



The & Vine

Sierra Madre Woman's Club July-August 2010

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The House Mouse

News and Notes from Essick House



I was so proud of the club as I watched **President Ten Eyck** present scholarships to three deserving high school seniors at the May 12 meeting. Did you know it was Philanthropy Chairman **Marilyn McKernan** who came up with the idea? Once the Board gave its permission, **Marilyn** contacted other organizations to see how each handled its scholarship programs, designed the guidelines and forms, contacted the local schools, delivered the forms, called to remind the counselors and students, collected the applications, had them evaluated, and contacted the winners. It sure takes a lot of work to give away money! **Marilyn** made sure the three recipients were not only well qualified, but deserving, too. Just listening to the classes and activities in which those youngsters are involved made me tired! The pictures of the scholarship winners were on the front page of **Susan Henderson's** Mountain Views News.



Front row: *Filomena Pirrone, Tracy Sullivan, Sheila Palazzolo accepting the scholarship for daughter Deanna, Philanthropy Chair Marilyn McKernan, and Treasurer Betty Mackie.* Back row: *Filomena's counselor Allison Steppes, Filomena's mother, Tracy's mother, Filomena's father, President Janet Ten Eyck.*

What a disappointment that the June Games Tea was canceled because only 12 tickets were sold! Four-Star Tea Chef **Jan O'Day** had already begun creating her very special treats. I was looking forward to feasting on the crumbs from her delicious culinary delights. Guess I'll have to wait until the October Games Tea. Shall we come in our Halloween costumes?

I always wondered what was in those little envelopes **Lillias Eubanks** gives to **Dixie Coutant**. Well, I found out! She saves articles about the club and its members from the local papers so they can be added to the club scrapbooks for posterity.

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Club Calendar

Mon. July 5, 8 a.m. July 4th on the 5th! Pre-Parade Open House under the direction of Chairman **Mike Ruggles**. **Lillias Eubanks** will have the Essick House dressed up in red, white, and blue! Join us for a continental breakfast and patriotic sing along with **Eunice Banis** at the piano. To donate food or volunteer to help, please call **Mike**, 285-3010. Bring your chair and watch the parade from our shady parkway.

Sun. July 25, 5 p.m. Concert in the Park. Bring a picnic and a chair to Memorial Park and enjoy an evening of music with friends. Chair **Teresa Chauré** and her committee will be selling root beer floats. Be there at 4 p.m. to help set up and reserve your spot in the audience. To volunteer, please call **Teresa**, 993-5182.

- Save The Date -

Sat. Oct 23, 1-4 p.m. Games Tea. Enjoy **Jan O'Day's** delicious tea treats and play games of your choice. Reserve a table or a place for bridge, progressive rummy, or bunco. Tickets \$16 from **Snooky Greiger**, 355-0606. Tea treat donations to **Jan O'Day**, 355-1351. Costumes welcome!

District Doin's

Federation Liaison **Betty Mackie**: 355-9858

• **Sat. July 10 District Board Meeting and Leadership Seminar** at the El Monte Community Center, 3130 Tyler Ave.

Coffee and registration at 9 a.m. CFWC President will be the keynote speaker.

There are workshops planned for everyone including presidents, deans, secretaries, financial officers, parliamentarians, and chairmen. Bring a cold dish for the pot luck lunch. We'll be headed home by 1:30 p.m.

• **Fri. Sept 10 SGVD Board Meeting** Start the club year by meeting members of our neighboring clubs. Carpool leaves at 8:45.

Call **Betty Mackie**, 355-9858, for further information or reservations.

- The House Mouse continued -

Janet Ten Eyck, Rosemary Morabito, Betty Mackie, Karlene Englert, Phyllis Chapman and Dixie Coutant attended the June District Meeting and learned about the Ontario USO's United Reading Program. While soldiers are waiting at the airport, they have the opportunity to make a video tape of themselves giving a message to their family. The tapes give the family a vivid reminder of the loved one who is far away serving our country. Did you know the USO receives no governmental support? Also at the meeting, the club was presented an award for perfect District Board Meeting attendance for the year. **Betty Mackie** deserves credit for that because she announces the events, takes reservations, and always drives her cute little SUV for the carpool. District Public Relations Chairman **Dixie Coutant** won first place in the State competition for the second year in a row, and **Betty Mackie** won a 50/50 drawing! **Betty, Karlene, Rosemary, Dixie and Janet** also attended the June Board.

After many years as Rentals Chairman, **Martha Spriggs** has decided to retire. It's no surprise that it will take a committee to fill her shoes. **Annie Scalzo, Eva Poet, Genevieve Stubbs, and Betty Hansen** have volunteered for that duty. I also heard that **Active President Emeritus Lucile Flanders** asked to retire. Lucile will now be the club's Retired President Emeritus. The Board has appointed **Phyllis Bugh** Active President Emeritus.

In addition to all her work in the thrift shop, **Liz Levie** sings in the Sierra Madre Chorale. I hear its annual spring concert was lots of fun and the refreshments were delicious. As you read this, **Elma Flores** is hard at work preparing the club yearbook for printing, **Karlene Englert** is re-stocking the house kitchen, and **Phyllis Chapman** is looking for ladies interested in joining the club so she can invite them to the September Membership Tea. A big thank you to **Karlene** for getting rid of those pesky bees that had taken up residence in the house. They were so noisy that I couldn't hear myself think! **Dixie Coutant** collected two big bags of sample-sized personal care items and donated them in the club's name to the WINGS Shelter through the Domestic Violence Action Committee. She continues to collect gently used purses and new items to fill them including pens, small-sized Kleenex, mirrors, makeup, jewelry, personal care items and pre-paid phone cards. Why not see if you have items you are not using and donate them at the September meeting?

