

**REDDING NEWCOMERS AND FRIENDS  
GENERAL MEETING  
ELKS LODGE, REDDING, CA  
Sept 27, 2021, 10am**

**President Freddie Martin** called the meeting to order and asked **Romona Bowling** to lead us in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2nd VP Linda Eyre** introduced the guest speaker, **Jason Wandro, Director of the Good News Rescue Mission**. Jason described his job as establishing relationships and finding resources. The Mission's compassionate care helps our local homeless, estimated to number 816, with everything from food, showers, and beds to drug recovery, resumes, and job interviews.

**1st VP Diane Silver** presented the new members in attendance. They were **Ethyl Hicks, Lori Johns, Bonita Gordon, Linda Huckabee, Fran Robertson, and Vicki Smith**.

**Treasurer Karen Coupe-Bonnett** reported that the current Checking account balance is \$9838.50 and the Savings account balance is \$6287.97 as of September 6th.

**Membership Chair Ruth Plato** reported that our membership has grown to 299.

**President Freddie Martin** reminded all to buy lunch tickets, sign-up for the birthday drawing, check out the book table, buy mystery prize tickets, and check out the community table during the break.

**ACTIVITIES**

**Winter Activity Chair Romona Bowling** announced that we have reserved the Riverside Playhouse for December 9th at 6:30. The play will be "It's A Wonderful Life", preceded by a dessert social hour with a no-host bar. Tickets are bargain priced at \$10.00 and will be on sale at the October General Meeting only. The event is open to spouses and friends. Parking is plentiful.

**Lynn Smith from Christmas Charities** announced that the event will be held at the Elks Club on Dec 13th beginning at 9:30. Everyone needs to bring a new unwrapped gift for the raffle tables. We will be collecting donations of new socks, hats and gloves

for children. **Co-Chair Adda Gripp** asked for volunteers to bake cookies that may be enjoyed throughout the morning. She also asked that we be respectful of one another during the resurge of the covid virus when selecting our cookies. Masks are appreciated. A special Holiday lunch will be served at a cost of \$10.00.

**1st VP Diane Silver** asked for Chairpersons to attend the **New Members Coffees**. She reminded all chairs that it is one of their duties to the club to attend periodically and to introduce themselves to prospective members.

**Sunshine Chair Sharon Chesnut** shared that in response to the cards of cheer and sympathy that are sent each month, she occasionally receives cards of thanks-for-thinking-of-me, reminding us that it's important to reach out to our members.

**Gerry Carroll** reminded all that **Why Cook Tonight?** activity will be at Nello's this month and at the New China 2 next month. She also made a plea for new activity chairpersons now that we are meeting again. Many activities have ceased to operate over the last year and a half.

**Luncheon Party Chair, Patty Suaret**, called for volunteers to host the luncheons in the new year.

**Our Book Exchange lady, Mabel Lythgoe**, apologized for being late with the books this morning, and promised she would bring them next month. As always, Mabel expressed her gratitude for being our book lady.

**Matinee and Critique Chair Arleen Hascall** asked for a show of hands to express interest in restarting this activity. It appeared that there will be enough interested members to restart the group in November on the 1st Thursday. Arlene also solicited a chairperson for **Mexican Train**, suggesting that it could possibly be held at Country Waffles where they could eat and then play. Also, Arlene mentioned that **Denise Phaneuf** would like to start a **Hand and Foot** group. Call Denise if interested.

**Community Event Chair Carol Shultz** gave us a comprehensive look at printed materials on the table this month and several personal recommendations for AAUW Home Tour, entertainment at the Axion Theater, and the dinner cruise on Lake Shasta.

**Mystery Prize Drawing** winners were **Annette Spitsen, Janet Duel, Pat Deem, Laurie Ramirez and Karen Coupe-Bonnett**. Thanks to **Connie Charles and Sandy Ceragioli** for the lovely prizes.

**President Freddie Martin** presented **Marty McFarland** with the Birthday Drawing prize, a gift card.

**Carol Whitney** stepped in as our **Storyteller** with a funny joke about a 5 year old's question about where babies come from.

The meeting was adjourned by President Freddie Martin.

Respectfully submitted,

Jan Haskell, Secretary

