



Blackhawk Women Newsletter

JANUARY

2021



**The Blackhawk Women Board
Wishes You A HAPPY NEW YEAR!**

New Year



Look at it, cold and wet like a newborn calf. I want to tell it everything – how we struggled, how we tore out our hair and thumbed through rusted nail just to stand for its birth. I want to say: look how far we've come. Promise our resolutions



But what does a baby care for oaths and pledges? It only wants to live.

By Kate Baer



Blackhawk Women Newsletter



Joy
Tashjian-
Castrilli-
President
2020-2021

Message from our President



Happy New Year!

Goodbye 2020 and welcome 2021. As we start the new year, we have so much enthusiasm for new beginnings. It is that time to make those New Year's resolutions. I know we start off with good intentions... making that list to exercise, lose weight, clean the garage, clean the closet and hopefully before 2022, I hope I will achieve some of these goals.



As we anxiously await our vaccine, we are still fighting the silent Covid giant that is spreading across our beautiful state. Restaurants, hair salons, health clubs and so many other establishments have closed. Many of these places will not re-open. Please try to support our local restaurants.

We are planning activities for BHW. We are hoping to resume our monthly luncheons, activities and Social, once we have the approval from the state to do so. It is very frustrating for all of us, however; we must continue to follow the CDC guidelines. We have hope and that is something we didn't have a few months ago.

So, until we can gather, let's enjoy the beauty of our community and work on our goals so we can share our success when we get together in person again.

Warmest wishes for a great New Year!

Joy Tashjian Castrilli
President



Our Blackhawk Women Motto:
"Women United in Friendship through the sharing of Fun, Food, and Common Interests."

2020-2021
Blackhawk Women Board

President	Joy Tashjian-Castrilli	trdemrkmgt@aol.com	(925) 736-0512
VP Programs	Bronwyn Cosgrove	redoakbuilding@bellsouth.net	(678) 231-6222
VP Luncheons	Pat Jenkins	patriciajenkins91@comcast.net	(925) 683-4921
	Denise Malozzi	denise1462@aol.com	(925) 360-6222
VP Membership	Janinne Franke-Wisniewski	jfae@chevron.com	(925) 786-7279
VP Social	Sandy Cosgrove	sun4san@aol.com	(925) 818-1525
Treasurer	Sandy Heller	sjdheller@comcast.net	(925)736-6144
Secretary	Bonnie Glennon	bsglennon@AOL.com	(925)980-2888
Activities Chair	Julie Moore	jmoore9600@aol.com	(925) 963-0701
Communications Chair	Anca Strassman Kustu	anca.strassman@gmail.com	(650) 533-5114
Media Chair	Mary Plissey	mary_plissey@yahoo.com	(404) 313-1230
Parliamentarian	Julie Woulfe	kjamck@comcast.net	(925)383-8067
Past President	Jodell Stout	jstouts@sbcglobal.net	(925) 989-7042

2020-2021
Event Chairs and Co - Chairs

Holiday Boutique	Joy Tashjian-Castrilli	trdemrkmgt@aol.com	(925) 736-0512
	Shelly Foster	foster1990ca@gmail.com	(408) 398-2133
Photographer	Joan Heinig	joanheinig@gmail.com	(916) 505-7078

Visit our website Blackhawkwomen.com for more information

Like us on the Facebook: [Jane Blackhawk](#)