The Wistaria Shop is so empty! At the June Brown Bag Sale, the ladies sold everything and took in \$1,473. With everyone gone for summer, I invited my relatives to visit Essick House. They brought along the most handsome mouse I had ever seen. I knew right away that this very nice country mouse was the love of my life. He asked me to marry him and go live in a big, old barn on a ranch in the mountains. Of course, I said, "Yes!" I know I will miss all the wonderful ladies of the club, the interesting programs, delicious crumbs, fun gossip, and writing this column for *The Vine*, but I am so happy! I can hardly wait to see my new home and start a little family.

- Love and Best Wishes, the House Mouse

The Little Things

It's little things we do and say
That mean so much as we go our way.
A kindly deed can lift a load
from weary shoulders on the road.
A gentle word, like summer's rain,
May soothe some heart and banish pain.
What joy or sadness often springs
From just the simple, little things.

-Willa Moey

~ Wistaria Thrift Shop News ~

Open Mondays, Thursdays, Fridays, and the First, Third, and Fourth Saturdays of the month, September through June, 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

50% Off sales the last Thurs., Fri., and the following Mon. of the month.

2010-2011 Shop Calendar

Thurs, 9/2/10, Grand Re-opening

Thurs. 11/26/10 to Thurs., 12/2/10
Shop Closed for pre-sale set up

Fri. & Sat. 12/4 & 5, Holiday Sale
9 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Mon. 12/20/10 to 1/1/11 Winter Break

Mon. 1/3/11, Shop Re-opens

Mon. 2/28/11 to Thurs., 3/3/11
Shop Closed for pre-sale set up

Fri. & Sat. 3/4 & 5 Spring Sale

May Madness!

First & Second week of May, 25% OFF
Third & Fourth week of May, 50% OFF

Memorial Day Blowout

Mon. May 30, 2011, 75% Off

Brown Bag Sale

Sat. 6/4/11

For information about the schedule, or to volunteer at the shop contact Shop Chairman Elma Flores, 287-7339.

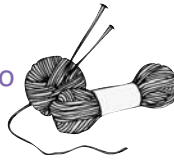


Pull Together Project

I'm looking forward to a box full of pull tabs at the September meeting as we all continue to collect the rings off of cans in support of Ronald McDonald House in Pasadena. If you haven't already, be sure to ask your friends, neighbors, and relatives to save their tabs for you. Remember to save the tabs from any cans that open with a ring including soft drinks, canned people and pet foods, and household products. I hope you are having a great summer and look forward to seeing you in September ~ Cathy Gunther, 796-9995

Chemo Cap Project

Another shipment of Chemo Caps is on its way to **Hat Box Across America** thanks to **Anne Tyler, Mary Cooper, Sue Watanabe, Snooky Greiger, Cathy Gunther, Mike Ruggles, and Jean Wood** who use their time, talent, and yarn to craft these lovely hats. I am so proud of the quality of Chemo Caps you ladies knit and crochet. There are two ladies who do not belong to our club who also make caps for us. A big Thank You goes to **Maxine Minowitz** and **Mary Hyde**. And, a special thank you to **Janet Swanson** who is responsible for bringing **Mary** into the project.



Since we have expanded our efforts, I suppose we should find a new name for our project. Let me know if you have any ideas.

The items we are making for the Veterans are called lapghans. These are small-sized afghans that can be used in a wheelchair. The size of a lapghan is approximately 3 feet by 4 feet. Although most will be given to men, they should be cheerful and bright. Patriotic red, white, and blue is always in style. Because these are used in wheelchairs, they should not have any fringe that can get caught in the wheels and should not have large holes that can catch on equipment. I found a few patterns for lapghans on the Internet, but you don't really need a pattern to make one. As for me, I still haven't learned how to read patterns, so I just chain stitched a 4-foot strip, turned and started crocheting. I'm using burgundy, blue, and white to make bold stripes and so far it's looking pretty good.

You don't need to knit or crochet to help our veterans. They have requested many items, from bibs to walker bags. If you sew, quilt, or glue, you can make useful things that will not only be of use to the soldiers, but show them they are not forgotten. Don't wait until September to find out about this project. Please call and I will give you ideas and information so you can get started right away. If you would like to donate to the project, we are always in need of good yarn and sewing material. Monetary donations will be gratefully accepted and will buy supplies for the ladies to use.

– Dixie Coutant: 355-4908.

A Note from the Editor

Dear Ladies,

I have enjoyed editing *The Vine* for the last four years. It has been my goal to report club news and keep you informed of coming events in a professional yet friendly manner. Some months it has been quite a challenge to find room for everything our busy club does, and some months I have scraped the bottom of the barrel to fill just two pages. Now it's time to move over and let another member experience the joy, the frustration, and the satisfaction of editing this newsletter.

It has been a privilege to work with **Anne Tyler** who takes my computer printouts and works the magic that gets *The Vine* into your mailboxes. Many thanks to my dear hubby **Stan** who has kept my computer running, taken over household duties during tight deadlines, and proof-read each and every word in each and every newsletter.

President Rosemary Morabito has appointed **Terri Cummings** as your new editor and she will begin her duties with the September 2010 issue. I know **Terri** will bring her own ideas and creativity to these pages, and I look forward to seeing the continued evolution of *The Vine* in her capable hands.

Information for future issues goes to:

Terri Cummings

432 East Sierra Madre Blvd.

Phone: 355-8895

Email: tcummings6@aol.com

Sincerely, Dixie Coutant

Things my Mother taught me

- ~ Never grow a wishbone
where your backbone ought to be.
- ~ Even if you're on the right track,
you'll get run over if you just sit there.
- ~ Life is a grindstone. Whether it
grinds you down or polishes you up
depends on what you are made of.