

Silver Spur CowBelles

2017 Year End Report

The Silver Spurs have had a very busy year. Our membership is pretty good and always very busy.

We have members from Colfax, Mora and Santa Fe counties. Also some associate members who live out of state. It is a good group of dedicated women. Our meetings are held on the last Thursday of the month with the exception of March and June. We also combine our meetings with 5 States since we usually have a good attendance then.

We attended a real fun Workshop in March in Santa Rosa at the Blue Hole Convention Center. It was a great experience for some of our new members. We encourage them to come and learn what the officers are presenting.

Our CowBelles attend two Health Fairs. One in Raton and one in Wagon Mound. The NM Beef Council usually sends materials for distribution which they enjoy handing out. We also give a drawing item away...usually a gift basket with cookbook & pamphlets or beef certificate.

Rachel Ricklefs and Lynne Ostrowsky made the trip to Elko, Nevada to attend the ANCW Region VI meeting. Only 3 members from the New Mexico CowBelles attended which included 2 Silver Spurs and the state president, Tana Garnett. We all had a very nice time. Lots of good workshop speakers and outings around Elko.

In May we have a regular meeting, but we prepare our articles for the June Beef Supplement which we partner with the Lariat Cowbelles. The articles are put in a Union County Leader newsprint pamphlet and distributed by them. We sell brand ads to help the Leader with the cost of printing the supplement.

We did not have anyone attend the NMCB Mid year in Ruidoso.

We have a meeting in July to get ready for the August Colfax County Fair. We usually put up a booth and serve coffee and cookies at the Jr. Livestock Sale. We also select our Silver Spurs Man of the Year. This year it was Red Bassett. The award is made at the Livestock Sale. Our booth got a first place ribbon again this year and was solely the effort of Carrie Hobbs, with photos provided by a few of the members. Becky Sauble offered to bake all of the cookies for us and did a magnificent job. There were many varieties, appreciated by the buyers and sellers as well. We received \$400 from Mr. Harper again. We use this money for 5 States to educate ourselves on what is trending in the Beef business.

We met in August to discuss who would attend the 5 States Meeting in Clayton and go over our remaining duties for the year. Our August hostess was Lynne Ostrowsky, club secretary from Wagon Mound. She held her meeting in Springer at the Dairy DeLite. Lynne brought the most beautiful cupcakes and cow-shaped cookies. Carrie brought fudge, so needless to say the planning for 5 States went well.

We attended 5 States in Clayton with an entourage of 16 people including some spouses. It was fun and very worthwhile. We listened to the speakers who spoke to

the theme "Irons in the Fire". Mark Gardiner, from Ashland, Ks. and Kay Ledbetter, Texas A&M were the keynote speakers.

In October we participate in the Kids and Kows program put on by the County Extension Service in Raton. We serve cookies, coffee and help hand out milk and give away packets for each school child. The attendance was better than it had been in a while. 6 schools participated.

We elected our officers in October at our luncheon at Truck Stop in Springer. The nominating committee does a fine job of coming up with new gals every year or at least changing some of the officers out. We adopted new by laws for the Silver Spurs and a copy of these will be submitted to the New Mexico CowBelles.

Our November meeting will be in Miami, NM at Dannett Monet's home. It is a pot luck, we love those! We put the finishing touches on our Annual Christmas Bazaar and Rummage Sale in Springer on November 28th. We hold that event in Springer at the Methodist Church. It is usually pretty successful and is our only fundraiser so it is our yearly budget. We have learned that we need a Food Permit which we have obtained for the EPA Office in Raton.

On December 13, we will have our Christmas Luncheon at Carrie Hobbs' home in Springer. We have a White Elephant Pot Luck Luncheon and encourage our members to bring a friend and possible member to the luncheon. We will install our 2018 Officers and set the activities calendar for the up- coming year.

We want to thank the New Mexico CowBelles for providing leadership to our local and for all of your hard work throughout the year.

Respectfully submitted,

Rachel Ricklefs, President

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