

Woman's Club of Arroyo Grande Bulletin

COMMUNITY SERVICE, FUN, AND FRIENDS

www.womansclubofarroyogrande.com



Message from our President

2021



Hello Ladies,

It's the holiday season and Santa is on his way. I hope he finds your house and doesn't leave a lump of coal for you. We have all been locked up so we didn't have much chance to be naughty this year.

Your board of directors have been busy with some difficult decisions.

The board decided to suspend all club meetings for the rest of the club year (thru May 31). If there is an all clear we will try to have a June meeting to introduce a new board of directors.

Speaking of which, the nominating committee will be looking for volunteers to fill many of the positions on our board for next year. The nominating committee will be chaired by Jeanette Conde with Pat Schiller and Barbara Wright assisting. Please consider helping the club next year by serving on the board.

Thank you for your generous responses to our Silly Tax. The board of directors voted to send donations during December to Hospice and Meals on Wheels with some of the funds we collected.

I hope you have been receiving phone calls from our board members. It is our way of trying to stay connected in these most unusual times. We want to hear from you and we want you to hear from us.

These days won't be the usual Christmas and New Year days, but I hope you manage to make them good days with maybe some new traditions to enjoy.

Smiles, Toni

Silly Tax Update

One giant sized thank you to all of you who sent in your Silly Tax donations. It isn't too late if you haven't done it yet. No penalty for late filing!

Thank you to: Gayle Quain, Suzy Anderson, May English, Jeanne Pera, Ellen Bavaro, Sandy Ferris, Valerie Kates, Gretchen Weckstein, Mary Ann Shoebridge, Laura Vopatek, Snooks Powers, Michele Walker, Sara Needham, Anita McCort, Mary Guernsey, Kathryn Siciliani, Sofia McHugh, Freddie Newman, Sally Pyne, Deanna Millis, Barbara Schieffer, Jean Schultz, Charlie Hanna, Kay Johnson, Barbara Wright, Diane O'Lear, and Robyn Dunne.

The charities we support will benefit from your generosity.



The Board for the Woman's Club of Arroyo Grande met in December and decided to cancel membership meeting for the remainder of the current membership year. Toni has a load of Bingo game prizes stored at her house and Mary Carson has been working on a fashion show for March! However, it is not prudent to try to plan for a fundraiser during such chaos as we are now experiencing. We can only hope that all of this will be behind us by the end of next summer, so that we can once again meet and unload the Bingo Prizes.

We do have the funds from the election and I am going to apply for a matching grant from the New Times Magazine, which has been advertising for several months. All members who participated in the Silly Tax will greatly help the club's efforts in fundraising. Many thanks to all our members who have worked to keep the club going this year.

Elisabeth Koch-Murray

ARLINGTON CEMETERY Tomb of the Unknown Soldier

On Jeopardy the other night, the final question was "How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns?" All three contestants missed it!

1. How many steps does the guard take during his walk across the tomb of the Unknowns and why? 21 steps: It alludes to the twenty-one gun salute which is the highest honor given any military or foreign dignitary.
2. How long does he hesitate after his about face to begin his return walk and why? 21 seconds for the same reason as answer number 1.
3. Why are his gloves wet? His gloves are moistened to prevent his losing his grip on the rifle.
4. Does he carry his rifle on the same shoulder all the time and, if not, why not? He carries the rifle on the shoulder away from the tomb. After his march across the path, he executes an about face and moves the rifle to the outside shoulder.
5. How often are the guards changed? Guard is changed every thirty minutes, twenty-four hours a day, and 365 days a year.
6. What are the physical traits of the guard limited to? For a person to apply for guard duty at the tomb he must be between 5' 10" and 6' 2" tall and his waist size cannot exceed 30".

They must commit 2 years of life to guard the tomb, live in a barracks under the tomb, and cannot drink any alcohol on or off duty for the rest of their lives. They cannot swear in public for the rest of their lives and cannot disgrace the uniform or the tomb in any way.

After two years, the guard is given a wreath pin that is worn on their lapel signifying they served as guard of the tomb. There are only 400 presently worn. The guard must obey these rules for the rest of their lives or give up the wreath pin.

The shoes are specially made with very thick soles to keep the heat and cold from their feet. There are metal heel plates that extend to the top of the shoe in order to make the loud click as they come to a halt.

There are no wrinkles, folds or lint on the uniform. Guards dress for duty in front of a full-length mirror. Every guard spends five hours a day getting his uniforms ready for guard duty.

