

Sierra Madre Civic Club Newsletter



VOLUME 58, ISSUE 5

MAY 2019

President's Message



It has been a wonderful Spring full of activities. Our April general meeting was such a happy evening orchestrated by our dynamic, energetic,

enthusiastic Third Vice Presidents Mary Higgins and Jane Zamanzadeh. They began the festivities with our final "Social" of the year and by 7:30 p.m. every chair was occupied. We warmly welcomed three new members: Diane Hatfield, Wendy Senour and Jenny Haag into Civic Club. Jane then read a lovely tribute to Judy Zaretska, long time member and Past President, honoring her with Life Membership. Although Judy moved to the Central Coast 14 years ago she has remained in close contact with members,

supported our fundraising events and often attended our Birthday Celebrations in February. This year weather prohibited her making the trip in February but, happily for all, Judy joined us in April!

The slate of Officers for the 2019–2020 Civic Club year was presented for election by Nominating Committee Chair Kathleen Coyne. A unanimous vote for the election of the slate followed! Thank you to Parliamentarian Bonnie Diener, committee members Kathleen Coyne, Linda Heller and Meegan Tosh and our new Board Members who said "YES!"

And again, thank you to Mary, Jane and all others who made this evening a great success.

May your gardens flourish as you water deeply and carefully,

—Marcia Bent

Judy Zaretska Named Honorary Life Member

While introducing a new member is one of my favorite activities as 3rd Vice President, sometimes it's also fun to highlight one of our long-time members.

This person has been a member for over 35 years. She joined Civic Club in 1983 at a time when Sierra Madre had a reclamation center and Club was committed to staffing the center for an entire month. Soon after she joined, she took on the daunting task of finding volunteers to fulfill Club's obligation, a job she took on a second year as well. She served as Property Manager for four Club years. This was before we had a storage unit so I imagine it was quite an organizational task to keep track of what Civic Club property was in whose

garage or spare room closet or car trunk. She also served a year as President's Aide.

This member also served on Club's Board for many terms. She was Parliamentarian for one year, Treasurer for two years, First Vice President for a year, and President for two years.

Even after marrying and moving nearly 200 miles away, she still managed to come to and support our luncheon fundraisers and to join us for our Birthday Meetings. And so, because of her dedication and service to Club, it is my privilege and pleasure to introduce Sierra Madre Civic Club's newest honorary life member, Judy Young Zaretska.

—Jane Zamanzadeh



1ST VICE PRESIDENT, DEAN OF CHAIRS

The excitement in Club never slows down. At one time, my “calendar” was based on holidays! Now my calendar is based on Club activities. We are just past the Huck Finn festivities! What total fun and what a learning experience! Susan Clifton, Jan Greteman, and their committee had wonderful experiences organized and available. This was my first time participating in this event! I did not get up close and personal with the trout, but I did do welcoming and checking in! Such fun listening to families remembering all the years of participation! I was particularly awed by the young people who have been participating for years and years.

Of course, there were many Civic Club volunteers! Club activities are all important, but most important to me are the times to visit, bond, spend time with other club members! That is truly the joy of Club. And, much can be learned about Sierra Madre! I now know where the Float barn is located, the dog park, walking and hiking trails, and the ponds where the trout are deposited!

Now it is time to prepare for the Mount Wilson Trail Race. This event brings participants from all over and

it's another time Civic Club members support and work the event that brings so much fun to so many. Sign up sheets and clipboards will be passed at the May meeting. You may also e-mail Heidi Hartman.

And, a reminder to all Committee Chairs—the end of the 2018–2019 year is coming up. Reports are due to Maggie Ellis; sending them as an attachment is the most convenient. I am collecting notebooks to make the transition to your new Dean of Chairs as easy and seamless as possible. I am not yet ready to say goodbye to my 1st Vice President position. As I have said before, many times, I hope—I have loved having this position and will miss the involvement.

Hope everyone is enjoying spring holidays and special occasions; there are many in our personal lives and many for Club: Educational Awards, Philanthropy announcements, Mt. Wilson Trail Race, and a new way of honoring the outgoing board and installing our slate for the 2019–2020 year!

