

The Diners Club Minutes of Meeting Sept 8, 2010

In Attendance: Coordinators: Sandy Wood(Host) Barb Murray, Carol Carle, Lyn King sent regrets

Members in Attendance: Marianne Duffley, Barb Giese, Lynn Grose, Connie Holden, Wendy Hollinshead, Pam May-Straka, Anne Milne, Debbie Mitchell, Anna Reilly, Steph Smith, Anne Ward, Linda Windrim

1. Welcome Members

A big Thank You to Marianne who started the group in 2004 until 2010! Now the group will be coordinated by Sandy, Lyn, Barb and Carol. Lyn was away for this meeting but group will meet soon to organize duties etc...

It is hoped that the coordinating committee will rotate amongst the membership each year.

A list was sent around to the members to update their information and include the number of seats available at their dinner tables. Also the members listed their preferred host months for the coordinators.

2. Focus of The Diners Club

-get to know neighbours, introduce newcomers, prepare Healthy meals not too difficult to make and ingredients of the season. Sandy mentioned that some meals have been very 'heavy' and Barb mentioned some have too many courses and food. We agreed people are eating less and differently these days.

-dinners will still be held on the last Saturday of every month but the time of dinner will be left to the Hosts...either 6pm or 6:30pm is normal start times.

3. SPARES - New this Season

Hosts could invite friends or neighbours from the area to a dinner once it was determined there would be a vacancy at their table. The host would include the 'spare' couple to participate exactly as a regular member couple.

4. Recap on How the Diners Club Works

The coordinators send an email at the end of the month describing the next month's dinner and asking members to confirm attendance by deadline of the 15th of the month. The coordinators will adhere to this deadline. When coordinators have rec'd their RSVP's they shall set up the guest lists for the hostesses. We shall try our best to mix guest lists so that you can meet the optimum number of neighbours. It is recognized that people travel a lot and things come up so many members cannot make some dinners. Pre-dinner drinks will continue to be the responsibility of the host house. Usually there are four couples per home and one couple brings appetizer, another salad or soup and a third dessert. The hosts prepare the entrée and veggies. Each couple is responsible for serving their own course. Each couple brings what they want to drink with dinner. The cost of the evening is shared by all participants.

Members are asked that they host once during the year and maybe more if we have an evening when we need more than four homes. Coordinators circulated a sheet at the meeting for the members to put down their preferred month to host during the year. The four hosts per month get together to prepare the menu. There can be themes and the group was very enthusiastic about this idea. In the beginning there were more themes and these should be thought about again when creating menus. Recipes do not have to be sophisticated.

The coordinators advise the hosts about their guest list and the host then phones each guest asking them to bring a course. There is a website: www.somesmiths.com by Ian Smith, that you can go and see under the link DINERS the list of hosts, guests, recipes for the month and contact info. All protocols and procedures along with updates are included on this website...please check the website from time to time.

NOTE: Coordinators will endeavor to do their best to rotate member couples during the season but will not be taking placement requests.

5. Volunteers for Two Appy Parties – Dec and June

Coordinators decided that the Hosts of the Appy Parties should rent wine glasses and appy plates from Black and White rentals to reduce the work of hosting. Coordinators suggested that each couple that attend an appy party bring a twoonie (\$2) to put in a kitty at the party for these rentals on the night. Lynn Grose volunteered to host the Dec wind-up on Dec 9th. Connie Holden volunteered for the June wind-up, scheduled for June 25!

A Big Appreciative Thank you to the two Host Couples stepping up to host these very popular evenings!