The first six months of duty a guard cannot talk to anyone nor watch TV. All off duty time is spent studying the 175 notable people laid to rest in Arlington National Cemetery. A guard must memorize who they are and where they are interred. Among the notables are: President Taft, Joe Lewis (the boxer), Medal of Honor winner Audie L. Murphy, the most decorated soldier of WWII and of Hollywood fame.

In 2003 as Hurricane Isabelle was approaching Washington, DC, our US Senate/House took 2 days off with anticipation of the storm. On the ABC evening news, it was reported that because of the dangers from the hurricane, the military members assigned the duty of guarding the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier were given permission to suspend the assignment. They respectfully declined the offer, "No way, Sir!" Soaked to the skin, marching in the pelting rain of a tropical storm, they said that guarding the Tomb was not just an assignment; it was the highest honor that can be afforded to a service person. The tomb has been patrolled continuously, 24/7, since 1930.

God Bless and keep them!

GETTING TO KNOW OUR MEMBERS

Each month we will feature 2 club members in an effort to get to know each other better.

CHARLIE HANNA, Parliamentarian



On December 7, 1941 Mr. and Mrs. Clark Hanna watched the Japanese bomb Hickam Field (Pearl Harbor) from their back porch in Hawaii. Clark was career Navy. Wilma Hanna was evacuated in May to return to the states specifically Denver, Colorado with little Carol (Charlie) Hanna inside until she was born in July.

After the war the family lived in Guam, Denver, Bremerton, Washington and San Diego. When the Korean War broke out Charlie and Mom returned to Denver when Clark was shipped out. At the end of each school year, Mom would pack the car and drive to wherever Dad was stationed for the summer returning to Denver when it was time for Charlie to go back to school.

After finishing high school, Charlie attended Long Beach City College and earned her AA degree. In 1963, she went to Dallas and enrolled in Flight Training School and was hired by American Airlines as a stewardess. Her twenty-first birthday was celebrated in New York.

From 1963 until she retired in 2003, Charlie was based in Los Angeles and flew domestic and international flights. Her work took her to Hawaii, Paris and London, but her vacations took her all over the world—Mexico, Europe, and Asia.

Charlie moved here in 1997 and always laughs when she hears people complain about the traffic here. She made many friends through her involvement in Eastern Star which led to extensive travel up and down California. In 2008, Charlie joined our Woman's Club and has held many positions in our club.

Charlie enjoys collecting pre 1940 cook books, cross stitch, needlepoint and is an avid reader. "This is such a lovely place to live."

SARA NEEDHAM

Sara Needham grew up, an air force brat, on several RAF stations, before her family moved to a village near Scarborough, (yes the same one as in the song) in North Yorkshire in the late sixties. Holidays were spent on a family run farm. Once, she got over involved with farm work and fell into the sheep dip.

Sara's father was from Scotland so New Year's Eve, Hogmanay, was always party time at home, with friends and neighbors, enjoying food, drink and Scottish dancing until the wee small hours. Some guests would even stay for breakfast.

Going to nursing school was the best career decision Sara ever made. It led to citizenship in the United States and more than 40 years working in various operating rooms in the Los Angeles area. It also led to a new, minor career, as a background extra on the ABC tv show Grey's Anatomy. You will sometimes glimpse the back of her head, or her hand as she passes instruments to a "surgeon".

She and her husband, Derek, who grew up in Cape Town, South Africa have lived in Arroyo Grande Since 2017 and LOVE IT! Prior to retiring they had traveled in a tiny camper van through parts of Europe and plan to eventually visit all 50 US states. They currently are stalled at 14.

Sara enjoys the new friends she has made since joining the Woman's club and look forward to a brighter future of fundraising and monthly meetings.



**WOMAN'S CLUB OF ARROYO GRANDE
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Return Service Requested



Offering Assistance

Tracy Lang Wood, one of our members, and her husband are offering their services to help anyone who needs groceries or other things delivered to them. They both work full time so deliveries would be at night or on the weekend, but they are willing and anxious to help out.

Give Tracy a call - she is listed in the club directory.

FOR SELL:

A chair lift that goes up and down stairs, at a low cost. Contact Cheryl Westland (cwestland@att.net) for more information.

SUNSHINE SENT THIS WAY

Thinking of you card to:
Pat Schiller

Get well card to:
Freddie Newman, the sunshine girl needs a little sunshine. Get well soon!

If you know anyone who needs a cheery note or simply recognition call or email Freddie Newman at 805-489-6265
bobandfreddie@gmail.com



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If you have an article or idea for the newsletter please let me know. Call or email Sandy Ferris at 805-773-0356 or sferris40@yahoo.com