



***A Note About Covid: At our meetings, gatherings, and other activities, we recommend that you wear a mask or have one close at hand.***

### **CMWIC NEWS for October 2022**



#### **From Our President, Suzi Beatie**

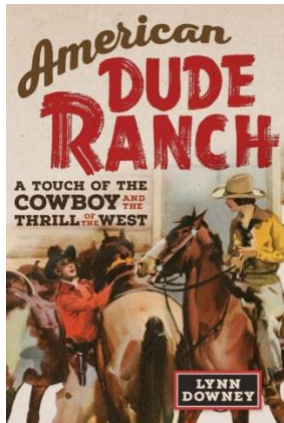
Hi, Dear Members,

A big thank you to everyone who helped make our first meeting a success. It was so good to see you!

We will be doing another “brown bag lunch with speaker” for the October 11 meeting, with hopes that some Covid calm will prevail so that we can return to having potluck lunches in November. Keep your fingers crossed!

We truly welcome and value your participation in decision making and we really want to hear your ideas! The board encourages you to come to our Business Meetings, which

are held at 10:30 AM prior to our noontime gatherings on the second Tuesday of each month.



At our October 11 lunch meeting, you are invited to relax your dress code: wear jeans, dungarees, and other Western attire to help you get into the spirit of horsing around.

Please join us in the patio for social time, as we celebrate autumn with refreshing apple juice and treats between noon and 12:30 PM. We will then retire to the main hall to have our brown bag lunches and hear from our speaker, Lynn Downey, as we let our imaginations run wild, picturing ourselves on a dude ranch!

Doesn't that sound like fun?

I hope to see you there!

--Suzi

P.S. We have reserved March 24/25, 2023, for the **GIYS (Giant Indoor Yard Sale)** at the Community Center. We need to get a pulse from all of you as to whether you want to continue this tradition, so please communicate with a board member and let us know. We will also need a couple of people who will take the lead, so let us know if you are interested! There is certainly lots of help.

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### **Dude Ranch Expert Lynn Downey to Speak October 11** ***Dress Like a Cowgirl: Dungarees, Jeans, Boots***

*CM Community Center, bring a sack lunch.*

Marin County native Lynn Downey will tell us about the deep connection dude ranches have to the culture and history of the American West in her illustrated talk on October 11 at noon.



Lynn is an award-winning author and historian. She is the former historian for Levi Strauss & Co. and the author of *Levi Strauss: The Man Who Gave Blue Jeans to the World*. In 2019 she published *Arequipa Sanatorium: Life in California's Lung Resort for Women*, a history of the TB sanatorium, formerly at the site of the Arequipa Girl Scout camp in Fairfax. Her book won an award for Scholarly Non-Fiction.

She is also a novelist, and her debut historical novel *Dudes Rush In* won a Will Rogers Medallion Award. She is working on the sequel, which will be called *Dude or Die*.

Lynn writes the blog *Tumblrreads: A New Twist on the Old West*.

Look the part: Wear your Western gear for this meeting, if you're up for it. Cowboy boots and hat, jeans, plaid shirt.

Please **RSVP** as soon as possible. We need to let the Community Center know the number of chairs for set up.

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### **All Members Invited to Business Meeting October 11**

All CMWIC members are invited to attend the board's Business Meeting on Tuesday, October 11, at 10:30 AM. No RSVP necessary.

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### **"First Tuesday," October 4, Come Play Wooden Games**

*CM Community Center -- Bring a sack lunch.*

Toys are not just for kids. Our "First Tuesday" meeting on October 4 at noon is one you don't want to miss! This will be a unique offering.



Linda Varonin will bring two BIG wooden toys and several small ones. Cheryl Longinotti and Vicki Newton will lend us their Corn Hole game, so the fun will take place both inside and outside.

Skittles is a British pub game of tops flying around a maze to see if they can topple pins. Kind of like bowling but with tops. (See photo.) This game is 70 years old and made by Berea College in Kentucky.

John Johnson built a wooden straight racetrack for miniature wooden cars. Everyone gets to pick one car and decorate it. Then we will hold races to see whose is the fastest. This is all for fun and laughs.

Do you have any wooden games to share? Bring them if you like! There will be other, smaller surprises as well.

Questions email: [linda.varonin@gmail.com](mailto:linda.varonin@gmail.com)

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### **Marathon Bridge**

*CM Community Center*

The Marathon Bridge Group meets on the third Tuesday of each month from 11:00 AM to 2:30 PM, unless there is a Covid surge that makes it too risky.

Contact Jana Haehl at [jghaehl@comcast.net](mailto:jghaehl@comcast.net) or 415-265-1105 to learn whether Marathon Bridge will meet in October.

