

CUMBERLAND COUNTY NEIGHBORS AND NEWCOMERS MEETING
December 5, 2019

The Cumberland County Neighbors and Newcomers Club met on December 5, 2019 at the Clyde M. York 4-H Center in Crossville, TN. President Brenda LaVigne opened the meeting by welcoming members and guests attending our Christmas meeting. She requested approval of the Minutes and Treasurer's Reports from the October meeting. Jan Elwood approved and Sue Czysz seconded the request.

Bryce McDonald, Producing Director of the Cumberland County Playhouse, introduced the singers who entertained us. He had each of them answer a question related to Christmas. Makenna's question was, "What was the worst Christmas present she had ever received?" She said it was a Redskin shirt from her Mother rather one from a team she's a fan of, the Dallas Cowboys. She sang "Hallelujah" and "Cold December Night." Makenna sings at the Playhouse and is a dance teacher of hip hop 2 and ballet there. Her Mother was a dance teacher. Matthew's question was, "Have you ever opened a gift that you hated and what did you say?" His reply was, "Oh, thank you so much." He played the guitar and sang "I'll Be Home For Christmas." Another lady sang "O Holy Night" and "Santa Baby." She owns a weight loss support business located near Gondolas Restaurant in the Woodmere Mall. Her question from Bryce was, "Have you ever re-gifted something to someone else?" She answered No, because she told us she actually did not know about the concept! Her daughter, Keira Crosby, attended our meeting also. She was an actress in performances of Matilda. Keira has a powerful voice for someone so young.

Before the meeting began ladies bid on Silent Auction vintage Longaberger baskets and some kleenex box holders filled with Christmas goodies such as candy, chocolates, tins of butter cookies, tea, etc. Brenda thanked Paula Ochoa and Barb Patterson for making the auction items look like "Christmas gifts to go." by adding festive ribbons and bows. Board members each brought 3-4 dozen Christmas cookies which we sold as a fundraiser for the club. Gift items or money was collected for our needy families at Christmas time. Donations for House of Hope is a project directed by Shirley Butka, and ladies volunteer to meet and go shopping with her. Paula Ochoa sold lovely artificial floral holiday arrangements, along with long potholder gloves filled with Christmas decorations. \$112.00 was received from members who had worn something for Halloween to the October meeting. \$641.50 was collected for turkeys distributed to five different charities. Gnome decorations on the tables today were offered for \$7.00. Today \$5.00 was donated by anyone who had worn an ugly Christmas sweater. Lesa Thompson was voted to be wearing the ugliest Christmas sweater and won a small gift.

Barb Brust led us in the Invocation prayer. The meal consisted of a generous sized piece of meatloaf, mashed potatoes and gravy, green beans, yeast rolls, a salad and an apple crisp. Linda Andrews, Caring Committee, told us that member Rosemary Gildemeister has passed away after having an oral surgery procedure. She reminded us to be sure to let her committee know of any health issues of members so that cards may be sent. Linda read about Christmas

from a woman's point of view.

Cheryl Adams introduced four guests: Ruth Werderitch, Dotti Brooks, Judy Suzenagr, and Mary Ann Hoffman. Dotti received the guest gift. Cheryl said we have seven new members. On Monday December 2 Shirley Butka had organized a trip to the Tennessee Theatre's Magical Musical Monday. They had lunch afterwards. December birthdays were recognized, and Jan Gillespie won the gift. \$30.00 each went to five lucky 50/50 winners. \$302 was collected with half of that going to the Club's treasury. The gift baskets were given out to those who had made the highest bid.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, January 23 at the Thunderbird Recreation Center in Lake Tansi area of Crossville, TN, Dwight Wages of Southern Stars Symphony is to be the program. Bring baby items for Plateau Pregnancy.

Respectfully submitted,

Carolyn Spencer
Co-Secretary