



Vida McKenzie Community Center

SPRING 2009

Vol. 8 No. 1

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING SATURDAY MAY 2nd 10:00a.m.

ANNUAL MEETING

It's that time of the year again. Vida McKenzie Community Center by-laws require an annual membership meeting. Mark your calendars for May 2nd 10:00am at the Center. We'll all get a chance to hear the progress the Center has made during the past year. This will be the place will you can voice your opinion, offer suggestions for improvement and become part of the process.

The meeting will be on a Saturday and hopefully the weather will have made a little change toward summer, but it's still early in the year for the McKenzie Valley. A corporation meeting is probably not the most exciting place one would like to be on a Saturday morning in May especially since fishing season will have opened. But at the meeting is where this years officers and board directors will be.

Refreshments, cold drinks and hot coffee will be served to all attending.

This will be the time when the positions of President, Vice President, Treasurer, Secretary and several Board Directors will be nominated and voted upon for the following year. Just because we are electing officers, don't let that hold you back from attending the meeting.

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Here we are beating on your door asking for your support. Your membership is a very important part of the Center's operation. The Board Directors have held the membership fee to a \$10.00 amount for many years. The great continued support from the community and successful fundraising does not warrant an increase in membership fees.

If you have not already sent in your membership fee we ask at this time that you take a couple of minutes, complete the form and place it, along with your membership check, in the enclosed envelope and drop it in the mail to the Center.

Walt said, "With each renewal year the Center loses a few members as some of them move from the area, some just set the membership form aside for another time and forget to mail it. The Center has a few upgrade projects that need attention and if you were going to give a little extra for the upgrade fund, now would be a good time".

For those of you that are helping the Center through your business card ad, it may be time to renew your ad. This fund helps keep this newsletter coming to you.

FAMILY BINGO NIGHT 2nd SATURDAY MONTHLY—Doors open 6:15pm—Games at 7:00pm



Walter Wilson

President, Vida McKenzie Community Center

It has been a slow period for the Community Center the last few months with the snow, rain and cold weather we seem to hunker down. But things do go on and before we know it our annual membership meeting will be upon us. This year it is scheduled for May 2nd at 1000am. Most corporation meetings seem to be dull and boring but we'll try and keep ours on the light side and hopefully not as boring as some. But on the bright side, you'll get to see some ole friends, maybe meet some of your new neighbors in the Valley and have a chance to look around the Center and see what's new and different from last year. Of course we'll have to brag about how well the Center is doing and let you know how much money we lost in the stock market and once that is done we really need to get down to the business of keeping the Center moving forward with management for the next year. Yes, the ole officers and board director elections. Most of the officers and board directors have agreed to continue on but the Center is always looking for new faces and new ideas. So, just because we are in the election mode, don't let that keep you away from the meetings.

We are planning on doing some upgrades to the Center this year. We got some water problems in the kitchen area that need to be addressed. We are looking at enclosing the wood shed to provide additional storage. We've talked about upgrading the PA and speaker system for several years and this may be the time to tackle that job. We are going to need help from some people knowledgeable in the field of electronics.

Spring will be upon us soon and I'm looking forward to seeing what the Late Bloomers Garden Club is going to be planting around the Center. They really out did themselves last year. I received many comments about how nice the Center looked from our own members and from visitors and renters.

Spring clean up is just a month away; April 25th. Last year we had a great bunch of members that worked really hard cutting, trimming and hauling branches. We were lucky to have a tree trimming outfit parked in the lot that chipped up all our branches. We even filled up my old trailer with trash. See you on the 25th.



Linda Schaefers

Community Yoga

McKenzie River Yoga invites you to our one-year anniversary celebration Saturday, April 4th at 4:00pm at the Vida-McKenzie Community Center. Come join us for an afternoon of free yoga, followed by snacks and a celebration of having yoga in our community.

McKenzie River Yoga is a non profit community group that meets every Tuesday evening from 6:30-8:00 at the wonderful Vida-McKenzie Community Center. We are a supportive group that encourages everyone to work at their own pace. You might be surprised at the range of ages, fitness and flexibility levels, body types, and life-style of the nearly 100 people who have participated. We have a few different teachers which allows for exposure to different styles of yoga. All levels of experience and ability are always welcome and mats are provided. A donation of \$5 is suggested, though nobody will be turned away due to lack of funds. Check us out, your first class is free.

If you have ever been curious about yoga we would love to have you join us. You'll find that yoga is a gentle yet powerful form of exercise for the body and mind. Sometimes misperceived as a "religion", it is simply a way of bringing relaxation and resilience into your life. Just some of the benefits include increased joint mobility, bone density, strength, balance, flexibility, energy, circulation, relaxation, focus, endurance, self awareness, fitness, and general wellness. Additionally, yoga can decrease cholesterol, blood sugar, blood pressure, stress, and depression. Recent studies show that yoga helps relieve arthritis, asthma, fibromyalgia, back pain and can help prevent heart disease, stroke, and diabetes.

For further information call 913-9424. See you at the celebration!