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### **Ladies Who Lunch Going to Revamped Robata Grill on October 18**

This month, Ladies Who Lunch will go to a Japanese restaurant that has been around for a long while and just changed ownership.



Robata Grill and Sushi is at 591 Redwood Highway, Mill Valley, in the Shelter Point Business Center, between Aqua Hotel and the Ferrari dealership. It is also across the street from the Seminary Drive Marin Airporter stop.

There is plenty of parking and the prices are good. It's a large room, the staff is friendly, and the food is excellent. The bento boxes are a treat and they come with soup and salad. (See photo).

Last month, Ladies Who Lunch explored the Guatemalan restaurant El Lucerito in San Rafael and gave it "thumbs up."

Please RSVP to [linda.varonin@gmail.com](mailto:linda.varonin@gmail.com), who will make a reservation a few days before we meet. All members are welcome.

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### **Knitting Group to Meet October 25**

*CM Community Center*

Knitting meets on the fourth Tuesday of every month. This month's meeting is October 25 from 11:00 AM until 12:00 at the Community Center. We then have the option of going to lunch next door at Cafe Verde. All are welcome to join us. Bring a sewing, knitting, crochet, or any hand project you need to get done. Even mending!

Everything is more fun with friends!

Email [linda.varonin@gmail.com](mailto:linda.varonin@gmail.com) with questions.

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### **Book Group Meets October 25**

*CM Community Center*

The Book Group will meet on Tuesday, October 25, at 1:00 PM to discuss *Ordinary Grace* by William Kent Krueger. Our meeting will take place outside on patio, weather permitting. Otherwise, we will meet inside.

Future book readings include:

November - *Homegoing* by Ya Gyasi

December – *American Dirt* by Jeanne Cummings

The group is open to all CMWIC members. For more information, please contact:

- Donna Wenig at [donna.wenig@gmail.com](mailto:donna.wenig@gmail.com) or
- Marion Blank at [mb.shop15@gmail.com](mailto:mb.shop15@gmail.com)

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### **CMWIC Membership Renewal**

From Armelle Futterman, Membership:

Thank you all for renewing your commitment to our club and signing up for 2022-2023. The membership dues cover our operating costs and your support allows us to keep the club going.

This club is *yours* and all members are encouraged to participate in its activities and programming. Future events are discussed and planned at the monthly Business Meeting, which precedes the luncheon on the second Tuesday of each month. All members are welcome to come and give their input.

You will find all you need to know about our activities in this newsletter. Detailed information is also listed on our website, [www.cortemaderawomensclub.org](http://www.cortemaderawomensclub.org), along with photos from past events.

**Important:** If you have not already done so, please follow these steps to prevent future newsletters and other important communication from being treated as spam. Email programs “learn” to discard communications from senders whose emails have been ignored repeatedly, not opened fully, or deleted.

- add [rsvp@cortemaderawomensclub.org](mailto:rsvp@cortemaderawomensclub.org) to your contact list
- fully open emails that are sent from this address
- open the attached newsletter.

Cheers to another great year of community and friendship!

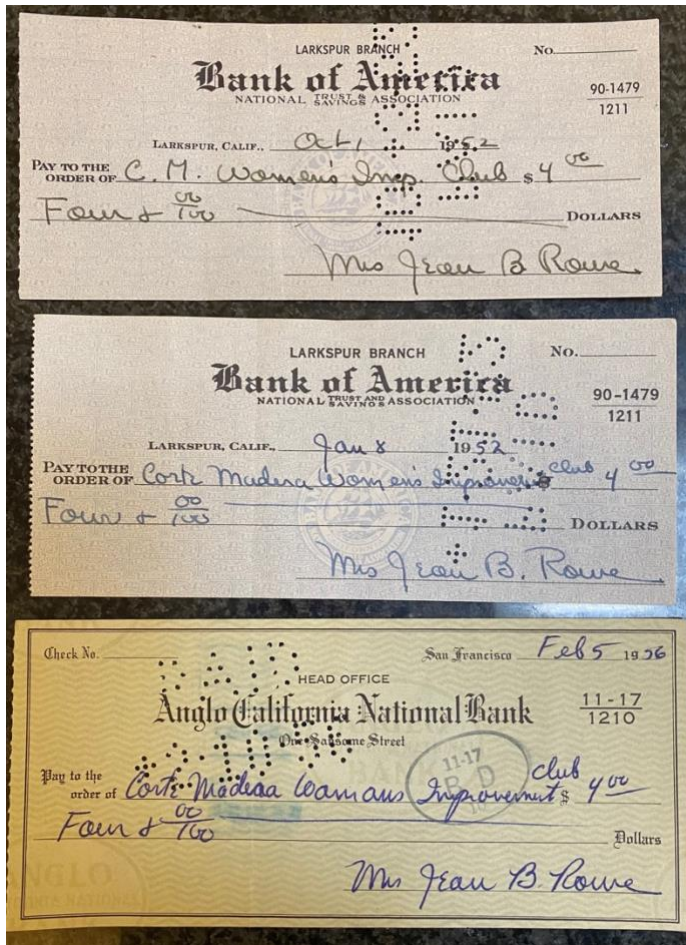
Contact Armelle, [rmlvanfutt@gmail.com](mailto:rmlvanfutt@gmail.com), with any questions regarding your membership status, or just to chat.