2020-2021

Activity Leaders

Activity	Leader(s)	E-Mail	Contact
Book Buzz	Pat Jenkins	(925) 683-4921	patriciajenkins91@comcast.net
Bridge	Discontinued		
Bunco	Margie Basile	(925) 382-6983	birdieb@sbcglobal.net
	Marcia Beersdorf	(925) 819-2371	mit-b@pacbell.net
Cooking is Caring	Sheila Campbell	(925) 980-7391	sheilacampbell1958@gmail.com
Culinary	Etienne Melcher	(228) 218-7471	cgme3333@gmail.com
	Linda McColgan	(925) 683-3856	lindamccolgan2253@gmail.com
Day Away	Stay tuned		
Hand & Foot	Lisa Anderson	(925) 997-7381	lisaanderson99@sbcglobal.net
Hand & Foot Partners	Sally Klein	(925) 699-2958	sgkny@comcast.net
	Ruth Swedlow	(925) 820-3207	ruthswedlow@yahoo.com
Knit & Stitch	Sylvia Armstrong	(925) 820-4585	sylviesays@sbcglobal.net
Mah Jongg	Ruth Swedlow	(925) 820-3207	ruthswedlow@yahoo.com
Mexican Train	Trish Caruso	(510) 816-0245	trishcaruso@gmail.com
	Deb Weber	(925) 984-3049	deb@allwebers.net
Movie Divas	Rose Gogarty	(925) 683-8410	rosegogarty@gmail.com
TGIF	Lorrie Harris	(925) 980-3538	lorryceharris@gmail.com
	Anca Strassman	(650) 533-5114	anca.strassman@gmail.com
Wine & Dine	Lisa Anderson	(925) 997-7381	lisaanderson99@sbcglobal.net
	Susan Ellis	(925) 785-1485	sje2251@comcast.net
Party Hawks	Aly Baker	(925) 330-0371	ajohnsen@msn.com
	Kim Chandler	(925) 200-6146	kimachandler@gmail.com

Blackhawk Women With Birthdays in January

Happy Birthday to All

Dawn Schaeffer	Sunday	1/3
Camille"Kim" Modersbach	Wednesday	1/6
Charlotte Butterfield	Sunday	1/10
Lori Buffalow	Wednesday	1/13
Manigeh Mehryar	Friday	1/15
Mally Jo Netter	Friday	1/15
Marge Stalker	Saturday	1/16
Elizabeth Hunter Ashley	Sunday	1/17
Jane Enger	Monday	1/18
Christine Korkos	Monday	1/18
Janinne Franke-Wisniewski	Saturday	1/23
Shaika Solecki	Saturday	1/23
Lida Chatman	Sunday	1/24
Ann Braden	Wednesday	1/27
Jacqui Welker	Thursday	1/28
Myrna Brodbeck	Saturday	1/30
Jan Ryerson	Sunday	1/31





A Two-Letter English Word
Sandy Cosgrove - V.P. Social

THERE IS A TWO-LETTER ENGLISH WORD THAT PERHAPS HAS MORE MEANINGS THAN ANY OTHER TWO-LETTER WORD, AND THAT IS “UP”

Its easy to understand UP, meaning toward the sky or at the top of the list, but

- When we awaken in the morning, why do we wake UP?
- At a meeting, why does a topic come UP?
- Why do we speak UP and why are the officers UP for election?
- Why is it UP to the secretary to write UP a report?
- We call UP our friends.
- We brighten UP a room and polish UP the silver.
- We warm UP the leftovers and clean UP the kitchen.
- We lock UP the house and some guys fix UP the old car.

At other times the little word has real special meaning:

- People stir UP trouble, line UP for tickets, work UP an appetite, think UP excuses.
- To be dressed is one thing, but to be dressed UP is special.
- A drain must be opened UP because it is stopped UP.
- We open UP a store in the morning but we close it UP at night.

We seem to be pretty mixed UP about UP!

To be knowledgeable about the proper use of UP, look the word UP in the dictionary. In a desk-size dictionary it takes UP almost ¼ of the page and can add UP to about thirty definitions. If you are UP to it, you might try building UP a list of the many ways UP is used. It will take UP a lot of your time, but if you don't give UP, you may wind UP with a hundred or more.

- When it threatens to rain, we say it is clouding UP.
- When the sun comes out, we say it is clearing UP.
- When it rains, it wets the earth and often messes things UP.
- When it doesn't rain for awhile, things dry UP.

I could go on and on, but I'll wrap it UP because my time is UP and it's time for me to shut UP!

*Thank You's From
Julie Moore - BW Activities Chair*

Hi BW Activity Chair Ladies and Photographers,

Happy holidays to all of you!

This has been such a challenging year for everyone.

I want all of you to know how much I appreciate your patience and flexibility.

You have been doing all you can to keep BW activities going during these crazy times and I appreciate all of your efforts.

Here's to 2021 when we can, hopefully, spend lots of wonderful times with our BW friends!

Stay safe and healthy, my friends.

