

Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2013, Willow, 11:15 AM, 19 present

The meeting opened with Darlene Farrell giving the Inspiration—tips for holiday baking, which went along with her program. (Hints: Domino sugar (it's cane sugar), Robin Hood flour, and stick butter (check water content)).

The minutes as printed in the newsletter were approved. Peg Maser reported that she had sent a thank you to Gretchen McKay for her presentation at the October meeting. Marg Foster reported a balance on hand of \$2925.15. 60 members paid dues, one shy of last year. For membership, Deb McMullin reported in Karen Klingman's absence. She has forms for new members and encouraged us to re-invite past members to rejoin us. She also took any membership profiles that members had brought with them.

Two guests were introduced: Dede Rittman of North Allegheny came as Barb MacDonald's guest, and Phyllis Jenny brought Susan Fink, a counselor at Fox Chapel.

Paulette Hemmings announced the Feb. 6 potluck dinner at Trinity Lutheran church. Susan Frantz, a member of our chapter, will talk about her book *Beyond the 20th Century Classroom*. Please invite prospective members to the meeting. Also, we will be supporting Room to Read, so bring 20 copies of a recipe you found while reading a book and a check to cover the cost of the ingredients to make the recipe.

Terry Klein reported that Grant in Aid forms for a college junior or senior majoring in education are available and are due back to her by JANUARY 23. Information needed is a college transcript with QPA, list of activities, a letter of recommendation from a professor and the nominator. The form will be sent in the next newsletter.

Melody Hannegan reminded us to keep in touch with our unions regarding pensions and school finding. Terry Klein reminded us that in any discussion regarding our benefits that "We aren't the villains—we're the scapegoats." We PAID our share into the pension fund, while the districts and state took a break.

Melody also discussed the by-laws review. There are some changes and questions that will be answered, again with a copy sent out by Faith.

Phyllis Jenny, nominations, reported that we will have a slate to vote on at the February meeting.

After singing the song, the business meeting was adjourned at 12:05.

After a buffet lunch, Darlene Farrell presented a history of gingerbread cookie cutters. We all were given a wrapped cutter and then showed them as Darlene described them.

The gingerbread-themed raffle basket was won by Marg Foster.

A grab bag gift exchange followed, and we were invited to take any leftovers home.

Respectfully submitted,

Karen Ulrich