

Tyler A&M Mothers' Club General Meeting – October 19, 2017

The General Meeting was held at Pollard United Methodist Church gymnasium at 6:30 p.m. with 31 in attendance. Drinks, cookies, sweet breads and chips/salsa were served. Boutique items were available for purchase. LouAnn Viergever and her assistant, Terri Maloney, were at the door to collect Butter Braid forms.

Rebecca Mohr, President, called the meeting to order at **6:45 p.m.** She welcomed everyone. She asked that everyone sign in and get a door prize ticket. She encouraged everyone to bring a friend to the next meeting and to check into Facebook. She reminded members to turn in their Butter Braid forms to LouAnn, asked for names of 2017 Aggie Graduates, asked for volunteers to assist with the Scholarship Dinner in the spring, and also asked for any volunteers to host the Christmas Cookie Exchange.

Paper copies of the September General Meeting **minutes** were available. With no corrections, they “stand approved as distributed”.

Joleen Doke presented the **Treasurer's Report**. The bank balance is \$4,381.01. This amount does include some Goody Bag money which will be paid to Shelley for reimbursement. There are also payments due to Federation. Our available balance is approximately \$2500.

Wendy Milam, VP - Projects, explained our next two **fundraising** activities. The first is the **Christmas Raffle** of the two quilts. Both quilts were on display. Tickets are \$1 each or 6 for \$5. Members were encouraged to take several sheets of tickets to sell to friends and family. Each ticket lists the cost, when the raffle will take place and has a place to circle which quilt you would like the ticket to be used for. The Raffle will be held at our Christmas Cookie Exchange on Dec 7th (tentative). Rebecca will prepare a flyer and send it along with photos of the two quilts out via email for members to share. If members need additional tickets, they can contact Wendy or Rebecca. Money and tickets should be returned promptly.

The second fundraiser is our **Envelope Fundraiser**. We have one hundred envelopes numbered 1 – 100. Members will be asked to take a few and ask their friends/family to choose an envelope and make a donation based on the number on the envelope. The amount of money donated should match the value on each envelope. For example, if you take envelope number 23, you would make a \$23 donation. One set of filled envelopes will raise \$5,050. Attached to each envelope is a notice of our non-profit status. We will continue this fundraiser throughout the year until all envelopes have been filled.

Joni Farmer and LeAnn Cargile, VPs - **Programs**, announced that the November “meeting” will actually be a profit sharing event at **Grub Burger** on South Broadway in Tyler. The date is Thursday, Nov 16 and anyone who mentions the Tyler Aggie Moms when they place their order will have their receipt added to our Give Back program. Grub Burger will give us a percentage of the day's receipts. We are **NOT** allowed to solicit customers in line or in the parking lot so all publicity must be done in advance. Rebecca will send out a flyer and also a page of “business card” reminders for the members to share with their friends and co-workers. It is possible that Grub will include purchases of Gift Cards in our day's total. So, if your Aggie likes Grub, please consider getting them a gift card that day! In December, we will have our **Aggie Ornament** exchange, the **quilt raffle** and a **cookie exchange**. Details will be provided soon. Each member should plan to bring 5 or 6 dozen cookies and an empty container. They will then get to take an assortment of 5-6 dozen different cookies home. Bring your recipe and the Program Committee will put them together to share with the members. The tentative date is Thursday, Dec 7.

Shelley McGuire encouraged everyone to order their **Goody Bags** by November 1 so she can take advantage of bulk item costs. The Goody bags for the fall semester will be a white pillowcase with “Gig ‘Em” on it.

Katie Latham introduced Andy Duffie (and his wife, Connie) of the **Aggie Century Tree Project**. He had a slideshow presentation that provided history, horticulture and service. It was interesting to note that the Century Tree was planted in 1891 and is just 15 years younger than the university. Andy tried several times to get acorns to sprout and finally had success. Now his project is a full time endeavor. The purchase of the seedlings have funded numerous scholarships at Texas A&M, including funding a \$100,000 endowed scholarship and an endowed Aggie Ring scholarship. He is currently working on a scholarship for the Corps of Cadets. Andy gave the Tyler Aggie Moms a donation of \$160 since we had the purchase of 8 seedlings (\$20 per seedling is returned to our club as a donation). Visit his website and Facebook pages for more information and information on the care of the seedlings.

Following the program, **door prizes** were awarded. Andy Duffie generously donated one seedling as a door prize and it was won by Terri Maloney. Jessica Knowles donated four Aggie themed Halloween ornaments that were also given as door prizes.

When Rebecca asked for questions, Susan Merrell asked about the sign up sheet for our **Boutique Raffle**. Rebecca explained that we will do an apartment gift card raffle this year. We will ask for some corporate donations and also ask members to donate gift cards for popular apartment item locations (WalMart, Target, Bed Bath & Beyond, World Market, Lowes, Home Depot, Pier 1, etc) as well as food locations. She explained that the Board felt we would make more money on this raffle than in the past. Details will be coming soon.

With no further questions, Katie Latham made a motion to **adjourn** the meeting at 7:49 p.m. Joni Farmer seconded the motion, and it carried with “Century Tree”.

(Notes were taken by Shelley McGuire and written by Rebecca Mohr in the absence of Jessica Knowles.)