Fondly,

Julie Moore - BW Activities Chair



Programs @ Programs
by
Bronwyn Cosgrove, Programs Chair

Blackhawk Women Programs have been a lot like 2020....on and off! After many months of waiting, we were finally able to host, "Champagne Wishes and Caviar Dreams" on the Terrace in September. We enjoyed a lavish gourmet lunch and sipped copious amounts of sparkling Chandon. In October, we enjoyed Drive-In Bingo and had six lucky winners: Lorrie Harris, Pat Jenkins, Julie Moore, Joyce Tucker, Bonnie Glennon and Jennifer Johnson. Next, we shopped till we dropped at the November Boutique and some lunched on the Terrace. Then, our events were once again placed on hold. The opulent Diamonds and Divas holiday ball postponed.....



So, this month, Programs will just have to be replaced with Programs —TV Programs! Following is a list of those shows that have captivated me and the rest of the country. Perhaps you've seen some of them but hopefully, you will find a few you haven't watched, tune in and get sucked in!

Note: If you don't have Netflix, Hulu, Showtime and/or HBO you can sign up for a free trial (7-30 days, depending on the provider), binge-watch, and then cancel the subscription if you so choose.

Here are the shows everyone's Binge-Watching:

Emily In Paris (Netflix): From Sex and the City's Darren Star, the show stars Lily Collins as Emily, a plucky, Midwestern social media whiz who gets transferred to Paris for work. Despite not speaking a word of French, she learns about the country's culture and customs through trial and error and the different people she sees (and sleeps with). Bon appetit!

Note: Haven't watched it yet but have it in the queue.

Dead To Me (Netflix): Christina Applegate and Linda Cardellini play two women who meet at a support group after suffering the deaths of their respective husbands. Cardellini's Judy, however, is not all she seems, and a secret she's keeping from Applegate's Jen could tear both their worlds apart.

Note: Don't let the storyline fool you, this is LAUGH OUT LOUD funny!

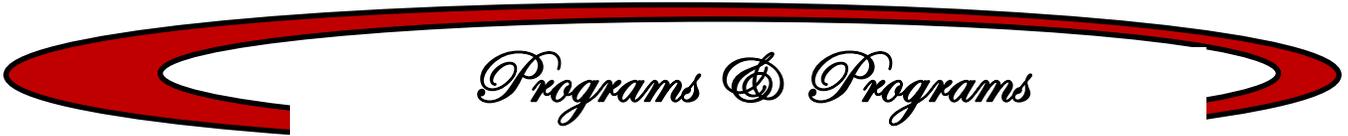
Little Fires Everywhere (Hulu): Reese Witherspoon and Kerry Washington stand as powerful tentpoles in this story about a picture-perfect family in 1990's Ohio whose lives are reexamined by the arrival of a mysterious mother and daughter.

Note: I love anything Reese Witherspoon is in!

The UNDOING (HBO): From Producer David E. Kelley, starring Nicole Kidman, Hugh Grant, Donald Sutherland, Lily Rabe. The Undoing is an American mystery psychological thriller. A therapist's life unravels after she learns that her husband might be responsible for a violent death.

Note: A must see! You don't know "who done it" until the last episode!

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Programs @ Programs
by
Bronwyn Cosgrove, Programs Chair

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The Queen's Gambit (Netflix): Based on a true story, The Queen's Gambit is a 2020 American coming-of-age period drama miniseries. Beginning in the mid-1950's and proceeding into the 1960's, the story follows the life of an orphaned chess prodigy on her rise to the top of the chess world while struggling with drug and alcohol dependency.

Note: Chess sounds boring and so does the description of the show. Alas, it's VERY interesting and a story about women's victory! Get past the first episode and you won't be disappointed!

Your Honor (Showtime): Staring Bryan Cranston and set in New Orleans. A respected judge's son is involved in a hit-and-run that leads to a high-stakes game of lies, deceit and impossible choices.

Note: Only a few episodes have aired so there is time to catch up.

Big Sky (ABC Tuesdays): Storyteller David E. Kelley presents a series about private detectives Cassie Dewell and Cody Hoyt, who join forces with Cody's estranged wife and ex-cop to search for two sisters who have been kidnapped by a truck driver on a remote highway in Montana. When they discover that these are not the only girls who have disappeared in the area, they must race against the clock to stop the killer before another woman is taken.

Note: Episode one has a surprise ending that made me rush to Episode two!

