



## DECEMBER 2024

EDITOR:  
Judy Hamilton  
judyhamilton816@gmail.com  
(209) 586-3892

Web Site: <http://www.tcnc.org>



*If your cell phone or tablet has a QR app, you can scan this to be directed to our website.*

### PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Marcia's hard work in generating a new slate of officers for next year is greatly appreciated. I am quite confident that with fresh eyes and thoughts in place, our club is in a very good place for next year and the years following. Thank you all for stepping up! We will have the installation at our next meeting.

I would be remiss to close out the year without expressing my thanks for the efforts of all the folks who have joined me on the board for the past 5 years. It has been a pleasure to work with you all, and certainly an honor to have the privilege to lead the group for this period of time. Thank you all for your confidence in me, and your cooperation in all working together to make this such an interesting and fun group.

Enjoy your holidays, and stay well!

**Phil VanSwoll**  
President



### It's that time again ...

... to renew your membership. Please bring your checks payable to TCNC to the December dinner meeting. Membership is \$30.00 per person.

**Jeanne Rittenhouse**  
2nd VP — Membership

### LADIES LUNCHEON

**When:** Friday, December 13  
(a different date due to holiday)  
11:30 a.m.

**Where:** My Garden Café  
14270 Mono Way, Sonora

We will be ordering off the menu and will be receiving separate checks.

Please **RSVP by Tuesday, December 10**, to Ina at (209) 533-5315.

**Note:** Judy Reiman needs hostesses for January and February.

**Ina Belochi**  
December Ladies Luncheon Coordinator

### KNITTING/NEEDLEWORK GROUP



Jeanne Rittenhouse will be hosting this month's gathering on **Monday, December 16**, from 2 to 4 p.m. Those interested in attending can plan to knit, crochet, embroider, quilt, etc. with other members. Dessert, coffee, and tea will be served during the get-together. Jeanne's address is 13959 Stanton Circle, Sonora. Please RSVP to Jeanne at (209) 588-6084 or at [jeanmariecomcast@comcast.net](mailto:jeanmariecomcast@comcast.net).

**Patti Rittenhouse**  
Needlework Chair

## DECEMBER DINNER MEETING

**When:** December 18, the third Wednesday, our regular schedule

**Where:** **Bella Union Restaurant**  
(formerly Columbia House Restaurant)  
22738 Main Street, Columbia

**Time:** 5:00 p.m. Social Hour (No-host bar)  
6:00 p.m. dinner

**Price:** \$30 per person. Please make your check payable to TCNC, or if paying by cash, **kindly have exact change.**

**RSVP:** No later than Saturday, December 14, by calling Carolynn Beard at (209) 532-2109.

### DINNER MENU

This is going to be a plated dinner, and there are options for 1<sup>st</sup> course and 2<sup>nd</sup> course. When you RSVP, Carolynn needs to know what your choices are!

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Course — Soup or Salad

Clam Chowder

OR

Green Salad

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Course

Coq au Vin with mashed potatoes

OR

Tri Tip with a red wine reduction  
Rice Pilaf and Sautéed Vegetables

#### Dessert

Eggnog Pana Cotta  
with spiked Cranberry Sauce

Again, when you RSVP, let Carolynn know what you want for Courses 1 and 2.

**Note:** Our dinner will be in the back room near the parking lot where we will have more room.

Carolynn Beard and Bill Burnes  
Dinner Directors

## WINE TASTING

We don't have a Wine Tasting social in December.

Please consider signing up to host starting in Feb/March. I will be looking for hosts/hostesses in the next few months. Remember the earlier you call me to volunteer, you are assured to get the month that works for you.

**Sigrid Kehr**  
Wine Chair

### October Ladies Luncheon Photos



## Community Events

**Sierra Repertory Theatre** [Call (209) 532-3120 or visit [www.sierrarep.org](http://www.sierrarep.org) for tickets.]

“**Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer**” will be playing through December 22 at the Fallon House Theatre, Columbia.

“**Americana Christmas**” will be playing from December 5 – 22 at the East Sonora Theatre.

