

# Sierra Madre Civic Club Newsletter



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FEBRUARY 2019

## President's Message

### HAPPY BIRTHDAY, CIVIC CLUB!



Imagine—75 years of promoting unity and good fellowship, striving toward civic, philanthropic and youth welfare advancement. Does this sound familiar? Of course it does as it is our

Bylaw, Article II.PURPOSE. Our Founding Members were visionaries.....and today, 75 years later, we continue paying this vision forward with our many and varied activities.

The Christmas trees are down, the holiday dishes and decorations are stored and we have happily enjoyed the cool weather and rain. All the

chairs were filled for a cheerful, very well attended January Social and General Meeting. Bylaw revisions were passed and our attentions and efforts quickly turned to focus on the exciting activities we have in store for Spring 2019. Please read the Newsletter and attachments carefully and mark your calendars as there are important deadlines for all of the activities.



I hope to see you at some of the planning meetings—Ways and Means for Casino Night, Education, Philanthropy, Huck Finn, Wistaria Festival, our special Birthday event in February. Give the chairman a call if you have time to participate—It is the reason that we belong to Civic Club. Participating is fun, interesting and, to paraphrase what was written 75 years ago, “promotes unity and good fellowship”....

—Marcia Bent

### 1<sup>ST</sup> VICE PRESIDENT, DEAN OF CHAIRS

The Year of the Pig (Boar) is off to a wild, busy start. We celebrated this special Lunar New Year with amazing decorations and treats at our January meeting as we heard about ALL that is on our calendars for February and March.

Committees reported and passed clipboards: Huck Finn, Wistaria. Educational Awards and Philanthropy reported and have meetings planned. Heidi Hartman once again had clothing ideas, and the Birthday committee is busily planning a particularly special and festive celebration for the 75<sup>th</sup> birthday of Club. The opportunities for members to volunteer and get

involved increase exponentially. And, Club is all about having fun volunteering. Joining committees, whether in a leadership role or support role, is the opportunity to spend time with other members, get to know them, and benefit from their friendship and support. Club is a busy organization that does so much for the community and the residents. But, on another level, Club is about good, kind, thoughtful hard working ladies who take care of each other and are there to support each other through the good, the bad, and the ugly. How lucky are we to be part of such a group!

—Jeanne Martin

## 2<sup>ND</sup> VICE PRESIDENT, WAYS AND MEANS

This is our birthday month and there is a lot to celebrate. Here is what's happening with Ways and Means:

**Eat-Outs** – Feliz Cumpleaños – **SAVE THE DATE** – Tuesday, February 19, at Paco's Restaurant in Arcadia. 10% of all dine-in and take-out proceeds between 3 p.m. – 9 p.m. will be donated back to Civic Club. Watch your email for a special e-blast with the event flyer attached and make sure to pick up a flyer at the February meeting. Food, Fun and Fundraising.... something we do well.

**Ralphs Rewards** – As I shared last month, we have raised over \$210 just by registering our Ralphs Rewards card online and then shopping. This is easy money so please take five minutes and go to **ralphs.com** and register your card (let me know if you need any help).

**Queen of Diamonds Casino Night** – This is the main event and we need all of Club's support to make this a successful fundraising event (the more we raise the more we can give away). How can you help?

Each club member in good standing is asked to do the following:

- (1) Purchase at least one ticket (more are available for family and friends) and pay a \$20 food assessment. Tickets and assessments can be accomplished via the form in this month's newsletter. If you have questions please ask Jane Zamanzadeh and remember that the majority of our money raised is not just by members buying their tickets but coming to the event and supporting the fundraising activities (Opportunity Drawing tickets, the Money Hat and playing the casino games).

**Your food committee chair would like you to know the following:** Everyone is required to pay the \$20 assessment, but after that is paid, if anyone has a dessert or appetizer that they feel would be good for the event, they can either share the recipe with the committee or make it for the event and be reimbursed for the cost. The committee needs to know in advance so they can plan, budget and fill any gaps. The \$20 assessment will be used to cover the food, nonalcoholic drinks (coffee, water and punch) and paper goods. Thank you from committee members Janet Gillespie, Carol Cerrina, Jeanne Martin, and Mary Bowser.

- (2) Purchase or donate money for the Opportunity Drawing. These items will become the prizes that

can be won by playing the casino games as well as by purchasing additional opportunity drawing tickets. Think of this as the coin bucket at the luncheons – instead of throwing in dollars and quarters you will purchase or play for Opportunity Drawing tickets and place them in the container for the item(s) you want to win the most. Special note: winner does not need to be present but your ticket must be. At last year's luncheon I tallied the bid amounts for every item and it was over \$53. So if you are not a card or dice player, feel free to purchase at least \$53 dollars worth of tickets and maybe you will go home with that flat screen TV this year (Right, Pat Alcorn)? Please contact Colleen McKernan or Marcia Bent for ideas on what big ticket item might be needed or to donate cash....they are happy to do the shopping!