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### **Member Wonders If Mid-Fifties CMWIC Helped Her Busy Mother Cope**

By Laura Jean Rowe Richards

During summer of 2022, I was going through a little keepsake box containing the dear letters my mother wrote to me when I went away to college in 1964. In the box was a bundle of bank checks written by my mother from 1952 onward.



To my amazement they included what were annual membership checks in the amount of \$4.00 made out to the "Corte Madera Woman's Improvement Club!" I realized that her four children were all very young at that time she wrote the checks (she had four of us in a five-year period) and that she and Dad were in the midst of rebuilding the little house they purchased on Chapman Drive in 1946 to accommodate a family of six.

Dad (Charles Arthur Rowe) was an engineer with Standard Oil of California and was involved in many civic activities, including helping to build the CM Community Center, which the CMWIC now calls home. He was also a member of the newly formed Lions Club, was on the CM Town Council and the board for construction of the new Marin

General Hospital and rebuilding the Redwoods Presbyterian Church.

So, I was glad to know that Mom was able to somehow break away from all her home responsibilities to meet with other women in the post-war years of the rapidly growing Corte Madera community.

(The dues were \$4.00 per year. Dues today would be more than \$40 per year if they had risen with inflation, so \$25 is a bargain!)

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### Celebration of Jane Purkey



On September 22, eight club members joined Jane Purkey's daughter, Josette, at Jane's memorial bench in Larkspur's Piper Park. Jane passed away last year at age 99½.

They brought fall flowers and tossed them in Corte Madera Creek after sharing wonderful memories of her. Jane hosted Game Day at her home for many years. Josette plans to continue hosting Game Day at their home in November -- so thank you, Josette!

Linda made Jane's favorite cookies to share. See the recipe on page 185 of the club cookbook!

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## Looking Ahead

*November 1 "First Tuesday" Presentation:*

### **"Understanding Our Transgender and Non-Binary Friends and Family Members"**

*CM Community Center, bring a sack lunch*

The world is changing fast, and no area more so than what we (mis-?) understand as gender. Pronoun usage - she, he, they - used to be simple and automatic but now a growing number of teens are identifying as non-binary or transgender.

Our speaker/facilitator, Lolma Olson, will help us understand more about the terms "transgender," "non-binary," and "queer" and help us identify our judgments/assumptions.



Lolma was the director of Patient Relations at California Pacific Medical Center in San Francisco and was CEO of her own business, Sage Consulting, working with large hospital systems.

Now that she is retired, she is a volunteer for Trans Heartline House, a medical recovery house in Marin; she facilitates small groups for her Senior LGBTQ community on "Understanding Our Transgender Friends" and is the co-chair of the North Bay LGBTQ Social Committee. She lives with her wife, Beth – together for thirty-six years – in Novato.

Lolma will present information, then open the floor for Q & A. This program will be informative and participants will leave with a better understanding of people who live as transgender – non-binary – queer people.

For questions and to RSVP: [info@cortemaderawomensclub.org](mailto:info@cortemaderawomensclub.org) (Cheryl Longinotti)

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## **“First Tuesday” Workshops – What Are Your Favorite Holiday Activities?**

Suzi Beatie and Cheryl Longinotti are planning a variety of activities for the first Tuesday of each month (January excepted). They will be informal, brown-bag-lunch gatherings focusing on pretty much anything you can think of, from hands-on crafts to cooking, to timely topic presentations.

Do you have a favorite activity for the holiday season you could share with us? Let Suzi or Cheryl know.

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## **In Our Town**

### **CM Chamber of Commerce Candidates Night via Zoom October 6**

Join the Corte Madera Chamber of Commerce on Thursday, October 6, 6:30-8:00 PM to hear from the candidates running for Town Council.

Each candidate will give an introductory statement, respond to pre-determined questions, answer previously submitted questions, and end with a closing statement. Dick Spotswood will be the moderator.

Please click the link to join the webinar: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89770306967>.

You may call in using: 1-669-444-9171 (Zoom webinar ID: 897 7030 6967)  
Or iPhone one-tap: +16694449171,,89770306967#

Please submit questions you would like to ask all the candidates to [chamber@cortemadera.org](mailto:chamber@cortemadera.org).

For more information, please contact the Chamber office 415-924-0441.

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