The Crown (Netflix): This drama chronicles the life of Queen Elizabeth II from the 1940's to modern times. The series begins with an inside look at the early reign of the Queen, who ascended the throne at age 25 after the death of her father, King George VI. As the decades pass, personal intrigues, romances and political rivalries are revealed that played a big role in events that shaped the later years of the 20th century. News Nugget: The current season delves heavily into Princess Diana.

Note: For those of you who love Downton Abbey and period pieces, this is a must-see! Great acting, sets and cinematography. And, you learn some history along the way!

Grace and Franke (Netflix): This star-studded comedy-drama features Jane Fonda, Lilly Tomlin, Sam Waterston and Martin Sheen. In this heartwarming, character driven 6-season series, they're not friends at first, but when their husbands leave them for each other, proper Grace (Fonda) and eccentric Franke (Tomlin) begin to bond. It's full of humor and fun a'la 9-5!

Note: Jane Fonda's martini glass is seldom empty and Lilly Tomlin's comedic timing is razor sharp! Two snaps in a circle —A must see!

Birthday Ladies

January 2021

Janinne Franke-Wisniewski

January 23rd Southern Africa vs California

I was born during an electric thunderstorm in the mid-summer heat of a Zimbabwean tropical day. This meant that my birthdays growing up were bound to have a thunderstorm in the afternoon that would last for under an hour and then the skies would clear, and sun would resume its January summer heat.

23rd of January was declared the most depressing day of the year. The reason for this is that employees got paid once a month around the 25th, heavy spending usually occurred for holidays in December and everyone was mostly broke around January 23 without the hope that the 24th offered before the glorious 25th. School usually opened around January 21st to start the new academic year, so usually children were grumpy having to return to scholastic duties after the month-long summer vacation behind them.

My pre-teen birthday parties were simple, fun, and dirty. Children would take cover whilst it rained and then we would resume play outdoors. As was common during this time, the parents would gather to drink, smoke and have what we referred as a Braai (Southern African BBQ) whilst the children organized games and played in the vast gardens of our colonial homes. We got dressed in our finery (for some unknown reason we all wore white socks) and then we preceded to play, and boy did we get dirty in the fertile red soil of Mashonaland! A swimming pool was not very common and in our young minds, it was the greatest asset a house could possibly possess, and kids could spend all day jumping in and out the pool in between the muddy horse play. There would food laden table that all the kids would sit at and the food was catered by my mother, grandmother, and aunts. Nothing was bought except for the sodas which were a special treat at parties.



Whilst we are talking about Zimbabwe, January is possibly the worst time to see Victoria Falls as the falls rely on the water coming down from central Africa, these arrive from May to September and that's when the falls are the most spectacular.

As a young adult I moved to South Africa I lived in Johannesburg which is the industrial and commercial capital of South Africa. Here the January highveld thunderstorms are unlike any electric storm anywhere else in the world. This coupled with thatched roofs meant that if your house did not have its own conductor, the chances were your house would be set alight by a bolt of lightning. Because of the summer rains, the highveld grasses would grow high and game viewing is not at its best as animals don't congregate around the water holes and the grass obscures any good game viewing on safari.

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Birthday Ladies

January 2021

(Continued)

Well into my career I was transferred to Cape Town which anyone who has visited knows is paradise on earth. Here Januarys took on a whole new meaning as Cape Town has a Mediterranean climate, so no rain in summer and the grape harvest is in February. All the South African vineyards move into celebration mode during January and this is when the most tourists visit the Wine Estates. A couple of decades ago all the wine tasting was free and unlimited, it was party central.



Cape Town beaches are magnificent and clean, the sand is pristine and the weather in January is the best time to head to the beach. Only problem is the beaches are so beautiful, the weather spectacular but the sea is un-swimmable unless you are wearing a wetsuit. The cold water of the Atlantic Ocean is freezing on the west side of Cape Town, it is just slightly warmer on the east side as the Indian Ocean brings warmer water to Muizenberg Beach, the sharks like this side too.