—Jeanne Martin



2ND VICE PRESIDENT, WAYS AND MEANS

April showers bring May flowers what does May bring? The end of another great Club year and many thanks from me for all the support provided to Ways and Means this year. It has been a little bit of a different year for me and I appreciate everyone's understanding. As we transition Boards, here is what's happening:

Confetti Eggs—Carol Cerrina is working hard on this traditional club fundraiser but your help is needed. As you use eggs, please do your best to save the shells so on June 15 we can gather for the stuffing party. Eggs will be sold during the 4th of July celebration and this year's goal is 600 dozen eggs.... so it's time to get baking!

Ralphs Rewards—This is still the “easiest” money we can raise and we have doubled our participation this year earning us over \$300. So please take five minutes today to visit ralphs.com to sign-up or renew your participation. I am always happy to help if you have concerns on how to navigate their site.

Community Yard Sale—Saturday, June 1 is the big day and Ellen O'Leary is ready to receive your items.

She will also be passing around a clipboard at the May meeting asking for help to price and sell all the goodies. What a great way to spring clean and raise money for club. Books and clothing are not encouraged....the library and Wistaria Shop welcome those items.

Queen of Diamonds Casino Night—Thank you again for all the support for putting this fun evening together. At the wrap-up meeting we learned from our treasurer that the night raised \$10,200 (profit) which will be added to the philanthropy pool for 2019.

Concert in the Park—Mark your calendar for Sunday, June 30, as we continue to celebrate our 75th Birthday with the sounds of *Decades of Rock* and free cake. Watch for a clipboard at the next meeting for ways you can sign-up to help.

Congratulations for another “fun”raising year and to Geri, who will be leading us for the 2019-2020 Club year.

—Susan Clifton

COMMITTEE REPORTS

REPORT WRITING

REPORTS ARE DUE!

Yep. Write those puppies up and have them ready in time for the May meeting. Remember how it goes? Three copies: one for your binder; one for the Reports Chair (that's me!); and one for your person in charge, which is the 1st VP for the regular chairs, the Ways & Means Chair for the money-raising chairs, and the President for the Board Members.

If you can't find your report form, e-mail me at MaggieEllis04@msn.com and I'll jet you one.

—Maggie Ellis



MT. WILSON TRAIL RACE

Hi ladies! May is coming and that means:

Mt. Wilson Trail Race! Here are the date and the volunteer opportunities available. Remember, the MWTR really can't run successfully without Civic Club's support.

Thurs., May 16, 9:30, City Hall basement:

Bag stuffing. Fast, fun, friendly!

Fri., May 24, Trail Race Pasta Dinner:

Servers, cashiers, souvenirs sales. We also need 2–3 dozen Rice Krispies treats per volunteer. These may be dropped off at Kersting Court by 4:00 on the 24th.

Sat., May 25, Mt. Wilson Trail Race Day!:

Volunteer positions are registration bag distribution, kids race, bagels and banana table, souvenirs table, and timing support.

Clipboards will be sent around at the next meeting so keep those days open and sign up! Thanks for all you do! Couldn't run this race without you all!

—Heidi Hartman

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE REPORTS

CONFETTI EGGS

EGGS, EGGS, WE NEED EGGS

Time
to get
cracking
and
stuffing!

July is almost here and we only have 300 dozen eggs stuffed, thanks to Mary Bickel. We need at least 250 dozen more. Pat Alcorn is now collecting the eggs.

Stuffing Party is June 15, 4 p.m. at the home of Karma Bell. There will be a pot luck dinner. A sign-up sheet will be circulated at the May meeting.

Thank you!

—Carol Cerrina

COMMUNITY YARD SALE

DONATIONS AND HELP NEEDED FOR OUR BOOTH AT THE SIERRA MADRE CITY YARD SALE!

The Civic Club will have a booth at the city yard sale again this year. The sale is on Saturday, June 1, and we are now collecting items for sale.

