



Vida McKenzie Community Center

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MAY 10TH

Another 10am meeting of the membership has been scheduled. This only happens once a year, so if you miss the May 10th meeting you will have to wait another year to hear all the exciting things that have been going on around the Community Center.

At the 2013 meeting there was a great pictorial display of the history of the Center which was enjoyed by everyone. The attendance was a little light but the information regarding the past years operation of the Center was very interesting.



This is the time of the year when Officers and some Board Members are elected for the next term. The by-Laws of the Center require there be an election of Officers, which include: President, Vice President, Treasurer and Secretary. Some of the Board Members have completed their two year term and an election will be conducted to fill those open positions. Officers and Board Members meet six times a year at the Community Center. The meetings are conducted in the evenings. While the meetings may be very light in nature, they are very productive making certain the Center remains active in operations and financially stable. Come join us on May 10th. Learn a little bit more about the Community Center, meet the current Officers and Board Members, join in on the fun and help promote the Vida McKenzie Community Center.

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP DRIVE IS ON



Walter W Wilson

President

We survived the snow, freezing and frozen roadways, rain of the "winter" months and over the past two weeks we have had summer months in spring. Warm days, clear blue skies

and as I look out my window as I'm putting this to paper, I see my neighbor tolling with shovel and wheelborrow giving her front yard area a good spring cleaning.

We got hit pretty hard with some freezing weather and a good 6 inches or so of snow around the Vida area. This was around the first part of December and just prior to our major fundraiser, the annual Christmas Bazaar. Linda Schaefer had worked diligently to contact over 30 vendors who would have their wonderful gift items on display for those attending the Bazaar. Dawn Neilsen and I had solicited over \$2700 in raffle prizes. Sue Ala and Sandy Wright had solicited pies and cakes from the membership to have in the snack bar. And then the snow began to fall. Lightly at first on Thursday, but as Friday rolled around, the flake's began to grow in size and the depth of the snow got deeper and deeper. When it became time to load up trucks and trailers to take tables and supplies to the Walterville Grange we found those with 2-wheel drive vehicles could not drive through the snow covered roadways. Will Rutherford saved the day by offering to put to work his new 4-wheel drive pickup and the tables and supplies got delivered to the Grange regardless of the continuing falling snow. This helped workers readying the building for Saturdays Bazaar, however, for vendors traveling up and down the river and for those outside the McKenzie Valley area the weather was a factor and resulted in some vendor cancellations.

It was the first time since 2003, when we started this fundraiser, that we had been snowed out. Unfortunately half of the vendors were snowbound as were many of those who wanted to attend the Bazaar. Of course Santa, with his sled, was able to slide right in, to the joy of the children. Even though we were lacking in vendors and attendance,

we had a great time, chatted with a lot of friends, met some new ones, had some great soup donated by Aunt Ding's. Many were delighted with the good ole hot dogs and chili that was available, not to mention all the delicious pies and cakes. Many children were there and Santa had a great time.

I owe a special thanks to everyone who was able to forge their way to the Grange to help make this fundraiser a success: Sue Ala, Sandy Wright, Linda Schaefer, Dawn Neilsen, Jim and Pat Sherfield and their grandkids, Kevin Allard, Will Rutherford, Gerry Aster and many I've forgotten. My computer crashed and I lost all the pictures so I can't look back and see the fun time and who was there.

Donations for the raffle were received from:

Bates Steak House, Cash & Carry Food Service, Dickie Jo's, Dave Helfrich, Euphoria Chocolate, Ike's Pizza, Mac's Restaurant, McKenzie River Organic Farm, Off the Waffle Restaurant, Patsy's Stage Stop Restaurant, Shelly Pruitt-Soft Peaks Cakery, Track Town Pizza, Washburne Café, Andrew Jecklin Massage, Janet Biles, Kari's Hair Studio, Lori Denison Jewelry, Oakway Fitness, Lucky Eagle Casino, Three Rivers Casino, the Mill Casino, Vida Community Center, Eagle Rock Lodge, East Lane Veterinary Hosp., Lane Forest Products, Pit Stop Auto, Chris Olson Guide, Fiddler's Green Golf, Hoodoo Ski Resort, Jerry Home Improvement Center, Marine Discovery Tours, Jerry's Rogue River Jet Boats, Tokatee Golf Club, TNT Whitewater Rafting, Wildlife Safari, Will Rutherford Boating.

The success of this fundraiser would not have happened if it had not been for those who braved the cold snow and ice slick roadways to attend the Bazaar. Thank you brave ones.

