



Vida McKenzie Community Center

90377 Thomson Lane
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Dear Friends of the Vida McKenzie Community Center,

Another year has come and gone. Each year since we as a community have taken over the center we have continued to move forward with upgrade projects. Some include: a new roof, replacement of the stove and refrigerator, forced air heater, painting of the inside of the center, remodel of bathrooms, IRS 501c(3) certification, highway signs, monthly bingo games, successful Civil War game ticket raffle which brought in over \$700 thanks to a donation of 2 tickets by Mille Hass, Leaburg Christmas Bazaar (16 members worked to make this a success) operation that netted our Center over \$650. We have also been fortunate to have several local organizations (McKenzie River Lions, Late Bloomers Garden Club, EWEB to name a few) donate funds to the Center. I probably have forgotten to include many other things we have done to the Center since the year 2000.

We have many other things that need to be done to the Center to continue to make it a viable living place that the community will want to use and enjoy. Some of the areas are: Electrical upgrade, window replacement, refurbish of the Center exterior, floor replacement, the kitchen area, lighting. I could go on but you can get the idea that there is still much to be done.

We have some funds available to start on some of the projects but we need someone to take the lead, to coordinate the projects. Without someone taking the lead these project are going to remain unfinished. While we have been successful in our last two adventures, the Duck ticket raffle and the Christmas Bazaar, we must continue to promote these forms of events to bring in funds to the Center. I know that many of you have ideas for different forms of fund raisers for the Center. Work up those ideas. Create a plan and bring it to the Board. We need your help. The Leaburg Center group has suggested a garage sale in their center sometime next spring, we'll help and split the profits. Some of us can do the work sometimes, but not all of us can do it all the time. The monthly Bingo operation has been a success. It is a renewable monthly source of income for the Center. Someone beside Joyce and I must learn this operation. After this February game Joyce and I may be unavailable for several months. If this source of income for the Center is to continue then someone needs to come forward to learn the process between now and February.

After the first of the year we will begin our membership drive and hold our annual member meeting on May 1st., but for now as we end the year during this holiday season, we wish one and all a very *Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.*

Walter W. Wilson



The Civil War Ticket Raffle Story

Two tickets donated by Millie Hass turned out to be a great fundraiser for the Vida McKenzie Community Center. Gaining entry to the Ducks vs. Beavers "Civil War" match up in their November 22nd football game was a big draw.

Millie even volunteered her two daughter to help sell the tickets. Jessica and Rebecca were very successful, selling tickets to customers of local stores along the McKenzie River and in Springfield. On November 15th, the date of the drawing, Jessica threw a little Duck game party. During half time of the Ducks vs. UCLA, Millie with blindfold and all, drew the winning ticket from the tumbler. A quick phone call to winner, Andi McCormick of Eugene, brought a lot of yelling and screaming over the phone from Andi, her husband and sons. While Andi had her name on the lucky ticket, her husband and son were the real winners—they will be the ones going to the game. Walter and Joyce Wilson delivered the ticket to Andi the following day

The fundraiser exceeded expectations and raised over \$700 badly needed dollars for the Community Center. The money will go toward helping upgrade the building's electrical system and replace the old window.



This little fun fest, better known as the Leaburg Christmas Bazaar brought in over \$650 for our community center. Walter Wilson had coffee brewing and was selling donuts and muffins by 7am when the sellers started arriving to set up their tables. A little before 9am the first shift of our members arrived and for the most part kicked Walt out of the snack bar so that the real team could get to work. Fifteen of our members worked the bazaar. Not only did we work the snack bar area but we also worked the raffle ticket sales and whatever else that was required that day to keep the bazaar running. We had Bob and Alice Dow on the first shift followed by Pam Reim and Faith Bokros selling raffle tickets. The snack bar crew included: Janice and Greg Williams, Kathleen Shelley, Joyce Wilson, Linda Schaefer, Sue Shekell (she had so much fun I think she stayed for two shifts), Pat Shama, Marge Estenson, Joyce Brooks, Diane Gardner, Dawn Neilsen. All of this began six to eight weeks ago when we asked Helen Abbot and Kimm Esser to start soliciting our local and downtown merchants for donations for the raffle and food for the snack bar. We did get some of the food donated but their biggest efforts came in the form of gift certificates. We received gift certificates ranging from \$10.00 to \$50.00. The chain-saw carvings was a big hit. We got a lot of support from the Leaburg Community Center group which made our job a lot easier. Linda Jonas handles all the table rentals. Jerry Jonas (President) and Michelle Wattier answered many questions. Mabel Mattoon was the mover and shaker and directed us in the snack bar area and helped keep the food flowing to the many hungry Christmas Bazaar customers.