- (3) Sign-up to work a shift the night of the event. The clipboard went around the room at the January meeting and will make another appearance at the February meeting. After that we will be sending out e-blasts and making phone calls to fill in the blank spots. Some shifts are one hour and some are for 30 minutes – your help is needed but we also want you to be enjoying the evening with your guests.

What is a fundraising evening without a Money Hat? This is always a fun way to raise additional dollars – one lucky ticket will be chosen and the winner goes home with a great hat (created by Susan Gallagher and Nancy Dorn) displaying \$250 in cash. Winner need not be present but the winning ticket must be.

Along with the great appetizers and desserts, Club's favorite cocktail girls, Judy Webb-Martin and Jan Greteman, will be setting up a cash bar where you will be able to purchase the perfect gin and tonic or a diet coke spritzer (lime included). A variety of alcohol, soda, beer and wine will be available to help you enjoy the evening.

The planning committee will be meeting the second Tuesday of each month leading up to the event, with our next meeting on February 12, 7 p.m, at Carol Cerrina's home.

The enclosed event flyers can be used to assist you with inviting family and friends to join you on the 23rd. Please remember, I am here to answer any of your questions or concerns so e-mail me at [susano355@verizon.net](mailto:susano355@verizon.net) and we can make this event fun and successful together!

—Susan Clifton

## A Message From the Queen

My Dear Loyal Subjects:



As you know, I have decreed that on March 23, Casino Night will be held as a day of commemoration of Civic Club's 75th anniversary. Let it be

known that on this joyous night, subjects from far and wide will convene to participate in games deemed by me to be fun and productive in swelling the coffers of Civic Club. I have heard that some subjects, however, are unfamiliar with the games of Poker, Black Jack, Craps, and Roulette. I hereby request that all subjects consider checking out these informative sites in order to maximize the fun and profits:

<https://www.caesars.com/casino-gaming-blog/latest-posts/table-games>

Videos on this site from Caesars explain the basics of several casino table games.

<https://www.gamblingsites.com/online-casino/games/roulette/>

For those who prefer reading about the various games, this site provides information about how to play a variety of table games and includes other information, such as etiquette.

If none of these meet your fancy, google the game you're interested in and add video if you'd like to see play in action. There is no scarcity of videos available but finding one that is both informative and entertaining enough to satisfy the Royal standards can be challenging.

I hear that some of you had a great time learning the games at Nancy Beckham's two Friday nights Bravo, loyal subjects! Information about any future gatherings will be announced at the February meeting.

Let the games begin!



## WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEES REPORTS

### CONFETTI EGGS

"Save yur eggs" were words printed on a small whisk with a Humpty Dumpty handle given to new Club members several years ago. Every time I use that cute little whisk, I think of that fun dinner that made saving egg shells one of Civic Club's most important events for members to remember.

We're half-way through the year, only six months left to "Save yur eggs" for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Confetti Egg Sale. It's painless, and even satisfying to be able to bring a couple of dozen eggs to a meeting once a month. You can do it. Just think, if only 50 active members saved one or two dozen eggs a month, we could make our goal and then some. If you don't eat eggs, ask a neighbor, your children, or another relative to help the cause.

Remember "Save yur eggs" for Civic Club.

—Pat Alcorn

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### 3RD VICE PRESIDENTS, MEMBERSHIP

A lively All Member Social was held before the General Meeting last month. It was well-attended and boisterous. Between the animated banter and delicious refreshments, it is quite likely more than one New Year's resolutions were broken. Heartfelt thanks to lead hostess Joan Crow and her crew and facilities coordinator Shannon Vandeveld for making the Social possible.

During the January General meeting, Donna Madsen was installed as our first new member of 2019. She was sponsored by her cousin Colleen McKernan.

Donna has lived in the vicinity of the San Gabriel Valley her whole life and is part of a large extended family in the area, many of whom lived in Sierra Madre. Donna herself has lived in Sierra Madre off and on over the years and recently became a resident again when she bought a condo on Montecito.

Donna has one adult son. They have a great relationship and Donna is understandably proud of him. Donna retired from AT&T about 10 years ago after 30 years of service. She then went to work for a women's intimate apparel company, but plans to retire (again) at the end of 2019. In addition, Donna loves to travel, cook, entertain, and read. Her favorite exercises are walking and yoga.

(cont. on p. 4)

Many of Donna's friends and family have been members of the Civic Club and she has attended many of our events over the years. She believes every person counts and sees membership as a way to understand and support the best interests of the community. Donna wants to participate in order to help provide these community services and be a part of a team with common goals. She looks forward to making contributions as a member of the Civic Club. WELCOME, DONNA!

Please put the following contact information for Donna in your Rosters:

292 W. Montecito, #J Sierra Madre, CA 91024  
(626) 355-1519 (H) (818) 667-8936 (C)



*Photo: Birgitta Gerlinger*

## SMCC EDUCATION AWARDS

Education Awards of equal amounts will be given to no more than five graduating seniors who plan to attend a trade school or college. The budget amount is \$5000. To apply, students must live in Sierra Madre and/or work in Sierra Madre and/or attend school in Sierra Madre. A copy of the application is attached to this newsletter and is available on the SMCC website as well as at the Sierra Madre City Hall and Library. Posters can be found in store windows around town, and the counselors at 18 local high schools have received letters and applications to distribute at their schools. The deadline for receipt of all application materials is March 29. Please invite any high school seniors who qualify to apply! The Awards will be distributed at the May 9 General Meeting. Thanks.

