



Greetings! ☐☐

I am so ready for spring! Love the snow and rain, but am anxiously awaiting the first buds on the trees. As ever the question is - will we have peaches/apricots/apples this year? Or will that last frost dash our hopes . . . again. Mother Nature is very tricky.

After what will be, I'm sure, a terrific presentation by Kate Nelson (one of the most enthusiastic people on the planet!) from New Mexico Magazine, we have very important business to cover.

The financial review will be presented-thank you, Jim Neal; Erica Wendel-Oglesby and the benevolence committee will request your approval for their donations (voting will be done electronically) and finally a chance to discuss expanding the membership of Jardineros (again voting will be done electronically).

A quick review, one of our members was asked if someone outside of Placitas could join our amazing group. She had to say "no" and then thought it should be discussed. This was first presented a year ago but no action was taken.

The board and officers have developed a list of pros and cons-see below-of expanding our membership. We each have our personal opinions on this *but the board has no recommendation.*

#### Pros

- Allowing people from communities that we are already serving could be an opportunity to learn more about their communities and their need for our support
- Jardineros has never considered itself a world apart given its connections to various outreach programs-Haven House and schools in Bernalillo, Algodones Elementary and Rebuilding Together Sandoval County
- Membership would not greatly increase as we will not advertise open membership
- It would allow current members to invite friends to join the organization
- Having members outside of Placitas could lead to new friendships, new ideas and the creation of new interest groups
- Increased membership means more money for benevolence
- Occupancy of the sanctuary of Las Placitas Presbyterian Church is 150. Average monthly attendance for the past two years is 72, with a high of 92. There would not be a problem accommodating more members

#### Cons

- Are we already too large?
- Will the increase in membership make the monthly meeting too crowded making it difficult to socialize?
- Parking is already a problem
- Most of the existing Interest Groups are currently full
- Attendance at an Interest Group outside of Placitas could create transportation problems
- Jardineros should remain a Placitas organization reflecting the uniqueness of our community

We will take as much time as needed to discuss this possibility. I ask that you treat each other with respect and consideration. Please share your views especially if you have something, either pro or con, not listed above.

The Leprechauns are ready for the March meeting thanks to Linda Heath and her refreshment committee. ☐☐ They'll be serving a variety of delicious items to include pistachio cake, green chili egg casserole, fresh veggies (likely green) and several types of breads and scones.

Erin go Bragh! See you next week!□□□□□

Karen Cox, President.  
Jardineros de Placitas