



# Vida McKenzie Community Center

Summer 2006

Vol. 5 No. 2

## MEMBERS ELECT OFFICERS

At the May 13th annual Vida McKenzie Community Center membership meeting, members expressed a vote of confidence in the officers for the past year by electing them for another one year term.

So the roster was set for the upcoming year.



WALTER W. WILSON  
President



MILLIE HASS  
Vice President



VERN BLUMHAGEN  
Treasurer



LAURA OLSON  
Secretary

Wilson said, "It has been a good year and a fun one the Center. We accomplished many objectives during the past year as we moved forward with Center activities. I

encourage the members to come forward and help with the Center activities and fundraising". He went on to say, "The membership and the community have been very supportive of our activities and fundraising. We have several exciting things in the works for the Community

## FREE NIGHT OF BINGO 3rd YEAR ANNIVERSARY

When you're having fun time passes rapidly. It has been three years since the Vida Community Center began the family fun night of Bingo at the Center and it's time the



Center said thanks to the membership and the community for three years of support. (FREE: continue on page 3)

## "I DARE DAVE TO PLAY BINGO"



If you catch the evening news on KMTR, you get to watch the sports anchor, Dave Wenda. Dave is great in bringing special events to his sports slot. Dave has taken up the challenge from Lane County residents in playing "I Dare Dave". Dave Wenda and the KMTR team will be filming at the August 12th "Free Night of Bingo" as the Vida Community Center's thanks to the community for helping make the Center's "family fun night of bingo" a success.

Join us as we say, "I dare Dave to play Bingo"



# Vida McKenzie Community Center Newsletter

Page 2

SUMMER

2006



## STUFF FROM YOUR PRESIDENT

by Walter W. Wilson

**ELECTION OF OFFICERS:** This year when it came time to elect Board Members for the next two years, Dick Barnes, Bernadette St. Onge-Barnes and Jim Canfield, for personal reasons, withdrew their names. Dick, Bernadette and Jim have said that they will continue to

support the Center in any manner they can, all we need to do is ask. We know we will be seeing the Barnes almost every month, they are diehard bingo fans

and Bernadette has been providing information on purchasing the new chairs for the Center. And Jim, he's one of our regular bingo callers. Jim is one of our local realtors and continues to offer a sizeable donation to the Center when he receives a referral from a Center member. I'll miss the support, information and direction they brought to the Board Meeting. Thanks guys and gal. I appreciated your support as Board Members over the past two years and will look forward to working with you on special projects and fundraisers for the Center in the coming months.

We had three members volunteer to fill vacated Board positions at the membership meeting: Becky Holmes, Dave Starck and Rebecca Emlay.

**BINGO:** As it was mentioned on the front page, FREE NIGHT OF BINGO on August 12th. We have had three really great years of Bingo at the Center. You, as members, and the McKenzie Valley community have supported the Center, rain, shine and even a night when we finished and headed home, the ground and roads were covered with snow. We have been having a lot of fun and we know the families that bring their children to the games are having a good old family fun night out. You have been very generous in bringing pies, cakes and an assortment of goodies that we sell in our snack bar. So, August 12th, doors open at 6:15pm and the games begin at 7pm, join us as we say "Thank you for your support the past three years".

**"I DARE DAVE TO PLAY BINGO":** That's right, we've challenged Dave Wenda, KMTR TV's Sports Anchor to join us on August 12th to play bingo. Dave and his wife Annette moved to our area about a year ago. Let's welcome Dave, his wife and the team from KMTR TV to Vida and show him and everyone that it can be a family fun night playing bingo at the Vida Community Center.

**HELP WITH BINGO:** We are still looking for a few people that can help with Bingo. We have four members that are helping with the calling of the games. That really makes it nice to spread out the fun and be involved. But if you have this burning desire to work the (continue top of page)

machine and call the numbers, just let me know. As you have seen, our snack bar can get very hectic at times and requires three people to handle the crowds. We have a pretty good group of people that have offered to help but we can always use an extra hand from time to time. Where we really need some help is taking the money as the players arrive. Joyce Wilson and Rebecca Emlay have been sharing this little job. This is one spot that we could really use a couple extra hands. (WILSON: Continue on page 3)

## MARGE ESTENSON

Marge Estenson was honored at the May membership meeting for her many years of service to the Center and the community.

