

## Redding Newcomers and Friends

March 26, 2026

### General Meeting Minutes

Meeting was called to order at 10:04 am by Andi Winters, President. Andi extended a welcome to all members present and asked members to silence cell phones and then thanked the members of Quilt N Friends for being the greeters for the meeting and for the wonderful “quilt parade” that followed. Andi led the group in reciting the flag salute.

Freddie Martin, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, introduced today’s speaker, Kelly Sepelyak from RABA. Kelly shared the following information regarding RABA: the cost for riding RABA in Redding is \$2.00 regular, \$1.00 for seniors, and veteran’s ride for free. Beginning on May 18, 2026, RABA Redding Connect will begin a run from Redding to Sacramento Airport (SAC) and Sacramento Amtrak station, with two (2) runs per day. Tickets cost \$22,00 each way and need to be purchased through Amtrak. Ride will originate at the downtown Redding terminal. RABA Rapid Response (which services Redding, Shasta Lake, Anderson) will pick you up from your home and take you to various places (called point-to-point) for a fee of \$4.00 per ride, which includes you and 1 person to ride with you. You need to fill out a three (3) page application and complete an in-house assessment in order to utilize this service. Rides can be booked up to 14 days in advance. RABA Trolley, of which there are two (2), is used around Redding only, and does not go on the freeway, nor is it available for hire. RABA Seasonal Beach Bus goes from downtown Redding to Whiskeytown Lake from May – September for a cost of \$2.00 for two (2) hours. All RABA vehicles are equipped with storage for mobility devices (scooters, wheelchairs, etc) and run from 6:20 AM to 7:20 PM. All this and more information can be found on the RABA Facebook page.

Andi Winters welcomed non-member guests and asked that they stand and introduce themselves to the group, which they did. They were also invited to stay after the general meeting for a short “informational meeting” for prospective/new members. She reminded members about the Red Apple and cookies for sale that benefit our scholarship fund.

#### Reports:

President – Andi Winters informed the group about new structure of the Executive Board: Mickey Martin is now the 1<sup>st</sup> VP, Trish Sakata is now the Secretary, and Elizabeth Sherman is now the Parliamentarian. No other positions are open at this time.

She then shared that there is an informational article in the Enjoy magazine and encouraged members to pick up a copy and share with their friends.

Secretary – Trish Sakata informed the group that both the Board Meeting Minutes and General Meeting Minutes for February have been posted to the website if anyone is interested in reading them.

1<sup>st</sup> VP – Mickey Martin had no report at this time.

Treasurer – Tammy Douse informed the members that there is a form to remit for request for reimbursement and deposits that is now posted on the website. You will need to print it out and submit to her. She reported that the expenses for February were \$1608.26, deposits were \$3242.05, and the scholarship account balance is \$2259.07.

Membership – Trish Sakata, in leu of Patti Susini, reported that the current membership is 255. Dues for the upcoming year will be due at the end of May, please remember to pay before the due date.

Parliamentarian – Elizabeth Sherman reminded members of the upcoming Summer Celebration which will be held on June 25, 2026, at the Gia Hotel & Spa. Tickets will be for sale at the April Meeting.

Scholarships – Sharon Salpas reminded members that application for scholarships are due April 1<sup>st</sup>.

Activities – Vicki Burrows, Chairperson, shared that there are “activity tents” on each table to highlight activities which give a brief description of an activity. She thanked the members from Quilt N Friends for the “quilt parade” and stated that two (2) members will be available during the break to ask any questions one might have about the activity. Hikers Group, a new activity, will begin in March. Arlene informed the group that Ladies Only Dine Out will be held at Pete’s this month. Marsha informed the group that the Hikers Group will meet at the McConnel Foundation Grounds located at 610 Amando Ave at 8:30 am for an easy hike. Hike trail is paved and no dogs are allowed. Hiking Group will take place on the last Friday of each month. Mexican Train will now be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month, please RSVP to Brenda Wagner. Sandy Cain reported that the Creative You group will be going to the Cascade Theatre on March 18<sup>th</sup> for a sing-along to Grease. Red Thumb will be meeting at Sandy’s house to make a trivet out of wine corks. Peggy shared that the Why Cook Tonight? group will be going to Thai House in April, and to CR Gibbs in May. Val shared that the Simply Delish & Nutrish will be making bread using almond flour this month. Sue reported that so far, a total of 142 tickets have been sold for the upcoming Fashion Show and the last day for tickets to be purchased is April 10<sup>th</sup>. There will be drawing for prizes during the fashion show. Doors will open at 10:30 AM.

Community Table – Louise Wilson shared information regarding activities/events happening now or coming soon in the Redding Area. Highlights include Turtle Bay trolley; Old Time Fiddlers group in Cottonwood on the 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Sundays of each month from 1-3:00PM.

Give Every Child a Chance – Joyce Menta stated Exodus Farms received \$585.00 plus a variety of snacks from today's collection.

Welcome Mat – Ramona Bowling reminded members that the information for the May Welcome Mat is due on April 6<sup>th</sup>,

Website – Carol Skill asked members that seem to not be receiving Newcomer's mail to check their junk email folders for incoming mail.

Sunshine – Sharon Chestnut stated that all information for Sunshine for March will be in the April Welcome Mat.

October Event – Gerri Smith shared that she is currently beginning to organize an event with a "Mulan Rouge" theme to be held at the Gold Hills Country Club. More information to come.

Miscellaneous - Members who celebrate a birthday in March were acknowledged. Sharon Sparks held the drawings for the Mystery Prize.

Andi announced that the next Board Meeting will be held on April 21, 2026, at the home of Sharon Roberts and that no General Meeting will be held in April as we will be having the Fashion Show.

Louise read a short story, and the meeting was adjourned at 11:26 AM.