, 2018, please make your **\$23.00** check (**dated 2018**) payable to **NEWCOMERS CLUB** and drop it in the Check Box at the January Luncheon or mail it to the Reservation Chair for February. Her information is listed in the newsletter.

Checks must be received by **Monday, February 19, 2018**. Cancellations will be accepted before 5:00 pm on **Tuesday, February 20, 2018**. Please write **Feb-Salmon or Feb-Chicken or Feb-Veg** on the bottom of your check. After Tuesday, February 20, 2018, to see if there has been a cancellation or to have your name added to the waiting list, call the Reservation Chair for February.

Christmas Families Project Update

We did it again - 145 children found presents (including some bicycles) under their trees. Our Nevada County agencies screen and refer families who are struggling financially and need some assistance to provide Christmas presents for their children. Disguised as shoppers, wrappers, auction organizers, committee members, financial contributors and donors, an amazing group

of angels goes into motion to produce a budget and finally a high quality array of presents and cheer. Ninety-five percent of the time, at least one item on each child's "wish list" is in that plastic bag, plus many more presents.

This year, with the help of special donors and Quietech Associates, Inc., we found parts (new and some "gently used") for a 14-year old to build a computer. Remember the sweet little girl from the Fashion Show? Santa managed to put that pink bicycle she so admired under her Christmas tree. These are just two of the many special items provided for children aged one month to 18 years. The shoppers and special items teams worked very hard to fulfill those additional unusual wishes. To cap the year's contributions, the Christmas Luncheon brought in an all time high of \$2,780 (\$1,835 in the baskets plus Special Items checks for \$945). Helping Hands Nurturing Center, Friendship Club, Women of Worth, and Child Protective Services screened and forwarded the names of deserving families who met our criterion of a "helping hand up - not a hand out."

Not a sleigh, but seven SUVs lined up and whisked away presents for delivery to our agencies where they were then distributed to the families. You, our members, could smile on Christmas morning knowing there were children smiling with you as they opened your presents. Watch for a special thank you bulletin board at the January Newcomers Luncheon.

We wish to extend a heartfelt thank you to all who helped to make this year another successful one for our Christmas Families Project.

The Christmas Families Co-Chairs

2017 Christmas Families Project - Business Donors

On behalf of the Special Items Team for the Christmas Families Project, we would like to thank the following vendors for their support of our 2017 children. We would encourage all of you to support these local businesses.

1. Quietech Associates, Inc.
Melissa Hannebrink, Owner – provided complete computer parts for a young teen to build a computer
2. Nevada City Cycle Shop
3. KMart – Barbara Read, Assistant Manager - 25 bicycles and helmets purchased
4. JC Penney – Jennifer Ledbetter, Manager - 25% additional discount on all purchases
5. Sierra Cinemas
6. Office of Robert Racine, DDS - provided toothbrushes for adults and children
7. Big 5 - discounted items for a survival kit
8. Supercuts (Auburn) donated four haircuts

Thank you so very much to all the Newcomers members who were so generous at the October Auction and December Christmas Luncheon. We could not do this program without your continued support - shopping, wrapping, and all the jobs needed to make this village work.

The Special Items Team would also like to acknowledge our special ELVES who assembled ten 12" and 16" bicycles this year. Altogether there were 33 requests for bikes. One shopper purchased one for her "child," while 7 came from an inventory of gently used and new ones from

last year. The Team purchased an additional 25 bikes and helmets for 2017. We expect there were many happy faces as these 33 children got new bikes for Christmas. If you are interested in seeing some of our pictures, please go to the Newcomers website (NewcomersNC.org) and view the bikes delivered to Helping Hands Nurturing Center for those children.

Happy New Year!

The Special Items Team & The Special Elves

More Program Highlights - Mark Your Calendars!

March 28, 2018 – He's back! Brent Nixon, performer, environmentalist and professional photographer, is returning. Many of you remember Brent from his presentation on Bears and Whales. When not filming the endangered environment and its inhabitants, Brent performs for Celebrity Cruises and sells his filming to *National Geographic Magazine*. His latest contribution to *National Geographic* is "Saving the Coral Reefs." Rosalie found him filming the black tailed shark in French Polynesia on his way to finding the green turtles nesting in Hawaii. This is a popular event so book early!