My husband is a doctor but there's another Cape Doctor you may not have heard of. Between October and March, a south-easterly wind blows through Cape Town, clearing up the city's air and taking the edge off the summer heat. It's also responsible for the "tablecloth" effect that can sometimes be seen on Table Mountain. As it blows through the mountains, its low moisture content condenses into clouds, which then drop down over the edge of the summit. This wind gave Cape Town its original name of 'Cape of Storms' and was responsible for the hundreds of ships that found themselves shipwrecked along the Cape Peninsula. In some cases, the wind can reach speeds of up to 75 miles an hour. I have witnessed grown men tossed in the air, there are rails

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Birthday Ladies

January 2021

(Continued)

along the main roads – they are there for a reason. When the Doctor blows the community comes together, in good humor we help each other to cross roads and seek shelter. I hope that when you visit, you are “blown away” by Cape Town, but hopefully never blown over in Cape Town!



In January 2008 I was transferred to California and we were told the state was in drought. We landed on January 3rd and there was three weeks of nonstop drizzle. My children who understood drought and water restrictions looked at this and wondered what their mother had brought them to. January 23rd in the states now was in mid-winter and was likely to have hours of light undramatic Californian rain. We started a new tradition of spending my birthday in Squaw Valley, it is usually accompanied by heavy snow and the best pizza on the trip there at Best Pies in Truckee.



The best thing about going to Squaw Valley for my birthday is that Peter and my kids love skiing, and they spend as much time on the slopes as possible. I am more of an après ski type of girl. So, I spend a self-indulgent day at the spa and then meet up for drinks and food at one of the many fabulous food spots around. All this is less than three hours away from home.

Birthday Ladies
January 2021

Myrna Brodbeck

I have been a member of BHW for 24 years. Knit 'n Stitch was the first group I joined after Jack and I moved here.

January 30 will be my 84th birthday. I plan to keep going until I am at least 103. I still have so many knitting projects to finish. □ .

We are all so very blessed to live in Blackhawk.

Myrna Brodbeck





Blackhawk Women *Culinary and Party Hawks* Presents

“CHEERS TO 2021 with CRAFTS and APPS”

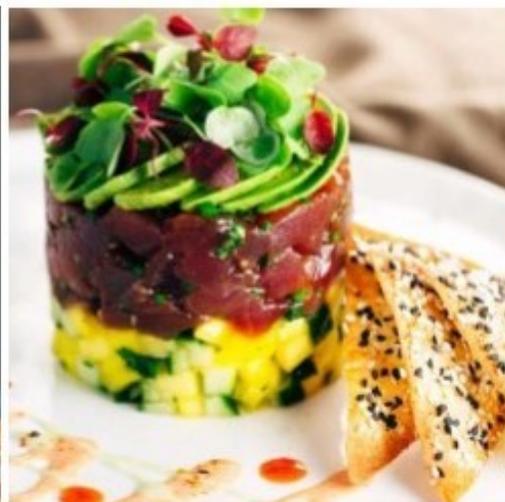
Thursday, January 28, 2021

Get ready for some food and drink fun via *ZOOM!* Learn from Chef Charles how to make six different craft drinks and three special appetizers

Food and booze pick up beginning at 4 p.m. *Zoom Demo* at 5 p.m.

Event is open to Blackhawk Women plus (spouse, partner, friend) and Blackhawk Women singles

Watch for a Blackhawk Women Blast when sign ups open with all event details!

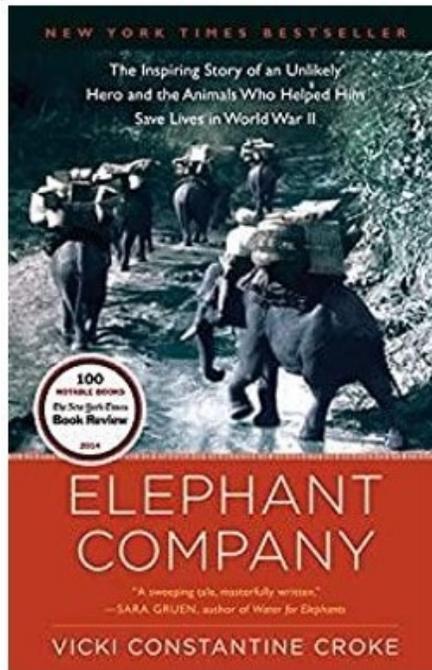


Questions??? Contact Linda McColgan, Etienne Melcher, Aly Baker or Kim Chandler

Book Buzz

Chairperson:

