

Nevada County Newcomers Club

May 2020

President's Message

If I were asked to give what I consider the single most useful bit of advice for all humanity, it would be this: Expect trouble as an inevitable part of life, and when it comes, hold your head high. Look it squarely in the eye, and say, "I will be bigger than you. You cannot defeat me." Then, repeat to yourself the most comforting words of all, "This too will pass."

~Ann Landers

We can all take advice from Ann Landers considering today's challenges. As we make progress through our stay-at-home restrictions to help keep everyone safe, we can look to the future. After careful consideration by the Newcomers Board of Directors, the decision was made to cancel the meetings for March, April and May. As progress is made and our elected officials begin to lift restrictions on our social distancing, we are hopeful that we will be able to meet in June. A fun activity and great meeting are in the planning stages.

We will be recessing for the summer months of July and August, and plan a rousing start on September 30 with a rescheduled annual Fashion Show. Please note the date is the fifth Wednesday for this special event.

We have pending Newcomers business to conduct. The Board recommends a Bylaws Amendment, included again in this issue of the newsletter. All members are invited to call me. All inquiries are welcomed, and I am happy to talk about these changes and answer any questions you may have.

We will be holding an election for new officers for our new club year that begins officially in September. So, I am hopeful that plans for June will allow for these business items to be completed.

Until then, stay safe and healthy, and I look forward to extending a warm welcome to you when we meet again.

May Luncheon Meeting - Canceled

June Program: To Be Announced

A small group of very dedicated members is working (dare we say *feverishly*?) to prepare an amazingly fun and unique program for our Newcomers Club year-end finale. Details will be shared with you as soon as circumstances allow us to move forward.

More Program Highlights

September Program – Annual Fashion Show, “Spring Into Fall”

Our new year will kick off with a bang and a rescheduled 2020 Fashion Show! “Spring into Fall” is now scheduled for September 30 at Alta Sierra Country Club. Plan to join us for this great day of fashion, and note that it is one week later than our usual fourth Wednesday meeting. Antonio, owner of Antonio Ayestarán Custom Catering, will cater a special luncheon. Our five stores (Beautiful *boutique*, La Te Da, and JCPenney of Grass Valley, Marilyn’s Fashionations of Auburn, and Whim *be beautiful!* of Penn Valley) are anxious to show their fashions from spring into fall. We are all hopeful that we will be able to gather safely as a large group to enjoy this day of fashion. Mark your calendars now – “Spring Into Fall” is on its way! We hope to see you all on September 30.

October Program – Annual Auction

If you have been using your time in COVID-19 isolation to clean and organize your home, the Silent Auction committee would like to remind you that your gently used items or those things you may be tempted to use for regifting would be welcome additions to our annual silent auction, scheduled for our October luncheon. As a reminder, we cannot accept clothing, but home décor items, jewelry, and other miscellaneous treasures have always been popular at this event. Please consider setting aside your “good stuff” to be donated to Newcomers’ Christmas Families Project fundraiser in October. When the proposed change in our IRS recognition status is approved, your donations will be fully tax-deductible.

Activities

Groups that are able to connect via video conference (Zoom, Skype, Facetime, etc.) are encouraged to do so. The social contact lifts spirits even if your regular activity can’t be done!

Interested in Bridge? The Bridge Group would like to start a new group. The names of any new members, who indicated on the new member information sheet that they are interested in Bridge, have been given to Ruth. Other interested players may also contact her directly. They will proceed with forming a new group once the isolation order is modified or lifted. Contact the Bridge Club coordinator for more information.

Please note: Flyers for each group will be available at the monthly luncheons once they resume. These provide more detailed information about the groups including when they meet and all contact information.

If you have any questions, ideas or are interested in forming a new group, please contact the Activities Coordinator.

Sunshine

If you know of anyone in need of a comfort or condolence card or contact from the Newcomers Club, please contact either of the Secretaries.

Membership

E-Mail Changes, Membership Questions: If you know someone who would be interested in joining Newcomers, contact our Membership chair, (newcomersnc@gmail.com), or direct her to our website, NewcomersNC.org, where she can find and print a Membership application.

Information about Proposed Changes to Club Structure:

Newcomers of Nevada County was originally established in 1954 and registered as a social club in 2004. Monthly luncheon meetings were held with interesting programs, and members developed activity groups. None of this will change if we change our IRS designation to a 501(c)(3) nonprofit charitable organization.

In 2002 Newcomers began our Christmas Families Project to assure that underprivileged children and their families could celebrate Christmas with age-appropriate gifts and practical gifts for their parents. This project has grown to the largest annual expenditure that we have. On average, it helps about 50 families and about 150 children.

In our quest to raise funds for the Christmas Families Project, donors and businesses often ask if we are a non-profit organization. This change will allow us to say “yes,” and all donations made to our club will be tax-deductible. Donations will be more desirable, thus supporting our fundraising efforts. This benefits not only the children, but individual donors and businesses as well.

We already file taxes on the same forms required of all 501(c) organizations – this will not change. Once we change our 501(c) status, we will be able to provide proof of donations to all donors that they can use for tax deductions.