It all began in the early 1940's as the McKenzie River Club. That's what it was called until 2000 when the building was given to the community. A



corporation was formed and the Vida McKenzie Community Center was created.

It's been a lifetime for many, but Marge was there. She remembers the meetings at the Forest Service Office buildings on the Vida Flats property. The gatherings of the members in support of the WWII effort. The Thomson's donation of the land for the current Center. The fundraisers to build the building, the dances, card games, parties, potlucks, the River Club meetings, handling the scheduling of the rental of the building, all the friends she made throughout the years. Marge did it all, she was involved.

Along with other River Club members and Marge's good friend, Buck Carter, it was decided to turn the building and property over to the community so that it could continue to be an asset to the residents of the McKenzie Valley area. But this was not the stopping point for Marge. She continued to be involved with the newly formed corporation. She took care of the renters, getting them the key to the building, checking to see that they cleaned up after using the Center. There were meetings to go to and suggestions of operations to give. When we needed help in preparing the interior of the building for painting, Marge was there moving things, cleaning and sanding. Marge has moved from the spotlight a little but you will still find her at the meetings and the offering of support is still there. We can always count on her smiling face at the monthly Bingo games at the Center.

Marge, what you have done for the community and the Center all these years is greatly appreciated by all.



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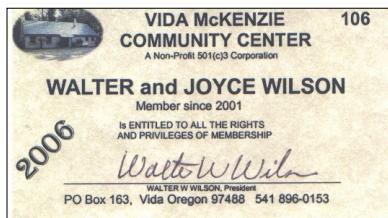
Page 3

SUMMER

2006

**WILSON:** (Continue from page 2)

MEMBERSHIP: Our membership is down about 10% over last years. Probably you set the form aside when you received it in the last newsletter thinking you'll send it in the next day or so and have forgotten. The members of the Board have elected to keep the membership at the very low fee of \$10.00, keeping with the idea that it is very affordable for everyone. The dues do not provide us with a tremendous about of money but it does help keep the doors open, lights on and helps pay for some of the insurance. If you didn't receive your membership (an example of the card is shown to the right) card with this newsletter, please take a moment and fill out the form we have enclosed and drop it in the mail to the Center. Your membership is important.



CHAIRS: The response of our asking for assistance in purchasing new chairs for the Center was very successful. Your response will allow us to purchase around 80 new chairs. We looked at some chairs a few months ago, but now will begin in earnest to seek out the best commercial quality chair for the Center that we can find. Thank you.

MEMBERSHIP MEETING: We had a good turn out for the May 13th membership meeting. In addition to wanting to find out who the new officers were going to be, what the



Center had been doing for the past year, what plans it had for the coming year drew the interest of the membership, of course, I'm sure the potluck put together by Millie afterwards helped also. Our Treasurer, Vern Blumhagen let us know that our finances were in order, our bills were being paid and we even had a few dollars left to tide us over into the coming year. Linda Schaefers, our Center Rental Coordinator told us that we were a little ahead of lasts years rental numbers and that we had only a couple of cancellations so far this year. I reported that the Bingo fundraiser was a success as a family fun night out and that the kids that played were sure lucky, and it is a plus (Cont. top of page) for the Center. The snack bar, thanks to the generous donations of pies, cakes and other goodies from the players, continues to be a good fundraiser for the Center and everyone seems to enjoy the raffle baskets we have at the bingo games. As previously mention on page 2, I presented Marge Estenson a plaque in appreciation of all her work in keeping the River Club/Community Center heading

down the right path for over 60 years. What a wonderful contribution she has made to our community. We had a little contest "Can You Guess the Bunny" and win a prize. We had two prizes, Linda Schaefers and Jessica Gardner were the winners by guessing that Mike Bokros was the bunny. That, and a few jokes, some good laughs amongst ourselves and some very good food brought by those present. We all had a good time at the membership meeting. Now is the task of remembering all who were there: Marge Estenson, Sue McKinney, Dawn Neilsen, Joyce Brooks, Faith and Mike Bokros, Vern Blumhagen, Laura Olson, Helen Abbot, Millie Hass and Shawn, Jerry and Rachael Tobin, Jim and Sherrie Canfield, Rick and Nancy Thompson, Linda Schaefers, Sandy Wright, Sue Ala, Mike and Becky Holmes, Ron Short and Rebecca Emlay, Curtis and Jessica Gardner and Joyce and Walter Wilson. OK, I know I forgot someone. Sorry.