This leads me to another first for the Center. This one involves our monthly bingo games. Every month since we began the monthly games in August of 2003 we have never cancelled Bingo. In January of 2014 there was an electrical power outage in the area of the Center and the January game was almost cancelled but the power came back on in time to have the games. But in February the weather was severe so for the safety of everyone, a notice was sent out that the games would be can-



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celled for that month. In March we bounced back with the games and moved forward into April with a rip roaring fun time with visitors from Coos Bay and Anaheim Hills, California. Next months games will be played on May 10th. The Bonus Ball game prize is up the \$290.00 for some lucky bingo player to win. It's a fun night, come join us.

And speaking of **May 10th, at 10am** we will be having the **annual membership meeting** as outlined in the by-laws. Please join us as we discuss the operations of the Center, past, present and look to seat the officers and board members for the coming year. We'll have the coffee pot on and some munchies. If you would like to be involved, please give me a call or send an email. I'd like to discuss it with you.

I need to drop back about a week to **Saturday, the 3rd of May**, that will be our **annual spring clean-up** around the Center day. We'll start at 10am. We always have miscellaneous trash caused by the winter months to rake, pick up, cut back and haul off. It might be time to give the ivy a little cut back along the driveway, fence beside the building and around back by the deck. Bring some gloves, clippers, rakes or whatever you need to help.

Last year we had Larry Maxwell, Dennis Ellison, Mike Bokros and Erik Withalm working at cleaning the cutters and clearing debris off the roof. Emily Withalm and her son, Linda Schaefers, Vicki Ellison, Joyce Wilson and Kathleen Shelley did

a lot of trimming and flowerbed pickup. Les Blum was cutting back branches. Mike Schaefers, Bob Schaumacher and I helped load the material in the trailer. Pat Sherfield and Dawn Neilsen cleaned the in-

side of the Center. Before we knew it, the Center got a spring cleaning and many of us were sitting out back talking about how nice the Center grounds looked and having a little bite to eat. A couple days later Katheen Shelley returned to trim back some of the bushes in the front and Jim Sherfield came back with his pressure washer and cleaned off all the concrete walkways and deck in the back.

My sincere thanks to everyone, without you and your help the Center would not be where it is today. We have a wonderful little building that has been in the community since the corner stone was laid in 1949. If I could write down the names of everyone involved over the years, it would be a book of Who's Who of the McKenzie Valley.



Your membership is really important



We Need Your Help

We are starting our annual membership drive with this newsletter. I am hoping that each of you will again see the benefit the Community Center has for everyone in the McKenzie Valley and will continue your support by sending in your membership.

I would love to see the membership increase above the 150 mark. Many of you know friends, loved ones and neighbors that have been members in the past but for some reason failed to send in their membership. Give them a call, mention the importance of the Community Center and the need for their continued support by being a member. If for some reason they did not receive this newsletter with the membership form, give me a call at 541 896-0153 or email to: walter1ww@aol.com and I'll be very happy to send them the newsletter.

You have allowed the Board to keep the membership rates low by your support of the Community Center through the fundraising events. Without you and your support the membership fees and rental rates would have to be much higher.

Thanks for your support

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ATTENTION CRAFTERS And STRETCHERS

The monthly gathering of the **Sew and So's** has been cancelled for the month of May. The fun time is scheduled for the first Monday in June. Give Sara a call at 541 896-3059 for all the details.

The weekly meeting of the **McKenzie River Yoga** group meets every Tuesday at 5:30pm. All ages are welcome. Beginners to Master. We have floor mats if you are just beginning. Donations are welcome. No one turned away. Emily's got all the info, 541 896-3009

OFFICERS and BOARD



Top row L to R, Board Members: Kathleen Shelley, Faith Bokros, Pat Sherfield and Linda Schaefer. Not shown: Becky Holmes, Carol Zaharias and Gerry Aster.

Front row L to R: Vern Blumhagen Treasurer, Dawn Neilsen, Laura Olson Secretary, Walter Wilson President

There they are, (minus three not shown) the glue that holds the Center together. They have worked diligently over the years giving untold hours of their time to improve and make the Center into a financially stable operation. We would not have the Center as we know it today if it were not for their dedication. Three of the members have been serving the Center and it's membership since incorporation in the year 2000. Can you identify them?

Community Center by-laws require an election be held once a year at the annual membership meeting. To hold an elected position you must be an active member of the Center for the past 12 months to be considered. Nomination for the officer and board positions will be accepted from the floor during the meeting.

As with all volunteer organizations, time passes, activities change and some time this causes changes in the leadership within the structure. While the continuity of the leadership remains strong, the Vida McKenzie Community Center is not immune to changes.

May 10th, big day. Membership meeting in the morning and bingo in the evening. Come find out about the old Center on Thomson Lane is all about.

Did you guess Vern, Dawn and Laura?

