

Present: Margo Hinnenkamp, Bobbi Graham, Ellen Freitas, Elizabeth Mandel, Sharyn Frentner, Peggy Thompson, Judy Kinker, Joan Ensign, Yvonne Duckett, Susan Oldham-Fritts, Mary Hellman, Anne Rosenzweig, Beth Wyman, Barbara Palmer, Sandy Clark and Carol O'Hare

Call to Order: 7:05 pm by Bobbi and Margo. A quorum of board members was present.

Approval of Minutes: November minutes were approved as submitted.

Treasurer's Report was presented by Ellen Freitas. Entertainment Books has earned net \$115 on 23 books. \$80 remains in dues assistance account after payment of \$46 for one member. Insurance this year is higher than projected, but directory printing costs At Hillview are much lower than previous printer (\$182 out of \$300 budgeted). The Neighborhood Dinner may cost the branch as much as \$126, but Stacy Forgy is working with Mama Mia's to lower our share of the cost.

Membership: Elizabeth Mandel announced that there are 137 members. In January 2009 national dues become ½ price. Anyone joining after March 15 pays dues that include the entire year 2009-2010. It was noted that 59 members get their newsletter by USPS mail.

Programs: Sharyn Frentner reported that more than 60 people attended the December 7 holiday party held at Carden Academy. The event was very successful and the venue was "fabulous". The hospitality committee did a great job.

Members provided \$390 in gift cards for the Learning and Loving Center with more to come from a few more members.

The January program is still in process. Anne Rosenzweig will contact Diane Ritchie, a newly elected judge, to speak on employment discrimination. The Morgan Hill House at Villa Mira Monte is the preferred location for the event.

The speaker on February 12 is Brian Copeland, author of the Silicon Valley Reads selection, *Not a Genuine Black Man*. The program will be at the Morgan Hill Community Playhouse. Carol O'Hare and the Friends of the Library are in charge.

March is Women's History Month, and the suggested program is Matilda Butler, author of *Rosie's Daughters*. Mary Hellman will contact her about available dates. Gisela Steffe will put up displays at South Valley Bank and Gavilan College.

April 5 is the Wildflower Run. Congressman Jerry McNerney would be an additional program if he is available to speak in Morgan Hill. Anne and Beth Wyman will follow-up.

The spring installation event will take place in May, possibly at Carden Academy.

Wildflower Run: Yvonne Duckett reported that the first Wildflower Run committee meeting was held in November. A publicity chair is still needed. The next meeting is January 7. Joan

Ensign reported that the first Business Sponsor donation of \$250 has been received from CareWise, with a pledge of \$1000 from Pinnacle Bank. Branch member Susan Brazelton will be the official Run photographer. Carol O'Hare passed on information that Media News, the publisher of the Morgan Hill Times and Gilroy Dispatch, will print and insert 11,000 flyers in their newspapers for \$812.

Nominating Committee: At the December 7 holiday party, the following members were elected to the nominating committee: Ellen Freitas, Gisela Steffe, Sandy Clark and Cathy Razumich. At this time there is no president for next year, so an alternative form of leadership may be needed. Ellen will chair the committee, and it will meet at Gisela's.

Interest Groups: Information collected by Cathy Razumich at the membership brunch regarding members' interests has not yet been passed on to interest group leaders. Elizabeth will contact Cathy about disseminating this information. Potential new interest groups include gardening (led by Mary Hellman) and scrapbooking.

Interbranch Council: Margo reported that on March 28, 9:30 am at San Jose AAUW Headquarters, IBC will sponsor a training session for the branch positions of membership, newsletter and website. Morgan Hill Branch was asked to help with the membership portion.

Chamber of Commerce: Joan reported that the February 12 Women in Business luncheon will be a "Mini-Trade Show". A business or organization, for the cost of \$75, can promote itself by decorating a table, providing marketing material, speak for 5 min and get one complimentary lunch. It was moved and seconded that the branch spend up to \$150 from the publicity/marketing budget for this event.

Tech Trek: Mary has changed the date to January 15 of the first meeting of those who want to assist with the selection of girls or help in other ways. Camp fees are due March 1 (funds come from ISPF WR account), and the campers are to be selected by April 15. Mary presented a \$100 donation to the branch from the raffle held at her boutique.

GEMS: Susan Oldam-Fritts reported that 7 girls and 10 adults attended the Leonardo exhibit. GEMS has been invited back to Canada College for a half-day robotics class or full day robotics/engineering class in August or September. Future activities include chemistry of chocolate and a visit to the computer museum with Allen Palmer. Susan is considering having separate projects for older girls.

Website: The committee has not yet met. Mary has withdrawn, due to other commitments...

Announcements: The Margaret Wingrove Dance Company will perform "Distant Land of My Father" in January. A branch Rowdy Outing will attend on Sunday afternoon, January 11. To demonstrate gardening in small spaces, Mary has planted four boxes of flowers, vegetables and herbs in front of BookSmart.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 pm. The next Board Meeting will be Thursday, January 8, 2009 at the CRC. (Note change of date to second Thursday.)

Respectfully submitted,