



Vida McKenzie Community Center

Fall 2003 Newsletter

CIVIL WAR GAME TICKETS DUCK FANS... BEAVER FANS...

The Vida McKenzie Community Center has 2 tickets to the **UofO vs. OSU "Civil War"** November 22nd game that will be raffled off as a fundraiser for the community center.

We know that many of us live and breathe Duck and Beaver football this time of the year. You know how hard it is to get tickets to the "Civil War" game. This is the game. Millie Hass has given the Community Center an opportunity to do a little fundraising and provide someone with 2 tickets to the most exciting game of the year.

As you open this newsletter you probably already have the raffle tickets in hand. Here is your opportunity to win 2 tickets to the game and help the community center at the same time.

We have included 12 raffle tickets with this newsletter. The raffle tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00. Join in on the fun and excitement of being in the crowd at Autzen Stadium when these two teams clash on November 22nd. Some of you may (Cont. on page 2)

AMENDMENT TO BYLAWS

An amendment to the Vida McKenzie Community Center Bylaws is needed in order to move forward in obtaining a property tax exemption through Lane County. Our Bylaws must have a section that basically says, "The Board of Directors shall distribute the assets of the corporation to charitable organization when the Vida McKenzie Community Center Corporation is dissolved."

Our Bylaws require that we conduct a meeting or conduct a mailing to our membership to vote upon changes to the Bylaws. We have decided that we will use the mail process as the voting method. Attached to this newsletter will be a written summary of the proposed amendment change.

Please vote and mail in the ballot. All ballots must be postmarked by November 1, 2003.

TAI-CHI Story on page 2 **AARP 55 "ALIVE"**

Story on Page 4

CHRISTMAS BAZAAR

Leaburg Community Center has asked for support for their December 6th annual Christmas Bazaar. This will be a fundraiser that may be the start of their new building. It will also be a fundraiser for the Vida McKenzie Community Center that may be added to our upgrade fund as we move toward upgrading our electrical system and replacement of the windows.

We started putting out the word that we would need helpers to support this effort. We have had a wonderful response from our membership. With a few more people we may be able to reduce the hours volunteer time will be needed. Those volunteering to help make it a success this year include: Laura Olson, Joyce Brooks, Joey Garner, Janice Williams, Joyce and Walter Wilson, Alinka McMullen, Diane Gardner, Bob Dow, Sandy Hitchcock, Rita Gibbs, Faith Bokros, Marge Estenson, Vern Blumhagen, Pamela Reim, Eleanor Rodakowski, Pat Shama, Sue Shekell, Kathleen Shelley, JoAnn Smith and Linda Schaefer. Can we add your name to the list?

There will be a need for people to work the raffle table, one (Cont. page 3)

CIVIL WAR GAME TICKETS AVAILABLE

VIDA McKENZIE COMMUNITY CENTER
P.O. Box 163, 90377 Thomson Lane, Vida Oregon 97488



TAI-CHI at the COMMUNITY CENTER

Earlier this year two McKenzie Valley residents took part in an accelerated Tai-Chi course in north Eugene. It was designed to help improve balance, circulation, muscle toning, joint flexibility and coordination for seniors. The positive results from the daily sessions caused the women to tell other people about the experience.

Now Tai-Chi classes for women and men are being offered at the Community Center. Happily, with it's new IRS 501(c)3 classification, the Vida McKenzie Community Center is in a position to offer the Center for classes as a community service.

In early September, an instructor, Paige Semich agreed to provide the instructional portion if there was interest in the Vida area. The interest was there and classes are being held on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 to 11 am. Paige says all ages and abilities are welcome. There is a modest fee of \$5.00 for drop-ins and for those who register for the month in advance pay \$3 a class.

Instructor Semich points out that Tai-Chi is known as a walking meditation. She says it improves memory and breathing, lowers blood-pressure as well as heightening internal awareness. Because Tai-Chi is a highly individualized practice, she said "it allows students to progress through the forms at their own pace to match their own abilities." Among the many values of Tai-Chi, she noted, is that it helps relax the mind, gently stimulates the body and give individuals power to maintain and improve personal health.

Additional information may be obtained by calling Laura Olson 896-3298 or Sue McKinney 896-3879.

LANE LIBRARY LEAGUE

This summer the Lane Library League came to the McKenzie Valley. Jennifer Slater says "the League was interested in running a summer reading and story program for kids in the surrounding Vida area. The Vida McKenzie Community Center was suggested and everyone thought it would be a wonderful location for the League to begin this form of activity." The classes were held every Wednesday for eight weeks between 10:30 and noon. Jennifer went on to say, "We had time for some crafts, a story time and snack."

We know the children had a wonderful time and we're sure that many wished the classes were held on more days than just the day one a week.

We are very happy to help bring the Lane Library League and the children's program to the Community Center for everyone in the surrounding Vida area. We are looking forward to working closely with the Lane Library League in continuing the children's program next summer.

CIVIL WAR TICKETS

not be football fans or may not be able to attend this game of games but would like to still be part of the excitement that is building. You can still join in on the raffle and if you win, give the tickets to friends who are Beaver or Duck fans. Maybe you have friends who are fans and would be interested in helping out with the fundraiser and possibly win 2 tickets to the "Civil War" game.

We will have the drawing during half time of the November 15th Duck vs. UCLA game. We'll be calling the winner at that time.

Tickets are \$1.00 each or 6 for \$5.00.

Please put your name and telephone number on the back of the ticket and please print clearly so we call the right person. Separate the ticket, keeping the one that says, "Keep This Coupon" and mail the other tickets along with you check to:

**VIDA MCKENZIE COMMUNITY CENTER
PO BOX 163
VIDA, OREGON 97488**

If you have any questions, please call
Vern Blumhagen 896-3814 or Walter Wilson 896-0153

As an added bonus, Millie says she might have a "tailgate" party and if you are the winner of the tickets, you are invited to join the tailgate party as her guest.

UPGRADE TO CENTER

ELECTRICAL: We have been working this summer on obtaining donations for the badly needed electrical upgrade. A generous donation from EWEB has provided some funding for the electrical upgrade in the building. We have requested bids from several local contractors and the bids will determine how much work the center can currently afford. Funding to completely rewire the building may have to be done in phases over a few years as funds become available. Estimates on work 5 to \$6000.00.

Our goal is to relocate the meter and add a new main circuit box with increased capacity. New wires, switches and plugs would improve the (Cont. on page 3)



BINGO MONTHLY AT THE CENTER

In August we began an adventure with a new fundraiser. It has been successful so far due to the response of our membership and those in the McKenzie Valley that



enjoy the game of Bingo. Some of the players have said they enjoy getting out in the evening, seeing old friends and meeting new neighbors. They thanked us for once again bringing an event to the Vida area that gives them the opportunity to get out of the house on a weekend.

A lot of effort was extended by a few members of the community center to put this all together and make it work. It is still a work in progress. We are learning to be more effective each month.

It appears with the success we have had so far that Bingo as a fundraiser will help the Community Center achieve some of its goals and upgrades to the building. Donations of cakes and pies to the snack bar is a major portion of this fundraiser. Please keep them coming!

There is a need for more membership involvement. We need for someone to take the lead, be the coordinator and learn the process. Each month we need members to help collect the entry fee, to work at the snack bar and to help during the games collecting money for extra cards being played. Can you help?

Bingo is being played on the 2nd Saturday monthly.



Janice Williams and Joyce Wilson preparing the snack bar for hungry bingo players.

The doors open at 6:15pm and the games start at 7pm. Come early, get a good seat, enjoy some of the goodies from the snack and settle back for a fun evening with friends and neighbors.

CENTER UPGRADES capacity

and ensure a safer building and safety of the users of the building. Additional circuits would be added to ensure this. Additional lighting would make it brighter during the evening hours.

WINDOWS: We have six large windows in the main room that provide a different view from each window of the outside world. But these windows do not provide much in heat retention during the winter months or ventilation during the summer. We also have seven smaller windows that need to be replaced for the same reason.

We have several members that have come forward with an offer to donated the cost of a window:

Todd and April Olson, Bob and Dawn Neilsen, Robert and Rita Gibbs and the Vida-McKenzie Neighborhood Watch.

This has moved us forward in our goal of window replacement.

If you want to help give Walter Wilson (896-0153) a call. We are working with several contractors to get the best pricing and possible donation of some work and materials.

FACIAL BOARDS AND FRONT DOOR GUTTER: Half of the facial boards were removed due to dry rot several years ago. Replacing the boards and beat up old gutter would improve the appearance to the front of the building.



CHRISTMAS BAZAAR (from page 1)

would be a floor monitor assisting the vendors/table renters, 2 or 3 people working in the kitchen/snack bar area.

Leaburg has one person already who will handle the table rentals. Additional people will be needed to contact businesses for donations for the raffle and food for the kitchen. The plus side of this is.. they (LCC) already has a list of where to go and people to contact that they have worked with in the past. We just need some help in making contact with them.

This is a wonderful opportunity for us. We help the Leaburg Community Center raise funds for their needs. It provides us the opportunity to use it as a fund raiser for our community center, plus it give us experience in putting on fundraisers like the Christmas Bazaar. This will be valuable experience that we will most likely use in the near future.

Like most adventures, the success is dependent upon involvement. Involvement is each of us working together. This is a win-win situation for both community centers. Can you help us make this a success? Give Joyce Wilson (896-0153) a call and add your name to the list of helpers. If you have an area (snack bar, raffle, tables) you would prefer to work in, please let her know.



WEDDINGS? FAMILY REUNIONS? LARGE PARTY? NEED A PLACE FOR A MEETING? PLANNING A DRIFTBOAT PARTY?

No need to look any further than right here along the beautiful McKenzie River. The Vida McKenzie Community Center is the place to handle your family, group and meetings requirements. It has a large room to meet your needs, kitchen facilities to handle your food, and a large parking lot that could handle your RV friends. Located next to Prince Helfrich boat landing on Thomson Lane allows for a place to take out or put in your boat, plus a great place for fishing. Don't miss out. Make your reservations early by calling Linda Schaefer at 822-3947.

HELP NEEDED

Current projects in which we need VMCC COORDINATORS:
BINGO, ELECTRICAL UPGRADE, WINDOW UPGRADE,
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR, TAX EXEMPTION

The Center is looking for members of the community who can donate their time and skills to help rejuvenate the center.

We also need help in the following areas:

****CARPENTERS ** PLUMBERS **ELECTRICIANS ** FENCE BUILDERS ** FLOOR INSTALLERS ** PAINTERS **APPLYING FOR GRANTS **LEGAL AID IN WORKING WITH GRANTS ** SPONSORS FOR THE NEWSLETTER****

If you can help please call Walter Wilson 896-0153.

This Newsletter Sponsored by
WALTER & JOYCE WILSON

AARP "55 ALIVE" CLASS

AARP instructor Bob Schmacher is looking forward to conducting another "55 Alive" class at the Vida McKenzie Community Center. Vida McKenzie Community Center will sponsor the class in the interest of public service and community support.

Bob's last class, held in September was such a success that he decided it was time to do it again. The class will be held during the first week of December, Monday the 1st and Wednesday the 3rd. The class hours are 1 to 5pm. It will be held on two days, four hours per day.

Bob provides education the maturing driver on most of the rules of the road that have been in effect for some-time and also new and upcoming rules that will take affect in the near future. There are funny sides to the class to go along with the serious side of driving a vehicle as we age. Bob also provides some good driving hints for the Springfield and Eugene area.

The class is limited in size. Please call early for reservation. Call Laura Olson 896-3298 or Sue McKinney 896-3879. Please let Laura and Sue know if you are signing up one or more persons.

BINGO HIGHWAY SIGNS

Ever wonder where they came from or who did them? Our member and resident sign painter Joyce Wilson did the work along with husband Walter. Below she seen doing some of her best work. She sets down a lot on the job but the work gets done and the signs look good.



BALLOT AND RAFFLE TICKETS

Please take a moment right now and vote on the amendment to the Vida McKenzie Community Center Bylaws. This is important to your community center. When you put the ballot in the envelope to mail in, why not use that same envelope to send in your raffle tickets for the Civil War Game.

A Good Simple Rule of Life

You need only two tools: WD-40 and Duck Tape.

If it doesn't move and it should, use WD-40. If it moves and shouldn't, use the duct tape.