Congratulations

McKenzie Valley Yoga Group

*On completing one year of yoga classes with friends and neighbors in the McKenzie Valley.
May the next year be bigger, better, . .
more fun and as enjoyable.*



SPRING CLEANUP at the Center April 25th

As you know from your own yard work, the past winter has not been kind to many of us including our own Community Center. Leaves are still around from the fall, the snow brought down lots of branches, ivy needs to be cut from around the trees, gutters need to be cleaned, some trees may need to be limbed up especially along the driveway, bushes trimmed, flower beds readied for the flowers of spring and summer to show off the Center. It's one of those never ending jobs and somebody has to do it so I'm going to ask you, the membership, to give the Center a hand.

OK, it's going to happen on April 25th at 10am, weather permitting and that means if it's not a down pour, the cleanup day is on. I'll have the hot coffee, hot chocolate and cookies that should be just the thing to get everybody in the mood for a little clean up action. And so you won't go away hungry after all your cleanup work, lunch will be provided.

Here's the plan: Load up your loppers and clippers, your rakes, maybe a shovel, handsaw, pole saw, chain saw, some work gloves and show up at my place (the Center), at 10am, have a cookie and a cup of "joe" and give me a good cleaning. Walt said, he'd bring his old trailer to load up all the trash around the place and don't forget, lunch will be cooking and ready when we're done.

WE GOT T-SHIRT'S

Over the years members have asked and now we have them. We also have sweat-shirts. It took some time to get the design wording and lettering figured out but Vern Blumhagen come up with a design that we liked. Next was finding a vendor that would handle small quantities and keep the price down. We shopped and found we could do our business right here locally in Blue River.

The front of the T-shirt and sweatshirt has a small logo printed on it as pictured top right. The back has the full design which is very nice. Most sizes are still available at the low price of \$9.00 for the T-shirts and \$14.00 for sweat-shirts up to XL.



Status Update on High Speed Internet

Many of you are interested in the progress being made with HSI in the McKenzie Valley. There isn't much progress beyond what was presented in the last Newsletter. There is some effort being expended to broaden the area of coverage, but there is no news with that.

A brief summary of our situation is that the Vida area has been approved by the Public Utilities Commission for an installation of HSI. Qwest will install the required hardware beginning this year. They are working on the installation plan. Rumor is one of the hub's will be around the fire station area.

Status Update of the Bridge Lighting Project

Vern Blumhagen and Walter Wilson continue to trudge ahead the best they can trying to convince county government that this is indeed a worthwhile project.

An electrical contractor has been identified who has experience with working on historical bridges; and what appears to be a workable design for the placement of the lights has been determined. The design idea is to light the sides of the bridge with fixtures pointing down in a manner that will not cause a hazard to approaching drivers.

Meetings have taken place with county permitting personnel, state bridge personnel and the electrical contractor. Everyone at this meeting seemed to agree with our proposal and design. The stopping point involved a three to five million dollar liability insurance policy on the bridge.

Vern and Walt scheduled a meeting with Commission Stewart to discuss the liability policy. The county is self insured. Commission Stewart agreed that the project was worth while, noting that a couple years back he received a request to light the inside of the bridge from the Friends of Leaburg Lake Association. He went on to say that the inside lighting could be part of the outside light project. Commissioner Stewart agreed that the project could possibly fall under the county's self insurance policy. He was going to make a few telephone calls to county personnel and get back to us. We are now in a waiting pattern.

It appears there are three major items blocking our way:

1. The insurance policy covering the bridge. Without the county's self insurance covering the bridge we will not be able to proceed with the project.
2. Initial estimate for installing the light system was approximately \$11,000
3. On going monthly electrical operational expense for lighting power.

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Vida Community Center
For information call 541 913-9424

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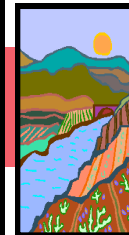
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PRESIDENT: Walter W Wilson 896-0153
VICE PRESIDENT: Dawn Neilsen 896-3036
TREASURER: Vern Blumhagen 896-3814
SECRETARY: Laura Olson 896-3298

VIDA TEXAS HOLD 'EM

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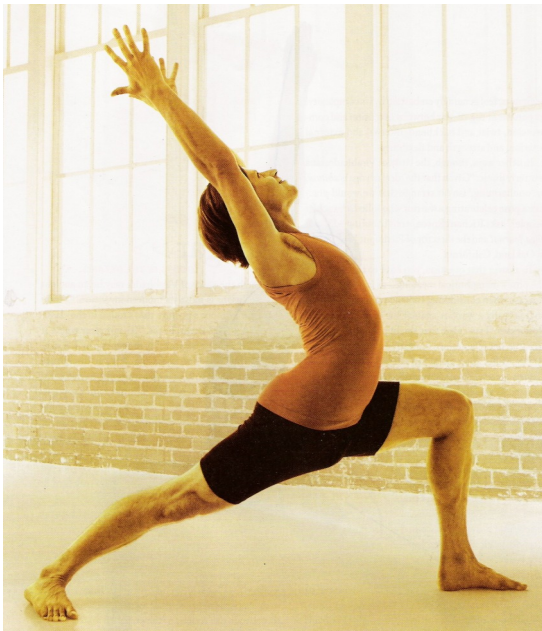
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MCKENZIE RIVER YOGA

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