CUTTING TREES: For several years we have had a couple of trees that needed to be cut down before they came down on the Center roof. Both were behind the building, one was dead and the other was leaning toward the roof of the Center. I got in touch with a tree cutter named Rick Wilson and his trusty chain saw. In short order he had them on the ground between the Center and the boat landing parking lot. I helped a little by tugging on the rope attached to his truck to make sure they fell in the right direction.

CONCRETE PADS: Come and check out the two new concrete pads that will be completed on August 8th. One (12x12) will be at the front door entrance to the building. The other one, much larger will be a pad behind the Center that will allow for outdoor actives and not have to in the dirt. Curtis Gardner and Jerry Tobin helped us with two smaller pads earlier this year and they will again be heading (cont on page 4)



**FREE:** (cont from page 1) As you know, we open the Center on the 2nd Saturday of each month for a family fun night of Bingo. Our next Bingo night will be August 12th. We are going to have a FREE NIGHT OF BINGO. Our little way of saying thanks for making bingo a success at the Vida Community Center. Join us at the Center, and play a night of bingo on us. We'll furnish the prizes, you play and win the games. Come early, the seats will fill up fast. We'll play the regular 20 games like we do every month.

The snack bar will be loaded with goodies for sale: cakes, pies, hotdogs, chili, popcorn, ice cream, sodas and coffee for your eating enjoyment. Hope to see you all there....



**Free Bingo Night at the Vida Community Center on August 12th**



# Vida McKenzie Community Center Newsletter

Page 4

SUMMER

2006

## MEMBER RENTAL REDUCTION

The Board of Directors have approved a reduced rental rate for members of the community center. The regular rental rate for non members is \$50 per day, plus a cleaning deposit of \$25.00. The reduced rate for members that wish to rent the Community Center is \$25 per day plus cleaning deposit.

**WILSON:** (Cont from page 3) a team of members that will be working on the two larger pads. We are also working on one more major improvement to the Center. We are going to keep this one under wraps until things unfold a little more. I'm sure that you will like what we are working on. *Thanks for your support this last year.* Walt

## CHAIR SPONSORSHIP

The community center board asked for help and the membership overwhelming responded.

The goal of the board was to replace old "falling apart on their last leg" chairs similar to the one pictured on the right.

The Board invited VMCC members and friends of the community center to become chair donors. This was not an easy choice for the Board to consider but to move forward in a timely manner it was necessary that we seek assistance from the membership.

To this date, over 80 donations have been made toward chair purchases. This participation will help the Center achieve this goal for 2006. Each chair will have a plaque inscribed as indicated by those giving the donation.

The Board will be looking at chairs similar to the blue one on the right as an example of the commercial quality chair that will withstand the riggers of community center use. Hopefully this task will be completed in a very short time and they will be able to report to the membership in the next newsletter that the chairs will be on display at the Center.



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## 2006 VIDA McKENZIE COMMUNITY CENTER

### OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:	Walter W. Wilson	896-0153
VICE PRESIDENT:	Millie Hass	896-3821
TREASURER:	Vern Blumhagen	896-3814
SECRETARY:	Laura Olson	896-3298

### BOARD MEMBERS

Vern Blumhagen	896-3814
Faith Bokros	896-9435
Joyce Brooks	896-3212
Rebecca Emlay	896-9848
Millie Hass	896-3821
Becky Holmes	998-3838
Laura Olson	896-3298
Walter Reim	896-3033
Dave Starck	896-0017
Walter W. Wilson	896-0153

## GARDENING BY ELIZABETH



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