**Murphys Creek Theatre** [Call (209) 728-8422]

“**Launch Day (Love Stories from the Year 2108)**” will be playing from November 29 through December 22.

### Columbia

**Las Posadas Nativity Procession — Sunday, December 8, 5:30 p.m.**

Las Posadas Nativity Procession is a Mexican tradition that re-enacts the biblical story of Mary and Joseph's search for shelter in Bethlehem on the original Christmas Eve. The people of Columbia put on their own version of Las Posadas each December — with a distinctive 1850s flavor. This year is the 41st annual!

Columbia State Historic Park is decorated for the Christmas season with traditional Christmas boughs and wreaths, and the ambiance is enhanced with luminaries on Main Street, lighting the way for the evening procession. The cast of characters includes Mary riding on a donkey led by Joseph, angels carrying lanterns, the Wise Men, tax collector, innkeeper, gold miners as shepherds, townspeople in 1850s costume, and of course, the baby Jesus. The Mirth & Glee Carolers provide music for the procession, and on-lookers participate also in this touching Columbia Christmas tradition — singing Christmas carols by candlelight.

This free event for the whole family is sponsored by the Columbia Chamber of Commerce. For more information, call Newcomer Leslie Davis at (209) 559-7723 or view the chamber's website at [visitcolumbiacalifornia.com](http://visitcolumbiacalifornia.com).



*Photos taken and supplied by  
Leslie Davis*

## FROM THE EDITOR

If you take any photos at Newcomers' events, please send to me via email or snail mail, and identify the event and the people pictured. Digital images are preferred, but I can deal with any kind. Copy-ready is appreciated.

**Remember:** If you move or change your email address or phone number, contact me at (209) 586-3892 or judyhamilton816@gmail.com so I can make the necessary changes on the roster.

**Judy Hamilton**  
Newsletter Editor



### TUOLUMNE COUNTY NEWCOMERS CLUB

#### 2024 Board Members

|                             |                    |                |                              |
|-----------------------------|--------------------|----------------|------------------------------|
| President:                  | Phil VanSwoll      | (209) 753-8064 | pvanswoll@outlook.com        |
| 1st Vice Pres (Programs):   | Marcia VanSwoll    | (209) 753-8115 | mvanswoll@gmail.com          |
| 2nd Vice Pres (Membership): | Jeanne Rittenhouse | (209) 588-8329 | jeanmariecomcast@comcast.net |
| Secretary:                  | Kay O'Kerrins      | (650) 646-1945 | kokerrins@gmail.com          |
| Treasurer:                  | Mitch Gerner       | (209) 352-1212 | pgsupra37@gmail.com          |
| Director at Large:          | Don Magni          | (209) 588-2399 | DonandLuz@gmail.com          |
| Dinner Directors:           | Bill Burnes        | (209) 533-4334 | sonorabill401@gmail.com      |
|                             | Carolynn Beard     | (209) 523-6006 | carolynnbeard4paws@gmail.com |

#### 2024 Committee Chairs

|                    |                   |                |                           |
|--------------------|-------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| Ladies Lunch:      | Judy Reiman       | (209) 533-9295 | judy.reiman@gmail.com     |
| Web Director:      | Judy LaForce      | (209) 743-4013 | judy@lforce.us            |
| Raffle             | Phil VanSwoll     | (209) 753-8064 | pvanswoll@outlook.com     |
| Sunshine:          | Judy Christensen  | (209) 532-3119 | c.judy3315@gmail.com      |
| Roster:            | Judy Hamilton     | (209) 586-3892 | judyhamilton816@gmail.com |
| Badges:            | Susan Page        | (209) 533-4501 | susan.cuckler@gmail.com   |
| Wine Tasting:      | Sigrid Kehr       | (209) 785-4358 | mrkehr@caltel.com         |
| Men's Breakfast:   |                   |                |                           |
| Games Galore:      | Sigrid Kehr       | (209) 785-4358 | mrkehr@caltel.com         |
| Needlework:        | Patti Rittenhouse | (209) 770-6390 | parittenhouse@gmail.com   |
| Newsletter Editor: | Judy Hamilton     | (209) 586-3892 | judyhamilton816@gmail.com |