



Vida McKenzie Community Center

Winter 2007

Vol 6 No. 4

ANNUAL HOLIDAY BAZAAR DECEMBER 1st

CYCLE OREGON A GREAT FUNDRAISER FOR COMMUNITY CENTER

Shortly after the 1st of October Bernadette St.Onge-Barnes called Walter Wilson and said she needed to meet with him to discuss some very important business. When they met, Bernadette presented him with a letter from the Local Organizing Committee of Cycle Oregon 2007 acknowledging the membership of the Community Center for their support of Cycle Oregon. The letter stated that 19 people worked a total of 165 hours for the Community Center during the Cycle Oregon event. Along with the letter, Bernadette presented Walter with a check for the Community Center in the amount of \$1,001.55.

Walter said he was shocked at the amount and wanted to express his gratitude to everyone that participated in the event. He knew some members were going to be working the event but had no idea how many members or the amount of hours they would work. Members and friends of the Center helping make Cycle Oregon 2007 fundraising a success for the Center include: Sue Ala, Bernadette St.Onge-Barnes, Dick Barnes, Joyce Brooks, Dennis and Vicki Ellison, Rick McCreery, Sue McKinney, Dawn Neilsen, Pam and Walter Reim, Eleanor Rodakowski, Will Rutherford, Bob and Krista Schumacher, Jim and Pat Sherfield, Sherry Stokes, and Sandy Wright.



HOLIDAY BAZAAR

It could be bigger, but it would have to be moved to a bigger building. It could be better, but it's hard to improve on something as good as this Community Center fundraiser has been. Each year Walter Wilson, President of the Vida Community Center, says he is totally shocked at how good the Holiday Bazaar has been and how the McKenzie Valley community, as a whole, has become part of the event. Walter went on to say that this is the Center's main fundraiser each year. This event helps provide the funding for our support of the two Meals on Wheels programs in the Valley, the scholarship funds for McKenzie High School and funds to help with the Children's Program at the Leaburg Library.

Last year's event had over 30 vendors displaying their holiday crafts, jewelry, books, lotions, candles, a variety of food items, and some of the best home-made candy in the world, just to name a few. This year the list of vendor items gets even better: Oil paintings, Leaburg Library books, jewelry, dog trees, wooden decorative trees, beads, sewing, crocheted articles, knit articles, embroidery, ornaments, glassblowing, oils, Watkins, home-made candy and baked goods, homemade dog treats, lotions, soaps, crafts made from horseshoes, Mary Kay, hair and nail shop retail items and the list (Continue on page 3)



BOBCAT BOB Inside on page 2

Want to rent the community center? Give Linda a call at 822-3947



BOBCAT BOB

For years the parking lot at the Center has looked like a watering hole during the rainy season with pot holes filled with large pools of water. It was suggested at the general membership meeting last May that something should be done. Getting the grading and leveling needed for the size of our parking lot was not going to be cheap and then it would require a sizeable amount of gravel to cover the whole thing once it was leveled. Parking lot upgrade was added to the list of upgrades for the Center. While placing it on the back burner (sort of speaking), Board Members knew that it would require some outside help to accomplish this task.

An ad was placed in this newsletter asking for help with grading the parking lot. The fall edition no sooner started arriving in mailboxes when we received a telephone call from Bob Grafton. Bob offered to bring his bobcat (thus the name Bobcat Bob) to the Center and level the parking lot and to also spread and level the gravel. Walt Wilson was out of town so good ole Vern Blumhagen took on the task of coordination with Bobcat Bob. Bob estimated the amount of gravel that would be needed for a good solid coverage of the lot. Vern got on the telephone with all the suppliers of gravel he could find and finally secured a good deal on the price from Springfield Quarry.

But trouble was on the horizon. The fall season was upon us and with that came the showers that keep Oregon green. So the parking lot grading was placed on hold. No need to have a muddy parking lot. Bob said we'll just wait until we can get about a week without rain hoping that we would not have to wait until next spring. Toward the end of October we got lucky and got a break in the weather. Bob rolled in with his bobcat and began the leveling process. Vern got on the phone to get the gravel delivered and a couple of days later the Center has a level and graveled parking lot.

Next time you pull into the parking lot and it's raining and you step out of your car onto gravel instead of a hole filled with water, think of Bob Grafton and say a word of thanks. Better yet, next time you see Bob, tell him in person. Bob, the Officers and Board Members of the Center thank you for what you have done for the Center and the membership.





Thoughts by Walter Wilson

If you have been into any stores lately I don't have to remind you that the holiday season is upon us and with that comes our annual holiday bazaar. This is our biggest fundraiser of the year.

It is also the one that requires the most people to work to make it a success. We are going to have to have at least six able bodied men to help set up tables and chairs on Friday evening (Nov 30th) and they must be taken down Saturday evening after the bazaar is over. On Saturday, the snack bar is going to need workers to help set out the pies, cakes and help in serving food items. There will be a need for some help selling raffle tickets. Yes, I am asking for help. If that's you, please give us a call. If you can make one of your homemade delicious pies or cakes that we can sell at the snack bar, it would be greatly appreciated. The donated items will help the Center with the fundraising and be enjoyed by those in attendance who look forward to homemade treats which they have enjoyed for years.

