

Nevada County Newcomers Club

February 2018 Newsletter

President's Message

It's February, and we are already seeking your input for next year.

I am getting ready to assemble our annual **Nominating Committee** for our officers and board members for next year. Please consider helping out by volunteering to be part of this important committee and sharing the fun of being on our board. My contact information is below.

Something NEW!! **Change for Children!** Do you live with a container of loose change that keeps on growing? Bring your coin jar contents to the next luncheon. All the money we collect will go towards our annual Christmas Families Project. Our money jar will be present at all of the luncheons the rest of the year. We thank the organizer for proposing this great idea and for following through with it!

With the wildfires here and elsewhere in California, we are all in need of information about being fire safe. Our program for the February Luncheon will be presented by Niel Fischer, a California Registered Professional Forester. He will present timely information about living safely here in our beautiful forest environment. Don't forget to sign up to be with us for lunch on February 28th.

At each luncheon be sure to look at the Community Table with its information about happenings in our area. For several years one of our members brought this information to each luncheon. She had to resign from our board for health reasons. Thank you, for your service to our club. We appreciate the member who will be continuing to bring the Community Table information to us.

My thought for this month:

"How do you spell 'love'?" - Piglet

"You don't spell it...you feel it." - Pooh

-A.A. Milne, Winnie-the-Pooh

May you feel lots of love from your family and friends!

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

Niel Fischer - California Registered Professional Forester - Niel 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 shouldn't miss this timely subject.

February Luncheon Menu

Choice of

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

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

or

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 payable to **NEWCOMERS CLUB** in the amount of **\$23.00**, and mail it to the Reservation Chair for February.

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.

March Luncheon Meeting

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

Cost: \$23.00 per person

March Program: **Brent Nixon - Naturalist**

Brent Nixon is a well-known naturalist who researches the environment from whales to coral reefs. You can find his research and video footage on National Geographic programs and on his own DVDs. He is often characterized as a David Attenborough type scientist with a Robin Williams sense of humor and level of energy that matches Jim Carey! Brent's has been our most popular "bring him back" program. Go to <http://www.naturetalksbybrentnixon.com/> for snippets of some presentations. DVDs will be available for sale.

March Luncheon Menu

Choice of

Roasted Pit Ham with brown sugar mustard and a clove glaze served with mixed potatoes au gratin

or

Icelandic Cod grilled and served with a zucchini ratatouille and mixed potatoes au gratin

or

Roasted Portabella Mushroom Ravioli with a sun-dried tomato cream sauce

All entrées will include creamy potato/cheddar soup, bread and butter, coffee and tea

Yogurt Cake topped with a currant/raspberry sauce for dessert

To make reservations for **March 28, 2018**, please make your **\$23.00** check payable to **NEWCOMERS CLUB** and drop it in the Check Box at the February Luncheon or mail it to the Reservation Chair for March.

Checks must be received by **Monday, MARCH 19, 2018**. Cancellations will be accepted before 5:00 pm on **Tuesday, March 20, 2018**. Please write **March-Ham** or **March-Fish** or **March-Veg** on the bottom of your check. After **Tuesday, March 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 March.

Christmas Families Project Update

Thanks to the Newcomers Christmas Families Project, there were many new coats, clothes, and smiles on Nevada County children as they started the New Year, 2018. On display at the January luncheon was a clever "Thank You" board from Helping Hands Nurturing Center families along with many other agency thank you notes. In January, one of our Christmas luncheon guest speakers, moved her family from homeless transition housing to their own apartment. Simultaneously, her job converted from part-time to full-time. In another family, the mother of the 14-year-old computer wiz was featured on the deans' list, with a scholarship to continue her college while working full-time. These are just some of the wonderful stories of our special Christmas families.

More Program Highlights - Mark Your Calendars!

April 25, 2018 – This year's annual Fashion Show, "Fashion Forward – A History of What We Wear," will be held at the Alta Sierra Country Club. 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. *See below for fashion show details.*

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. In May, we will be entertained with excerpts from its 2018 musicals conducted by Ken Getz.

“Fashion Forward” - 2018 Newcomers Fashion Show

What a difference the sewing machine has made for fashion. Today, hi-tech lasers are used to cut intriguing patterns for the clothes we wear. Learn all about these amazing breakthroughs when you come to **“Fashion Forward,”** this year’s fashion show event on April 25 at Alta Sierra Country Club. It will be a fun and exciting day that you won’t want to miss, and you may want to bring a friend.

The Fashion Show commentator will share some delightful images of clothing we have worn in the past, and our vision of what we want to wear now: something soft, comfy, warm or cool, depending on the season. You will learn about the birth of denim and its link to our gold rush history. Denim has spanned many generations and still influences fashion today. Shop owners will bring fabulous seasonal items that you will get a chance to win through our Fashion Show Raffle. Favorite raffle items include the special fashion sessions with shop owners followed by lunch. This is a “Fashion Forward” day you should put on your calendar right away!