Please drop off yard sale donations at Ellen O’Leary’s house (you can just leave it on the back porch) by June 1. We’d rather not take too many books or clothes; however, we will take “special” clothes that are in good shape or have a vintage feel to them. And if you have some unique books, we’ll take those. Jewelry, toys, dishes, sports equipment, and furniture are usually quick to sell.

If you have something that you think we can get above-yard-sale prices for, please let us know since

we’ve had good luck selling some things on Craig’s List.

If you want to help set up or sell at the yard sale on June 1, please email Ellen at

plautoleary@roadrunner.com

and there will also be a clipboard at the May meeting. Shifts the day of the sale start at 6 a.m. with set up and end at noon.

Call or email Ellen or Chandy with any questions!

—Ellen O’Leary and Chandy Shair

3RD VICE PRESIDENTS, WAYS AND MEANS

You will find a membership renewal form attached to this month’s newsletter. A completed form and your annual dues are due by June 1, 2019. Please read Article IV, Section 2 of Civic Club’s Bylaws (back of your roster) to see your responsibilities regarding payment of dues. We will be following the bylaws as far as fees, due dates, and fines are concerned.

This month we were delighted to introduce three new members to Club. We know that Jennifer Haag, Diane Hatfield, and Wendy Senour will be wonderful additions and we welcome them with pleasure. We also had the privilege and honor to introduce Judy Young Zaretska as Civic Club’s newest honorary life member. Their introductions are on page 5.

We will be installing Club’s 2019–2020 officers during the May general meeting. Our plan is to start the general meeting at 7:00 p. m. and introduce this year’s Education Awards recipients as our first order of business. After the students have spoken, we will break briefly to enjoy light refreshments and to congratulate the young people. Following an abbreviated general meeting we will break for hearty hors d’oeuvres and desserts and conduct our Installation of Officers. As usual, the Installation will be a time to recognize and thank Club’s outgoing officers and to honor and support those who have taken on the leadership for the next Club year. We plan to make it a very festive occasion and encourage you to join us.

—Mary Higgins and Jane Zamanzadeh

WELCOME, NEW MEMBERS!

JENNIFER HAAG

Jennifer was born in Pasadena and raised in the area, mainly Duarte and San Dimas. But, in many ways, she is a child of Sierra Madre. Jennifer often accompanied her grandparents, Pat and De Alcorn, as they participated in numerous community events. She participated in the Huck Finn Derby, walked in the Fourth of July Parade with them and has even served as a “disaster victim” many times when the CERT teams are practicing for disasters. She has also been a regular at the Salad Luncheon in more recent years.

Jennifer has three children ages 19, 16 and 14. (Perhaps another generation of Civic Club members!) She has a degree in Human Services and is currently working at Arcadia Methodist Hospital.

Jennifer is excited about continuing the work of the Civic Club.

Jennifer Haag
741 E Grandview Ave.
626 347-1825
sweepta98@yahoo.com
Birthday: 9/17



WENDY SENOUR

Wendy was born in Lancaster where her father worked for JPL at Edwards AFB. When she was 10, he was transferred to the JPL office in Pasadena so the family (her parents, three brothers, and Wendy) moved south. She went to La Canada High School and then on to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. Wendy majored in child development with the intention of becoming a probation officer.

When Prop. 13 passed and she saw state jobs disappearing, Wendy obtained a teaching credential. She taught kindergarten and grades 1–4, but mostly stayed as a kindergarten teacher.

Wendy was divorced with an eight-year-old son when friends introduced her to Doug, who was also divorced and had a 12-year-old daughter. Despite their both being gun-shy about remarriage, the two fell in love. They married and their children, Patrick and Alicia, were essentially raised together. Alicia now lives in Atlanta with their two grandchildren and Wendy and Doug usually travel there three times a year to see them. In fact, they’re going back soon to celebrate their granddaughter’s first birthday.

Wendy likes to read, she likes flowers and they’re re-landscaping their back yard, and both she and her

husband love to travel. She says she’s a real beach lover.

Wendy retired last year and joined Civic Club because she loves Sierra Madre and now has more time to volunteer. She said that she and Doug had so much fun at Huck Finn Day. I was told that he helped the kids unhook the fish, but Wendy says he mostly talked with everyone. So it sounds as if we’re not only gaining an enthusiastic new member, but also a Friend of Civic Club as well.