April 25, 2018 – This year's fashion show, entitled *FASHION FORWARD – A History of What We Wear*, will be held at the Alta Sierra Country Club, Wednesday, April 25. Models will interact with guests as they share information about their outfits with each table. Save the date and bring a friend to this fun, interesting day all about fashion and how it has evolved.

CALLING ALL MODELS: Would you like to be a part of *FASHION FORWARD* as one of our models? We are planning a fun, informative presentation of fashions to delight our guests. We will have a sign-up at the January meeting, or call the Fashion Show Chair (her information can be found in your roster) with questions or to volunteer NOW!

May 23, 2018 – Sierra Stages is becoming a Newcomers musical show tradition. Its 2017 production of Chicago was New York quality performed by our own unbelievable area talent. Totally delighted by its 2017 production of Chicago, we will be entertained by excerpts from its 2018 musicals conducted by Ken Getz.

Activities

New Activity Groups:

Those who CROCHET - Join Us. Share your work with others and gain inspiration. Show off your latest creation and participate in a joint project making scarves for Christmas families. Meeting: Thursday, January 4th at 10:30 am and Tuesday, February 13th from 1:00-3:00 pm in Grass Valley. We will decide the name of the group and regular meeting day and time. Bring your current project to work on. For further information please contact the Activities Chair. Her information can be found in your Roster.

One of our members is interested in starting a new card game group, which is described below. If you are interested, please contact the Activities Chair. Her information can be found in your Roster.

Spite and Malice, also known as **Cat and Mouse**, is a fun card game for two or more players. The ideal number of players is 4-5, so with more players we split up into teams. It is a form of competitive solitaire and is played with regular decks of cards, one more deck than players (i.e. 3 shuffled decks for 2 players). The goal is to be the first person to move all the cards in your goal pile into the playing piles, thus winning the game. Kings are wild. Suits are of no importance to the game.

A “**Mexican Train**” game group is forming with plans to meet on the 3rd Friday of the month from 1:00 to 3:00 pm on a rotating basis at players’ homes. Mexican Train is a fun dominoes game played with a little strategy and a lot of luck, allowing for plenty of time during the round for chatting and enjoying each other’s company. The object of the game is to play all your dominoes or at least as many high-point dominoes as possible during each round as you take turns building lines of end-matching dominoes that run around the table. The rules of the game are easy to understand and follow, and the game is played simply for fun, with the low scorer being the winner. Those interested in joining us for a fun afternoon should contact the Activities Chair. Her information can be found in your Roster.

Nifty Needlers, which meets the 1st Thursday of the month, is looking for two members to join its group. Please contact the Activities Chair. Her information can be found in your Roster.

Cooking Club: Gourmet Girls meets the 1st Friday of the month at 10:30 am. For further information please contact the Activities Chair. Her information can be found in your Roster.

The Garden Club meets the 1st Tuesday of the month at 11:00 am. The group is looking for a person or persons to chair the club. For further information please contact the Activities Chair. Her information can be found in your Roster.

Knotty Knitters would like to start up again. The group was meeting on the 3rd Wednesday of the month at 11:00 am. It needs new members and a new location. For further information please contact the Activities Chair. Her information can be found in your Roster.

The Monthly Movie Group – no specific meeting time. Cindy Goguen had to discontinue heading this group. If you are interested in taking charge and reorganizing the group, please contact. For further information please contact the Activities Chair. Her information can be found in your Roster.

If I have missed any groups that are currently looking for new members or if you would like to start up a new group, please contact the Activities Chair. Her information can be found in your Roster.

Sunshine

If you know a member who is ill or might be in need of some comfort or condolences, please contact our Sunshine Chair.

Membership

E-Mail Changes, Membership Questions: If you know someone who would be interested in joining Newcomers, contact our Membership Chair, or direct the person to our website, NewcomersNC.org, where she can find and print a Membership Application.

New Member Applications can also be found near the Check Box at our monthly luncheons.

The **Treasurer's Report** for the current month can be found near the Check Box at our monthly luncheons. Call with with any questions.

New Member:

We welcome one new member this month. This brings our membership total to 275.