If you wish to be a model, please contact the Fashion Show Committee.

Activities

New Activity Groups:

One of our new members would like to start a new group called **River Walks**, with the goal of exploring the Yuba River. The walks would be no more than five miles in length and no more than 500 feet elevation gain. She would like to start the group in April with a wildflower walk along the Buttermilk Trail. The May walk would be the Point Defiance trail. The hikes could be on the second Wednesday of the month (first choice) or the third Friday of the month. Contact information can be found in the Newsletter.

The crochet group has a name: **“Inspired Crochet.”** Meetings will be the second Tuesday of the month. The next meeting will be on February 13th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm at a member’s home in Grass Valley. They will rotate the meetings at the members' homes, but no one should feel obligated to host. Share your work with others and gain inspiration. Show off your latest creation and participate in a joint project making scarves for Christmas Families. There is room for more members. Contact information can be found in the Newsletter.

One of our new members is interested in starting a **new card game group** to play **Spite and Malice**, described below. Contact information can be found in the Newsletter.

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; with more players, we will 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.

The “**Mexican Train**” game group held its first meeting and decided to move its meeting time to the fourth Friday of each month at players’ homes on a rotating basis. **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. You take turns building lines of end-matching dominoes that run around the table. Those interested in joining us for a fun afternoon should contact the organizers whose names are listed in the Newsletter. The game is easy to understand and follow and played simply for fun, with the low scorer being the winner.

Nifty Needlers, which meets the 1st Thursday of the month, is looking for two members to join its group. Contact information can be found in the Newsletter.

Cooking Club: Gourmet Girls meets the 1st Friday of the month at 10:30 am. Contact information can be found in the Newsletter.

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. Contact information can be found in the Newsletter.

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. Contact information can be found in the Newsletter.

The Monthly Movie Group – no specific meeting time. Our wonderful leader had to discontinue heading this group. If you are interested in taking charge and reorganizing the group, please contact the Movie Group activity chair so she can fill you in on how she organized the movie dates.

The Hand and Foot Group is looking for subs. They play from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm on the second Wednesday of the month. Contact information can be found in the Newsletter.

If any groups are currently looking for new members or if you would like to start a new group, please contact the Activity Chair.

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.

Member Survey – Win a Free Lunch!

If you've read the Newsletter up to this point, you're likely looking for the information on how you can win the drawing for a free lunch. It's easy. Just fill out the **Member Survey** attached to the end of this newsletter (page 9). *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.

Newcomers Club 2018 Member Survey – (This Survey is optional.)

We invite you to join our support teams and enjoy camaraderie, friendship and most importantly Fun! You all have many exceptional talents, and we need your help.

Even if you have submitted this form in the past, please fill it out again. Thanks!
 Check the items you like and are interested in and those about which you would like more information. Bring your completed survey to a meeting or send it to the Membership Chair.

Your Name: _____ **Phone:** _____

	Yes I'm interested	Please tell me more
Arts and Crafts:		
• Decorating for monthly luncheons _____	_____	_____

Getting to Know Members:		
• Greeting members and guests at luncheons _____	_____	_____
• Taking reservations and checks for luncheons _____	_____	_____
• Coordinating new activity groups _____	_____	_____

Planning and Helping:		
• Organizing and planning monthly programs _____	_____	_____
• Preparing minutes at board meetings or luncheon meetings _____	_____	_____
• Helping prepare our monthly newsletters _____	_____	_____
• Budgeting, accounting and membership _____	_____	_____
• Contacting local merchants for monthly raffle prizes _____	_____	_____
• Submitting articles to local newspapers – Publicity _____	_____	_____
• Taking and sharing photos - Historian _____	_____	_____
• Sending out cards to members – Sunshine _____	_____	_____

Special Event Planning:		
• Annual October Live Auction & Silent Auction _____	_____	_____
• Annual Fashion Show _____	_____	_____
• Christmas Families Project: shopping _____	_____	_____
• Christmas Families Project: wrapping presents _____	_____	_____
• Christmas Families Project: supplements for moms & dads _____	_____	_____
• Working with local merchants for special requests _____	_____	_____
• Community plays and arts programs _____	_____	_____

Computer Help: Are you familiar with?		
• Word Processing or Word _____	_____	_____
• Spreadsheets or Excel _____	_____	_____
• Website updates or email distribution _____	_____	_____

Your Opinion:	
• What types of events would you like to see presented? _____	
• Do you like luncheons at locations other than Alta Sierra? _____	
• Suggestions for speakers, subjects, or entertainment? _____	

For additional space, please use the back of this page. Thank you for your support!