Wendy Senour
24 Sierra Place
wendy.w.senour@gmail.com
626 429-9391
Spouse: Doug
Birthday: 4/30



DIANE HATFIELD

Diane was born and raised in Pasadena. She works with a local Real Estate Broker, Deasy, Penner & Podley. Diane met her husband, Bob, 24 years ago while taking two step lessons at a Woman’s Club. She knew Bob was a volunteer firefighter for Sierra Madre, so she was able to do a quick background check on him using an unimpeachable source, the mother of another Sierra Madre volunteer firefighter. Diane found out that, in addition to volunteering with the fire department, Bob was the son of a local business owner, Bob Hatfield of Arnolds Hardware. Not bad credentials! They were engaged 2 years later.

They love to ski, hike and backpack throughout the Sierras, and have lived on and off in Sierra Madre during their 22 years of marriage. Diane feels fortunate to have been able to move back here four years ago after selling their home in Duarte.

Diane has one son from a previous marriage, and he has blessed them with two wonderful grandchildren, Tyler age 15 and Mason age three. He is married to his wonderful wife, Jennifer.

Diane is a past member of Civic Club and served as Treasurer and Co-Chaired Ways and Means with Susan Clifton. She is excited to be returning to Club and is looking forward to giving back to this wonderful community we get to call Home.

Diane Hatfield
599 Camillo Rd., Sierra Madre
626 833-3171
dianehatfield1997@gmail.com
Spouse: Bobby
Birthday: 6/23



THE DIAMOND ANNIVERSARY OF SIERRA MADRE CIVIC CLUB

At our February Birthday Meeting, Club celebrated its 75th Anniversary with a slide show depicting memories of events and Past Presidents. Judy Webb-Martin, Birthday Meeting Chair, did the research, Ellen O'Leary created the slide show, and Fran Syverson wrote a delightful history that many people expressed an interested in having. Here it is! Enjoy—and learn—about our wonderful past.

We think of the 75th Anniversary of the Sierra Madre Civic Club as a gold-and-diamond occasion. Gold because of all the things we members have done to embellish our community, so we are worth our weight in gold. Diamond because of the brilliant sparkle with which we have always done it.

It is sad to know that some of the ladies who started our club so long ago are no longer with us—but alas! that happens when you get to be 75. And it's fun to believe that all those who have joined us in ensuing decades are dedicated, loving, and creative ladies to carry on the traditions of our Club and to adapt to the changing times.

Why don't we take a look at our activities and interests through the years, and see how much they have changed. Things we've started, things we've dropped, and the things which always been with us: Our caring for each other and for our community.

Sierra Madre Civic Club was founded in 1944. One of our first endeavors was to build the Toy Loan building near the Hart House. Here children could choose a toy to take home for a week, then return it and choose another. In the 40's we held vaudeville shows, as well as fashion shows and teas, all to help raise money for the Plunge. For our Installation Dinner at local restaurants we had our very own fashion show, wearing long formal dresses. How elegant!

The 50's found us helping the March of Dimes campaign by dropping off its envelopes at homes. We launched the Halloween window painting contest. And funds raised from our Salad Luncheons, sometimes themed "Spring Tonic", were given to the Sierra Madre Search and Rescue team.

In the 60's we tore down the Toy Loan building as it had outlived its purpose, and we also had lost the toy librarian's funding from the Community Chest Organization. In its place we built the Pergola, working with many other groups in town. In one money-raising event, bowlers among us vied for the prize ham in our appropriately titled Easter Ham Shoot. To spend our money, we helped build the Fountain in Kersting Court, gave 100 bushes to Memorial Park, and donated to the Library.

Oh, what we did in the 70's! We held garden tours, card parties, and rummage sales. We kidnapped and jailed business leaders until they paid our fine (a donation to Club, really.) A new venture was YES—the Youth Employment Service, in which young people were paired with older residents to offer such needed services as lawn mowing, window washing, or errand running. Our Haunted

House was held in the City Hall basement, and later in the Recreation Center bathrooms. With the Woman's Club, we helped refurbish Essick House and donated to Bailey Canyon. We garnered awards from the California Federation of Woman's Clubs, often walking off with first place in our report writing, and sweepstakes for Community Service.