The board has been talking about this change and working diligently for about a year. In order to move forward with this recommended change, we have to submit a long IRS application that requires that our Bylaws include our charitable purpose. Therefore, the board recommends that the amendments on the next page be adopted.

Amendments to our Bylaws require two readings. Since we did not hold our meeting in March, we missed an opportunity for the first reading of the proposed amendments. Therefore, we used the April newsletter distribution of the proposed amendments as the “first reading.”

We are including the proposed amendment again in this May newsletter and consider it to be the “second reading.” If no objections are raised, we will be able to consider them adopted.

Please call me if you have any questions. I am pleased to discuss the proposed amendments and process to convert from a 501(c)(7) to a 501(c)(3) with all members who want to discuss it. We think that you will agree that it is timely, reflects what we are already doing, and will garner benefits to all donors. In the end, it will help us work together to bring a special Christmas experience to the underprivileged children and their families.

~Newcomers' President

Newcomers Proposed Bylaws Amendments (related to change in status to 501(c)(3)):

Article II Purpose –

The purpose of this organization shall be as stated in its Articles of Incorporation to welcome and bring together women who reside in Nevada County and to stimulate their interest in social activities.

Proposed amendment:

Add at end – engage members and the general public for the charitable purpose of providing gifts and support for underprivileged children and their families in collaboration with other public charities.

Article III – Policies

This organization is a tax-exempt social club and shall be nonprofit, nonsectarian and nonpolitical in all of its policies and activities. It is organized exclusively within the meaning of Section 501(c)(7) of the Internal Revenue Code. The organization shall sponsor special interest groups, each having its own chair and rules, which are in accordance with the laws and policies of the Newcomers Club.

Proposed amendment:

This organization is a nonprofit, nonsectarian and nonpolitical public benefit charitable organization. It is organized exclusively within the meaning of Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code. The organization shall encourage member participation in the activities in accordance with the laws and policies of the Newcomers Club and engage club members and the general public in support of underprivileged children and their families.

B. Appointive Standing Committees (*Move Christmas Families Project Chair from Standing Rules Special Events Chairs to the Appointive Standing Committees*)

Add Christmas Families Project Chair as the first one

Article VIII Elected Officers, Appointive Committees and Duties

B. Appointive Standing Committees

Section 1 – Christmas Families Project Chair

The Christmas Families Project Chair shall manage the club's major charitable project involving club members, the general public and community at large, to coordinate and advance services and support for the annual Christmas gifts for underprivileged children and their families.

Renumber all other Standing Committees

Proposed Amendment to the Standing Rules

Board of Directors

Special Events Chairs – *remove Christmas Families Project and insert under Article VIII,*

B. Section 1 Appointive Standing Committees

Board Job Descriptions – *Remove Christmas Families Project from the line Special Events Chair because it has been given higher stature by adding it to the Bylaws*

Newcomers Club - Revised Annual Membership Renewal Form

Dues are for the period September 1, 2020 - August 31, 2021

As soon as possible, please mail this form and your **\$25 check** payable to **Newcomers Club** to
Membership Chair, PO Box 253, 17748 Lower Colfax Road, Chicago Park, CA 95712
or bring this form with your check to the next luncheon meeting.

We are not changing our normal club format but have applied to the IRS as a non-profit charitable organization making all donations tax-deductible. We encourage you to make a donation for the Christmas Families Project in addition to your dues - ___\$25___\$50___other.

If you have any questions, please contact Membership Chair at newcomersnc@gmail.com
To be listed in the Roster, we need to **receive your check by July 31.**

(Upon reaching the age of 90, a Lifetime Membership may be granted to a member in good standing who has had an ongoing membership in the Club for at least five years. Lifetime Membership waives payment of dues. To apply, contact Membership Chair.)

1) Name - Please Print:

(As you would like it to appear on your luncheon nametags and in the Roster)

2) If you'd like to have your Birthday (MM/DD) listed in the next Roster, enter it here:
(Your name and birthdate may also appear in the Newsletter near the month of your birthday.)

3) If you have a preferred phone number, list and circle it in Section 5. We'll make that phone number bold in the next Roster.

4) If your current Roster information is correct, check here and proceed to Section 6.

5) *If you have NEW information for the next Roster, please print the new information below.*

New Street Address: _____

New City: _____ *New Zip Code:* _____

New Home Phone: _____ *New Spouse's Name:* _____

New Cell Phone: _____ *(optional)(circle your preferred phone #)*

New Email Address: _____

(as it will be listed in the Roster)

6) You can deliver my Newsletters and Roster by e-mail. Yes No

You have my permission to include my information in our club's Roster and in the Newsletter.

Yes No

We post photos of our activities online, on our webpage, our Facebook page, and the Chamber of Commerce website. If you do not want your picture published publicly, you need to be proactive. If you do not wish to be photographed, it is your responsibility to notify the photographer when photos are being taken. If you do **not** do so, we will assume we have your permission to publish your photo.

Signature:

Date: