



Vida McKenzie Community Center

Spring 2003

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MAY 10th



GOOD YEAR

by Walter W Wilson,
President Vida McKenzie
Community Center.

When I accepted the gavel and leadership of the Community Center from Bob Neilson last May I knew that we still had leaps and bounds

to go to reach the goal of getting the center on it's feet and self supporting.

When the Board members met we identified many items that needed repair or upgrade, unfortunately the bank balance just could not be stretched to meet all those needs. At the top of the list was an electrical (Cont page 2)



LANE LIBRARY LEAGUE

This summer the Lane Library League will be coming to the McKenzie Valley. Jennifer Slater says "the League is 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 from of activity. The exact dates have not been set but the program calls for a once a week class, starting the week after school gets out, going for eight weeks straight. I'm thinking Wednesday's, 11 to noon. We would have a story time, craft and snack."

MAKING IT SHINE

Todd Olson of Olson Construction and Painting began the painting process of the interior of the Community Center after a dozen or so members finished the prep work.

Todd took time from his busy work schedule to volunteer to assist with the prepping and painting of the interior of the Community Center.

Todd was instrumental in getting Sherwin Williams of Springfield to donate the 15 gallons of paint needed and Tommy's Paint Pot who donated cleaning and prep materials. After the final touches were completed over 180 hours of time were donated by Todd and members of the community.

You've got to see it to believe it. Mark your calendar for May 10th 1000am for the annual membership meeting and see for yourself.

BINGO AT THE CENTER

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Painter and Helpers



The painting crew, from left, Laura Olson, Marge Estellen, Walter Wilson, Eric Olson, Todd Olson, Kathleen Shelley, and Vern Blumhagen. Not in the picture: Joyce Wilson, April Olson, Linda Schaefers, Judy Pratt, Roger and Bonnie Mikkelsen, Greg and Janice Williams.

GOOD YEAR (cont. from p1) upgrade but this would have really broken the bank. A call was placed to Big Bob Neilsen for help. We cleaned some fuse holders and tightened some screws on the wiring lugs. This seems to have temporarily fixed one of the lighting problems. But the old center still needs a new wire job. Drapery, painting, restrooms, floors and other items were things that we would have to approach lightly due to our slim budget. It was decided that we would forego the drapes and flooring and concentrate our efforts on restrooms and painting. We decided to contact the local home improvement centers to seek their help in donating painting supplies. In the mean time, a new counter top was purchased for the ladies restroom and Joyce and Walt Wilson donated the sink and plumbing fixtures. It was soon found that the men's restroom sink and drain were in worse shape than the ladies. With Vern and Marilynn Blumhagen donating a cabinet for the men's restroom, Joyce and Walt donated a counter top, sink and plumbing fixtures. Walt and Vern put their carpentry skills together and masterfully installed the cabinet and counter tops.

When local contractor Todd Olson called and offered his help in painting the interior of the building I was overjoyed. If we would do the preparation work, he would get the paint and prep materials donated and do the painting. The word went out and members responded to the call to do the dirty work in getting the center cleaned up. Todd was true to his word and in late January Todd was there with prep materials from Tommy's Paint Pot and five gallon buckets of paint from Sherwin Williams in Springfield. Todd and his wife April were also there when (Cont. p4)

Some BEFORE and AFTER



The old sink and counter top in the ladies restroom had served its purpose very well for over 40 years but time and water caused rot to the top and rust stain to the sink.



Like the sink in the ladies restroom the sink in the men's restroom (dated 1942) served very well but with leaking plumbing and shut off valves that would no longer functioned, it was time for a needed replacement.



This wall, like most of the interior of the center required a lot of preparation and a much needed coat of paint.

BINGO... Played an exciting game of BINGO lately? Some of you may laugh. Some of you know what I'm talking about. You can laugh. You can have lots of fun and it can be exciting. And if you are lucky you can win some prizes.

We have been discussing the possibility of starting up a regular evening of BINGO at the Vida McKenzie Community Center for some time now. We still have a few things to work out, like when we are going to start? What day of the week? How many times of the month? Who's going to run it? Want to help? Give us a call.

Stay tuned. Look for the announcement. This can be another wonderful opportunity for you to meet other residents in our community and have fun while doing it.



A TRUCK LOAD OF HEATING WOOD



The old wood shed was getting pretty bare this past year when Bob Neilsen Jr. help fill it up with a load of wood.

Bob says that he has a lot more but what's left is much larger in diameter

and will require splitting in order to handle it.

EQUIPMENT NEEDED: Power Splitter.

HELP NEEDED: People power to help with the splitting and loading and moving to the wood to the center so that we may take advantage of Bob's offer.

Give us a call. We'd love to fill that old wood shed up this summer to help us make it through next winter.



PAINTINGS ON DISPLAY

Local artist Carma Smith will have several of her paintings on display for the May general membership meeting. Come and see the paintings and meet the artist.



REPAIRS NEEDED

The building may be a half century old and it has seen some really fun and wonderful times from members throughout the years, but like any other buildings from time to time it needs a little sprucing up.

The trim on the outside needs to be replaced while other areas could use a good power washing followed by a fresh coat of paint. Some window sills need to be replaced. All the window glass needs to be replaced with energy effective windows.

After you have been walked and danced on the floor for a half century some new flooring and a fresh coat of varnish would help. The outside doors are in need of a good sanding to remove the old varnish and a fresh clear coat applied. This will help match the new Community Center sign that will be placed on the front door.

The old building can't do it by it's self. So it's asking the community, CAN YOU PLEASE HELP?





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GOOD YEAR (cont from p2) the prep work began to assist and guide us through the process before Todd began his magic and interior began to take on a new look not seen in years.

We had been looking into obtaining a new sign for the front door when Linda Schaefers enlisted the help of Jeff Sherman to create a very nice wood sign for the front door. Check it out on page 3. Jeff did all the work and all we had to do was to add some black paint in the lettering and finish it off with several coats of clear polyurethane and hang it on the door.

Before the prepping for the painting began the old green drapes came down. The Board had several discussions about what to do about the window coverings. Several vendors were contacted but we soon found out that we would also have to set this aside until the center was in better financial order. The finances did not change but member Kathleen Shelley came up with a bolt of material left over from a project she worked on and Kimm Esser volunteered to break out the ole sewing machine and craft some coverings for the windows. Walla, once again members came through for us.

One major obstacle that has bugged the center since the community accepted leadership of the club house was the IRS 501c(3) tax exempt status. In the past, several members started to obtain the necessary information but there had been no final completion of the form. Member Kathy Thomas stepped forward this year and restarted that movement. Marge Estenson and Laura Olson put together the information about the organization, Vern Blumhagen provided the financial data and Kathy began the process of putting it to paper. I completed the final form and it is now in the hands of the IRS for determination. We have high hopes as this will allow the center to seek larger donations and grants.

After struggling for the first half of our year, we as a group began to move forward and in the process have been able to get several things on our "to do" list completed this year. If it had not been for the members of our community stepping up and helping, Todd Olson, Jeff Sherman, the Late Bloomers Garden Club with their generous donation and members of the Community Center, we could not have had the success that we enjoy at this moment. This is not to say that we have completed everything that we set out to do and that the cen-

ter is financially on its feet. It is far from it. This coming year may be the make or break year.

At the May membership meeting we will be seeking members of the community to join us, be workers within, be leaders. Several of the Board positions will be open for new members. From within the Board members will come the leadership, your President and officers for the coming year.

So many people to thank so I'll just say, it's been a fun year. I've enjoyed working with the Board, our members and the community. And last but not least, during the year the center lost a long time friend and supporter, Buck Carter.

Looking forward to meeting each of you on May 10th.

YOUR COMMUNITY CENTER LEADERS FOR THE PAST YEAR



Left to right: Kimm Esser (Board), Vern Blumhagen (Treasurer), Laura Olson (Secretary), Bob Neilsen Jr. (Vice President), Walter Wilson (President), Joyce Wilson (Board), Bill Esser (Board) and Marge Estenson (Board). Linda Schaefer (Board) is not in the picture.

Election time. How fast a year goes by these days. Seems like yesterday when we met at the Community Center for our annual meeting and elected Board members and our Officers for the coming year. Well folks, it's time to do it again. The center looks to you, the membership, the residents of the McKenzie Valley to be the leaders. To help the Center take another step forward, to reach another new height, to complete some of the goals still on the "to do" from the past years. Can the center count on you to be a member? Join in and be one of the leaders? Come to the May 10th meeting and be part.



Thank You
JEFF SHERMAN
for the wonderful new
center door sign.

This Newsletter Sponsored by
WALTER & JOYCE WILSON

**LATE BLOOMERS
GARDEN CLUB**

Thanks Late Bloomers Garden Club. Your generous donation will allow the Center to achieve many of its goals for the coming year.

Thank you, Kathleen and Laura



Thanks Judy



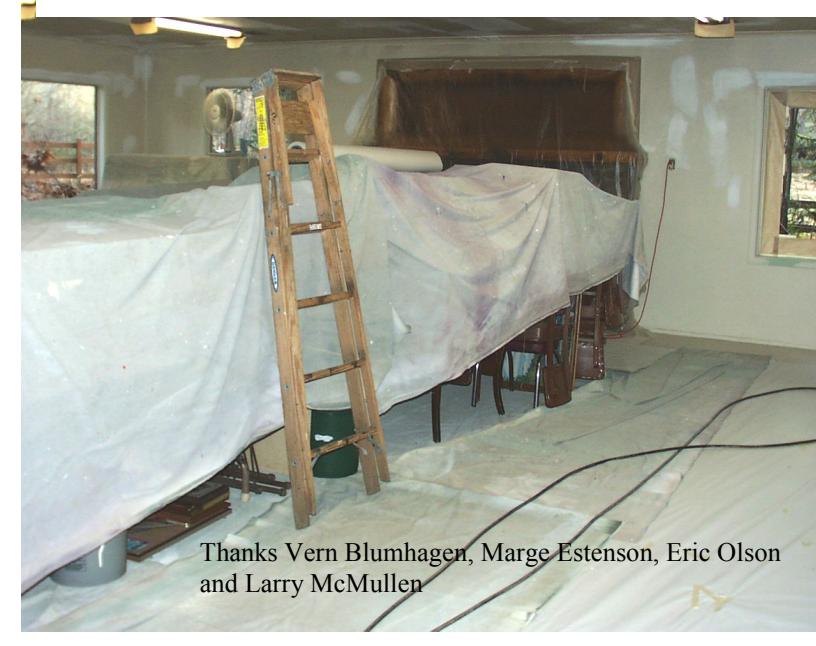
Thank you Linda Schaefers,
Todd and April Olson



Thank you,
Roger & Bonnie Mikkelsen, Greg & Janice Williams,
Walt & Joyce Wilson



What began on January 17th ended about a week later, but in between everything in the center was moved. Every wall was scrapped and washed. Laura Olson made sandwiches one day with the help of Kathleen Shelley. Walt & Joyce Wilson fixed pizza the next day. Judy Pratt put on the gloves and they didn't come off until all the scrapping was done. It is unbelievable what a mess was created in the center. After all the hard work everyone was overjoyed with the results that several gallons of paint and Todd Olson doing the painting, gave us when we had completed the pickup, put back in place and the center given a clean sweep.



Thanks Vern Blumhagen, Marge Estenson, Eric Olson
and Larry McMullen





I'm for sale, check me out at the meeting.

50/50 RAFFLE

Join us on May 10th for the annual membership meeting and help support the Community Center. You get a chance to win and support the Community Center while having fun.



Have you sent in your membership?
Don't wait another minute.
The Community Center needs your support.



Vida McKenzie Community Center Newsletter

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 emerald 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 Schaefers at 822-3947 or drop us an email at: VidaMcKenzieCC@aol.com

HELP NEEDED Got a skill?

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

CARPENTERS ** PLUMBERS **ELECTRICANS ** FENCE BUILDERS ** FLOOR INSTALLERS ** DRAPERY MAKERS ** PAINTERS **APPLYING FOR GRANTS **LEGAL AID IN WORKING WITH GRANTS **LEGAL AID IN OUR NON-PROFIT STATUS ** SPONSORS FOR THIS NEWSLETTER

Maybe you don't have the time to donate your services? Maybe you can donate some of the materials needed? If you can help please call Walter Wilson 896-0153 and lets talk.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE



The Vida McKenzie Community Center is looking for a lot of good members like the old "Club" had. Remember the old shake roof?

Here's Linn and Cecil Beyenlin, Ruth West and Ernie Mills busy splitting cedar for the roof. We don't split cedar anymore for the

roof. The foundations laid and the walls are up now.



Anyone remember the old double barreled heater? Lots of fire wood had to be cut and split to warm the old building. Not so much chopping now that we have a nice propane forced air heater, but we could use some help with other chores. Join us and let the fun begin..

Vida McKenzie Community Center Membership Information Form

Name _____

City _____

Phone _____

Type of Membership: _____ Family

Date _____

Address _____

State _____ Zip _____

Email _____

_____ Individual _____ Business

Household Dues are **\$10.00** per year and are good until the Spring of 2004.

Please include dues when returning the Membership Form.

Any amount received over the **\$10.00** dues will go toward the upgrade fund.

Thank you for your support!!



*Vida McKenzie Community Center
90377 Thomson Lane
PO Box 163
Vida, Oregon 97488*

A gem, setting above Helfrich boat landing and overlooking the McKenzie River in the Vida area since 1950

The Vida McKenzie Community Center



NEEDS YOU.

Can we count on you?

If you're a member, thanks. Pass this on to a friend or neighbor.
Don't forget the annual membership meeting, 1000am May 10, 2003.