In the past few months several of our members have been slowed down with some form of health problem. I don't know of everyone but to name a few: I'll start with myself, almost life time McKenzie River Club and Community Center members Marge Estenson and Big Bob Neilsen, Don Bumgarner and El-samae Whitney. If you are amongst those who are not feeling well, for whatever reason, we hope it is short term and you will again be on the road to recovery and feeling better with each day.

The Late Bloomers Garden Club have continued to work their skills in approving the appearance around the Center. They have worked hard at setting the stage this summer and fall for what will come next spring. I can hardly wait until, as they say "spring has sprung" and the Center is in full color of the spring flowers.

I want to thank Vern Blumhagen, while I have been down (I'm getting better with each day) Vern has stepped forward and completed the new propane tank job, arranged for and completed parking lot leveling and graveling task. He is now working on what we need to do to apply some sound proofing to the interior of the Center. Thank you Vern..

Remember, if you can help with the Holiday Bazaar, please give us a call.

HOLIDAY BAZAAR

from page one: goes on.

Linda Schaefer is handling the vendor tables assignments and says that vendors have been asking for table space for over the past month. She expects to sell out the table space again this year.

Walt said that it will be hard to beat last years raffle prize amount of over \$3,000 but Walt, Faith Bokros and several other members are working to try and ex-



Continue top of page

ceed that amount of prize donations this year. Some of the lucky winners will remember the overnight stays and dinner at the Chinook Winds, Wildhorse, the Mill and Seven Feathers Resort and Casino's, Marine Discovery Tours, Jerry's Rouge River Jet boat trips and the many eateries up and down the river that provided gift certificates.

The snack bar will again feature lots of homemade cakes, cookies and pies from some of the best kitchens along the river. Also featured will be the standard staples of homemade soup, chili, hotdogs, sodas and the ole standby, coffee.

Santa will probably be arriving to the delight of the young and the young at heart.



PROPANE TANK

When it was installed with the forced air heater around 2001 it was something to be noticed. Something that was attached to something good, the new heating



system. Over the years it rusted a little, turned green a little and was became known as the "pig" to some. When Olson Construction and Painting painted the exterior of the Center they painted the "pig", but it is what it is, a propane tank at the front of the building.

When the Late Bloomers Garden Club began applying their skills to enhance the appearance of the Center some thought was given to doing something with the tank. Vern Blumhagen took on the project and after doing some background work found that the Center was renting the tank from a propane supplier. Doing some figuring and arm twisting of the propane dealer, Vern determined if the Center purchased a tank, the Center would be ahead in the long run.

Some thought was given to a different shape of tank and a different location. When the new sidewalk was poured around the east end of the Center a small pad was poured next to the building on the east end.

Vern contacted Dave Perry at McKenzie Plumbing about installing a new propane gas line. Dave donated his crews time and materials. Before long the



new lines were installed, a new tank was set in place and the Center was once again warming its users with propane powered heat. Thanks to Vern, the propane tank is out of (for the most part) sight and the Center is saving some money.



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Vida Community Center's HOLIDAY BAZAAR

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for next years event

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Call Pat at 896-0199 for info.

VMCC BOARD MEETING

The Community Center Board of Directors meets at the Community Center on the 2nd Wednesday of every odd month at 6:30pm at the Community Center. The next meeting will be on January 9th, 2008.

LATE BLOOMERS GARDEN CLUB McKenzie Valley



Membership Information
896-3014

McKENZIE GUTTER INC.

747-6896

VIDA McKENZIE COMMUNITY CENTER

OFFICERS

PRESIDENT: Walter W Wilson 896-0153
VICE PRESIDENT: Dawn Neilsen 896-3036
TREASURER: Vern Blumhagen 896-3814
SECRETARY: Laura Olson 896-3298

VIDA TEXAS HOLD 'EM

Its been called the McKenzie Valley World Series of Poker
Vida Community Center
Tournaments held every 4th Wednesday each month at 6pm



NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH

HELP WANTED

Deerhorn area: ---- Barbara Hyne—896-3850
Vida area: ---- Elsamae Whitney— 896-9056
McKenzie Bridge: ---- Frank Geiger—822-3543

BOARD DIRECTORS

Vern Blumhagen 896-3814 Laura Olson 896-3298
Faith Bokros 896-9435 Linda Schaefer 822-3947
Joyce Brooks 896-3212 Ron Short 896-9848
Rebecca Emly 896-9848 Dave Starck 896-0017
Becky Holmes 988-3838 Walter W Wilson 896-0153
Dawn Neilsen 896-3036

RENTAL COORDINATOR

Linda Schaefer 822-3947

SANTA CLAUS WANTED

Our Santa Claus has a hurt shoulder and it will not be easy for him this year. We are looking for someone that could step in and be a friend to the young and young at heart this year at the Bazaar.
One day, a couple hours, we feed well.

HELP NEEDED

HOLIDAY BAZAAR HELPERS: Raffle ticket sellers, snack bar helpers, set up and take down. Can you donate a pie or cake?

BINGO HELPERS: Help during the games, working the snack bar, taking card money or calling the games.

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