—Sharon Lefler

## AMENITIES

With Jacque Persing's permission, I am requesting powerful prayers and healing thoughts for her as she underwent a mastectomy at Huntington Hospital on January 24. Jacque has been assisting husband, Gil, with his health difficulties for several months in spite of having her own difficulties walking. She was finally feeling comfortable enough regarding Gil's progress to schedule hip replacement surgery when it was discovered her breast cancer of 10 years ago had returned. With no time to waste, this surgery has taken priority and hip replacement surgery will be rescheduled for later. Please keep Jacque in mind during these challenging times. I will continue with reports and remind her she has a network of women to rely on for what ever her future needs.

Christine Soldate's hip replacement surgery was postponed because of her Nickel and Titanium allergy. A solution to this problem is being researched.

While Club was celebrating its first meeting of the year January 10, I was in hospital having a kidney stone the size of an egg (kidding!) surgically removed! My personal Uber driver, Anita Thompson, picked me up the next morning. I heal quickly and am fine.

—Marlene Enmark

## PHILANTHROPY

It is once again time to consider philanthropy and who will receive what. The committee is requesting only one application for each non-profit be submitted this year.

### CRITERIA FOR FUNDING

1. The 'not for profit' organization MUST provide services that are easily accessible, and that are of benefit to the adult and/or youth population of Sierra Madre.
2. The organization's funding goes to support the preservation of Sierra Madre historical landmarks and treasures.

The application must be returned by March 1, 2019. NO EXCEPTIONS.

All important information can be found on the application. You may return applications via email [dtaxler2000@gmail.com](mailto:dtaxler2000@gmail.com). They may also be delivered or mailed to me—Darlene Traxler, 646 W. Highland Ave., Sierra Madre.

—Darlene Traxler

## WISTARIA DAY

The Sierra Madre Civic Club has been responsible for the gracious docents at the annual Wistaria Day

public viewing of the vine for as long as anyone can remember.

Once again the members have stepped up to be the ambassadors of hospitality for the March 17th event. At this time, however, we still require additional volunteers for the 1-3 and 3-5 time slots. Please check your calendar to see if you can donate two hours on the afternoon of March 17.



There will be an orientation for docents in March. You will be notified of the time and date as soon as that is determined. The orientation will be at the Vine,

entering from 535 North Hermosa. If you are a first time volunteer or would like a refresher course this is the place to have your questions answered. I strongly encourage this the first time you to attend.

There will be bus transportation on March 17 to the vine starting at Creative Arts on Baldwin. Docents will use their identification badges for complimentary transportation. Please Identify yourself as a docent to go to the head of the bus line.

If you wish to become a docent please call me at home 626-355-8941 or email me at

[maryloucaldwell59@gmail.com](mailto:maryloucaldwell59@gmail.com)

—Mary Lou Caldwell

*Happy Birthday to Us!*



*Help celebrate Civic Club's  
75th Birthday  
at the February meeting.*

*The Birthday Committee  
has planned  
a fun meeting with  
surprises you won't  
want to miss.*

*See you there!*



Sierra Madre  
Playhouse

**SAVE THE DATE:**

Sunday, March 10, 2019  
2:30 matinee

***Tuesdays With Morrie***

Please call 355-4318  
to reserve your seat(s)

Dinner following the play  
at Nano's Cafe

## FOOD FOR THOUGHT—INSPIRATIONAL

### NEW YEAR PONDERINGS

Every New Year brings a chance to mark the passage of time, reflect on the past, and embrace the future. Some of us celebrate the occasion by partying into the wee hours of the morning; others struggle to stay awake to watch the clock hands move past twelve. We make resolutions, only to break them; we promise to do better, try harder, be better, but oftentimes fall short as life gets in the way. Let's start the New Year with a few chuckles!

“New Year’s Day now is the accepted time to make your regular annual good resolutions. Next week you can begin paving hell with them as usual.” —Mark Twain

“Youth is when you're allowed to stay up late on New Year’s Eve. Middle age is when you’re forced to.” —Bill Vaughn

“An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves.” —Bill Vaughn

“Last year's resolution was to lose 20 pounds by Christmas. Only 30 pounds to go.” —Bill Vaughn

**Health and Happiness to you all!**

## February Calendar

7	Thu.	7 p.m.	Board Meeting at Jane Zamanzadeh’s
12	Tue.	7 p.m.	Casino Night Planning Committee at Carol Cerrina’s
14	Thu.	7:30 p.m.	Diamond Anniversary Birthday Meeting at Senior Center
19	Tue.	3–9 p.m.	Eat-Out at Paco’s
20	Weds.		Newsletter Deadline



## February Birthdays

2/2	Marian DeMars
2/20	Janet Gillespie
2/27	Sharon Lefler
2/27	Vickie Vernon



The Sierra Madre Civic Club Newsletter is published monthly.

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