

May 11, 2018

Hello Neighbors,

You may recall that at last year's annual meeting I explained the per-person cost for the 2017 Holiday Gathering was \$27. We ended up charging only \$20 per person, due to a surplus Hospitality account balance that allowed us to subsidize the difference.

Over the past few months I have looked into a number of venues for our 2018 event, and was concerned by prices quoted between \$27 and \$36 per person. I think this is a little pricy, and might discourage participation.

So, the search continued, and I think we've got a winner.

My goal is to keep it special, while getting good value relative to the cost, so this year I am giving early notice that our venue will be changed for 2018.

"Save the Date" Saturday, December 8, 2018. Our Holiday Gathering will be held at the Clarion Inn & Conference Center, 711 Millwood Ave. (Rt.50/Jubal Early)

I have met with the General Manager to view the menu options, banquet space, accessibility, and parking. After seeing the banquet room and learning more about the operation, I am convinced this will be an ideal venue for our Holiday Gathering. Clarion Inn is waiving all fees related to room rental and set-up/take-down. There will be no charge for a cash bar set-up. The buffet menu won't be determined for a while, but I'm expecting the cost to be between \$16 and \$22 per person, and I think you all will be very pleased with the final choices. I've been told the room will be very nicely decorated.

Right now the main thing I want everyone to know is the change of venue, and the date. This is plenty of advance notice for it to get placed on your calendars.

FYI: At the summer picnic in August I intend to poll the group to see how many expect to attend the Holiday Gathering, as this will help in overall planning and menu selection. So...be thinking about it, please.

Regards,

Eileen Templeton