Despite those awards, in the 80's we cut our affiliation with the Federation--brash, independent young women that we were! Our Salad Luncheons and Fashion Shows continued in either St. Rita's Hall or at La Salle High School. We were in the 4th of July Parade and afterwards ran the Games in the Park. And we held Luaus. Three new concepts promoted personal connections among members: Get-Acquainted parties, Secret Pals, and the Civic Club Newsletter.

With the 90's came new opportunities to help our community. We helped staff the Blood Bank, and were soon renowned for our excellent snacks for the donors. We were involved with the town's Pioneer Days. The beautification of the City Hall entrance, varying with the seasons, was a new project which continues even now.

We solicited grocery stores and restaurants to give us a percentage of the day's take to augment our earnings. Of course, eating at the restaurants meant having a delightful social time together too—as do our concerts in the Park (one of which we sponsor), Sierra Madre Playhouse and dinner, 4th of July egg stuffing, and Christmas Parties. We have sometimes deviated from our Chinese Luncheon and Auction to hold Casino Nights as our main fundraiser. For Halloween in the 2000's, window painting and the new Scarecrow contest throughout the town enliven our late fall days.

And from all endeavors from which we make money, our primary goal is to fund worthwhile projects to make Sierra Madre the wonderful Village Town in which we so lucky to live. But just as important is to work and play together, to support each other in our joys and sorrows, to become friends in the true sense of the word.

This is a quick run-through of Civic Club's 75-year past history. What we must remember is that we are on the brink of the future years of history. What will be written about all the hard and loving work we will be doing in the years to come? What will be the theme of our 100th Anniversary?

April Meeting Highlights

A pre-meeting social, installation of three new members, election of the 2019–2020 slate of officers, and the naming of Judy Zaretska as Honorary Life Member helped make the April meeting a very special and busy event!



Shown having a good time are—Top row: Susan Clifton and new member Diane Hatfield; New member Wendy Senour and Luciana Rosenzweig; Pat Alcorn and new member Jennifer Haag, Pat's granddaughter. Middle Row: New Honorary Life Member Judy Zaretska and Jean Coleman; Jane Zamanzadeh and Fran Syverson; Judie Cimino and Sharon Lefler. Bottom row: Heather Sheets, Virginia Mullaney, Pat Krok, Ellen O'Leary with Mary Bickel and Chandy Shair in the background. Bottom row: Jennifer Haag, Mary Higgins, and Wendy Senour.

More April Meeting Highlights



Hostessing Committee members created a cheerful Springtime theme to accompany the delicious food and enthusiastic socializing that preceded the business meeting.



Photos: Birgitta Gerlinger

May Calendar

| | | | |
|----|-------|-----------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 2 | Thu. | 7 p.m. | Board Meeting at Sharon Murphy's |
| 9 | Thu. | 7:00 p.m. | General Meeting at Senior Center  Note meeting time! |
| | | | Presentation of Education Awards and Installation of Officers |
| 15 | Weds. | | Newsletter Deadline |
| 16 | Thu. | 6:30 p.m. | Bag Stuffing at City Hall Basement |
| 24 | Fri. | 4:30 p.m. | Pasta Feed |
| 25 | Sat. | | Mt. Wilson Trail Race |

Save the date: June 11, City Hall, Philanthropy Presentation

May Birthdays

| | | | |
|------|--------------------|------|--------------------|
| 5/6 | Debra Plummer | 5/17 | Marian Woodford |
| 5/11 | Birgitta Gerlinger | 5/17 | Luciana Rosenzweig |
| 5/13 | Jean Coleman | 5/19 | Linda Wochnik |
| 5/14 | Debbie Sheridan | 5/21 | Donna Mathisen |



The Sierra Madre Civic Club Newsletter is published monthly.

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sierramadrecivicclub.org (website) <https://www.facebook.com/sierramadrecivicclub>