

## WHAT IS GNO?-Girls Night Out

Over 7 years ago, the organization GNO was started as a social group made up of women meeting on various occasions to have maybe dinner, see a movie, listen to a speaker or just for "good times". Thank you Karen Cannon!

After a time, it became apparent that maybe we could do more for the women in the community if we had a more regular meeting schedule. Several additions were made to GNO such as trips, picnics, dessert nights and educational evenings. We asked professionals such as Dr. Dar, to address the group. He presented information on maintaining a healthy heart and healthy way of life. We heard from an advocate of Alzheimer's, who gave us some wonderful information to help us deal with loved ones who might be in that situation. Aroma therapy..... AHHHHH, I still remember that massage... and yes, even that wonderful smelling Lavender Lady who brought us all kinds of good smelling and healthy suggestions. These are just to name a few of many programs that have been presented, along with GREAT food.

Needless to say, the handful grew into dozens and then dozens grew into the low hundreds and to this day there are over two-hundred on our list.

Even though, each function costs a small fee to attend, those fees add up which help us, after costs, to give back to the community. Even though each function is important in one way or another, the most important function of the year is the GNO Christmas Auction. This auction raises several thousands of dollars and takes a lot of preparation to exhibit the items put up for auction, however.....the hard work proves to be to little as to what the outcome is at the end of the night.

Within three days of the close of the auction, the committee, which consists of, Pat Short, President, Cheryl Wood, Vice President, Barbara Moxey, Treasurer, Dale Kehrer, Secretary, Jean Unruh and Sharon Weaber, members at large, meet to go over the names of individuals within the Sussex County area, that may be having a difficult time making ends meet. We have paid electric and heating bills, bought medication and or groceries, helped a single mom and in some cases a single dad, give a child brighter Christmas, and many, many other crucial situations at a given time. These names are submitted by church members and other members of GNO in the Long Neck and other areas, and in some cases, a phone call will come into the church office and is referred to our committee, and after discussion by all or some of the committee, a decision is made to help that individual. Even though our focus is primarily on women, there was a need to help a man who was about to be put out in the cold, so after little discussion, the decision was made to help, after all we feel that was the Christian thing to do. So with that said, we so thank you all so very much for attending these functions and for your time, energy and funds to make these potentially sad things, give someone a bright moment in their life.

Now.....a dear sweet lady said recently said, "Christians do not always have to have a straight face, they can have good clean fun", brings me to the next GNO shindig coming up on March 6 at 6:30 at Angola Beach and Estates Club House. One member had an idea and we decided to go with that idea and make it even bigger, and that my friends, is where the Cruise Ship Talent Show comes alive. For clarification purposes, there will be men there for entertainment purposes only, after all, this is G (girls)NO!!

So we hope to see you women there, boarding the GNO Imitator, for some local talent impersonators. Deadline to reserve is February 27, 2009, but if the decks are not full, we MAY be able to bring you on board at the door, but that is not a guarantee.

One of the goals I set as the new president of GNO was to be more spiritual and wholesome while still have a good time and still having the main reason of raising monies to help those less fortunate.

If you should have any questions, concerns and ideas, please feel free to contact me at 226-4221.

Respectfully,

Pat Short

President, GNO