Pat Jenkins
925.683.4921
patriciajenkins91@gmail.com



Meeting: will be on ZOOM

Participants: Not necessary to have read the book to join in on the Book Buzz meeting

Meeting Date: January 12, 2020

Meeting Time: 10:00 am

ON ZOOM: Meeting ID: TBA
Passcode: book

Discussion:

A. Book: The Elephant Company
by Author: **Vicki Croke**

The remarkable story of James Howard "Billy" Williams, whose uncanny rapport with the world's largest land animals transformed him from a carefree young man into the charismatic war hero known as Elephant Bill. In 1920, Billy Williams came to colonial Burma as a "forest man" for a British teak company. Mesmerized by the intelligence and character of the great animals who hauled logs through the jungle, he became a gifted "elephant wallah."

Contact Pat Jenkins: patriciajenkins91@gmail.com Please do not call.

*Ruth Swedlow
Mah Jongg Chairperson*

Monday Mah Jongg is alive and well and working in the Pandemic Universe!

We are playing via Zoom on a Mah Jongg app called "Real Mah Jongg." We meet at 1:00 p.m. every Monday. If you are familiar with the game and with Zoom and you would like to join us - please contact me.

Ruth Swedlow: (ruthswedlow@yahoo.com) or 925.820.3207.

*Sally Klein & Ruth Swedlow
Partners Hand and Foot
Chairpersons*

Partners Hand and Foot is taking a temporary hiatus until the time when current health guidelines allow larger groups to mingle and share items. We will notify you as soon as we feel that it is safe to meet again. We miss seeing everyone and can't wait until we can get together again. Until then we will have to continue to see each other virtually or outdoors in our small socially-distanced bubbles.

Knit and Stitch



Hope all of you had a very Merry Christmas and a safe New Year Celebration. Our group will convene in February if all goes well with the pandemic. We will have a show and tell at our next meeting. Look forward to seeing your completed projects!

Regards,
Sylvia Armstrong
Activity Chair

Chairperson:

Sylvia Armstrong 925.820.4585
sylviesays@sbcglobal.net

Rose Gogarty Movie Divas Chairperson

Happy New Year!! Theaters continue to be closed. We are so fortunate to have so much content to watch to keep us busy. Netflix, Hulu, Peacock, YouTube, Amazon Prime Video, Disney+ and many I have never heard like Crackle and Popcornflix. Here is a fun movie to watch called “New Year’s Eve”, which is a romcom released in 2011 and directed by Garry Marshall. It is set in New York city and follows intertwining storylines. It has a star-studded cast.

When it is safe to return to the theaters, a blast with all the info will be sent out. Until then ...



“So when the ball drops at midnight – let’s remember to be nice to each other, kind to each other. And not just tonight but all year long.” – Claire Morgan

New Year’s Eve
2011



*Sheila Campbell
Cooking is Caring
Chairperson*

Do you know or have you heard about one of our Blackhawk Women members or their immediate family that is undergoing a major surgery? Is recovering from chemotherapy? Or has some critical health condition? Send a "Get Well Meal" to show them you care and that you are thinking of them. BW "Cooking is Caring" will send a delicious meal and deliver it to their doorstep. Our fully prepared meals are suitable for get-well dinners or a sympathy food gift. A meal is the perfect way to show how much we really care!

For more details and guidelines regarding this program, contact our chairperson.

SheilaCampbell1958@gmail.com

925.837.6821

NEW MEMBER'S FORM

FEE: \$60.00

Janinne Franke, VP Membership
jfae@chevron.com

DATE: _____ Referred By: _____

_____ I live within the gates of Blackhawk or

_____ I am a member of Blackhawk Country Club.

_____ I am a New Member or _____ I am a Renewal.

Payment by check # _____ or Blackhawk Country Club # _____

NAME _____ Spouse's Name _____

ADDRESS _____ Phone # _____

Mobile: (optional) _____ EMAIL _____

We'd like to acknowledge your birthday: Month _____ Day _____

Please mail your check payable to Blackhawk Women or provide your Blackhawk Country Club Member number to: Janinne Franke, 4443 Dear Ridge Road Danville, CA 94506

All members will receive their newsletter electronically. **Blackhawk Women Bylaws; Article III, Membership and Dues; Section D: Dues of new members who join after April 1st shall be applied to the ensuing calendar year. Our calendar year runs from July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.