

**Neighbors and Newcomers of Cumberland County**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**April 25, 2024**

The meeting was called to order by President Robbie Corbin at 11:00 a.m. at the Lake Tansi Restaurant. Robbie welcomed 86 members and 3 guests to the meeting.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited at the beginning of the meeting. A moment of silence was observed in memory of the recent passing of Carolyn Boyle, who was our Webmaster, treasurer, and had served in many other jobs through the years.

**OLD BUSINESS:-**

- With the illness and passing of our Webmaster, the monthly minutes and treasurer's report was not posted to the website for member viewing. Publishing and approval of the March minutes will come at a later time. Minutes of the April and May reports will also appear later.
- Shirley Butka reviewed the items she collects for charities- pop tabs, toiletries, and printer cartridges.
- Robbie reported that due to FOCCAS never contacting Robbie after leaving several messages to receive the collection that was taken for them last month, it was decided that the donation would be given to the Cumberland County Animal Shelter.
- We are still in need of a web master and assistant program chair for next year.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Fundraising: The next meeting is our annual silent auction fundraiser. Please contact Jeanne Dougherty or Nancy Clore if you have items to drop off or that need picking up for the Silent Auction.
- Robbie informed us about a new program Kids on the Rise has started- "Book Buddies" . It's about reading to a child once a week at the school and getting to know them.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

The Caring report was given by Linda Andrews. There were 3 cards sent- a "feel better" card and 2 sympathy card sent since the last meeting.

The Guest report was given by Carolyn O'Neil. There were 3 guests present. Carolyn Champagne won the guest prize.

The monthly birthday prize for March was won by Diana Trotter.

Shirley Butka is planning a trip to the Pearl Farm in Camden, TN, west of Nashville on May 16. Sign up with Shirley. Shirley also gave a recap of the Symphony Trip and lunch at Uncle Sam's Restaurant, which was enjoyed by all that attended.

The invocation was given by Shirley Butka, prior to a delicious lunch provided by Tansi Restaurant.

Muriel Smith introduced our guest speaker, Gus Gocella, from HonorAir Knoxville. Gus showed a video of what Honor Air does, taking groups of veterans on trips to Washington, DC. HonorAir Knoxville serves East Tennessee WWII, Korean War, and Vietnam War veterans by taking them to Washington, DC to visit the memorials built to honor their sacrifice - at no cost to the veteran. In the eleven year history, beginning in 2007, HonorAir Knoxville has served over 3700 veterans on 34 flights.

Gus has taken 26 groups of veterans on Honor Air trips. The next HonorAir flight will be the last Wednesday in September, with an all-female group of veterans. Honor Air welcomes donations of both money and volunteers. Visit their website: <https://www.honorairknoxville.com/> for information or to apply to be included in an Honor Air flight.

Many thanks to the providers of the Door Prizes this month: Cumberland County Playhouse, Hair Connection, Mayberry's, Captain D's Fish & Chips (4), Rene' Burt at Fairfield Beauty Shoppe, Poppie's Florist, 5<sup>th</sup> Street Marketplace, Dave Kirk Automotive (2), and Regions Bank (2), Fortes, and ½ off Playhouse tickets from Arlene Albert (2).

Please thank these businesses for their generous donations to Neighbors and Newcomers if you are there!

The meeting was adjourned at 1:15 pm by Robbie Corbin.

Next meeting will be held at the Cumberland County Fairgrounds Complex, 1391 Livingston, Crossville, on May 23. This will be the Silent Auction fundraiser and installation of officers for the next year.

Respectfully submitted,  
Cindy Leckvarcik, Secretary