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MAY 10TH—10am



Lane County Sheriff's Office

Serving the People of Lane County



128 E. 8th Street, Eugene, OR 97401 541 682-6790 www.lanesheriff.org

Project Lifesaver

Project Lifesaver is a nationally recognized program used to monitor several of our community's endangered population who tend to wander. The system is comprised of a semi-permanent wrist band and transmitter. This transmitter, which is always worn by the client, can be tracked and located by electronic direction finding equipment maintained by the Sheriff's volunteer ham radio team. This program was established 6 years ago with a grant provided by SELCO Credit Union. Currently Lane County monitors 6 clients who are repeat wanderers. This program provides families or care-givers comfort in knowing that if their family member or client goes missing, they will be generally located in a short amount of time.



Our search and rescue division recently had the opportunity to search for one of our wanderers. Thankfully the individual had been signed up for the program and all re-

sources were in place to locate the individual quickly and safely. The Sheriff Office urges anyone who believes they may fit the criteria for the use of this resource may contact Lane County Search and Rescue section 541-682-6411 or 541-682-4369.

Project Lifesaver is augmented with an initial program and monthly maintenance fee.



Home Security/Safety Evaluation Program

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is proud to offer home security/safety evaluations at no cost to Lane County residents.

Property crimes in Lane County are consistently higher than most areas of the nation. Fortunately, many property crimes are preventable by taking simple proactive steps known to reduce the chances that you are a victim.

The Lane County Sheriff's Office is here to assist you in this process. LCSO has volunteers trained in crime prevention techniques that are donating their time to help others make their homes and property less vulnerable to property crime. Each Crime Prevention volunteer has passed rigorous criminal and personal background investigations through County and State law enforcement standards.

A two person team will visit your residence; inspect your home, property and any areas the home owner requests for security and safety concerns. They will provide you a list of those potential vulnerabilities and helpful advice for how improvements can be made.

"An ounce of prevention is better than a pound of cure." But, prevention is only effective if we are proactive. Don't wait until you are victimized to take advantage of this service. The volunteers also have ideas for increasing the chances that your property can be returned to you if you are a victim of future property crimes.

To request an evaluation of your home call 541-682-4296 or simply submit a request using the following online form: [Request for Home Security/Safety Inspections](#)



McKENZIE FIRE & RESCUE



38925 McKenzie Hwy, Springfield, OR 97478

Office: 541-896- Emergency: 911



Matt Brooks, Firefighter/ EMT-I
mbrooks@mckenziefire.com

Last month we held our annual awards banquet. We honored our volunteers with these awards: Rookie of the Year – Ken Lewellen, Officer of the Year – Rusty Flanders, Firefighter of the Year – Dave Breitenstein, Chief's Award – Will Hansen, and Life Member Award – Kim Burwell. It was another successful year full of hard work and training.

Our longtime office administrator Pat Cane was also recognized. She will be retiring in June. We are currently in the process of hiring a new administrative assistant to take over her duties.

Recent Calls. On Tuesday, March 4th, we were dispatched to an injured logger up Quartz Creek Rd. Our patient had been setting some rigging when a chain broke and struck him in the back fracturing 3 vertebrae. McKenzie crews, along with a Medic unit from Springfield, hiked 40 minutes up steep terrain, stabilized the patient, and then carried him out. The operation took nearly 4 hours for 12 responders to safely rescue the injured man.



On March 24th, at 1:16pm, McKenzie crews were dispatched to an out of control burn pile on Upper Camp Creek Rd. The dry weather and wind combined to push flames and ember into dry grass where the fire began to spread into the trees. 3 McKenzie apparatus and 8 responders quickly contained and extinguished the quarter acre sized fire. No injuries were reported.

Speaking of Burning. Before burning please consult www.lrapa.org or call (541)746-HEAT (4328) to see if burning is allowed. Always use caution when burning. Training. We are currently hosting a firefighter academy that includes new member for both McKenzie and Upper McKenzie Fire. Training will continue for the next two months.

Have you heard our sirens and wondered what's happening? Go to our webpage www.mckenziefire.com and click on the "Radio Feed" gadget to listen

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Vida Cafe

Home of the McKenzie Monster
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Vida Oregon, 97488

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Keep in touch - with the Valley's newspaper

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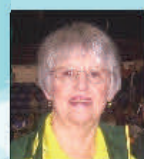
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Cell (541) 554-1068

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Visit us at our website: www.GardensbyElizabeth.net



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Pat 896-3761

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Help Prevent Crime

JOIN YOUR LOCAL
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Deerhorn area: ----- Peter Barnett— 896-3715

Vida area: ----- Vern Blumhagen— 896-3814

McKenzie Bridge: ---- Frank Geiger— 822-3543

McKenzie River Yoga

Tuesday Evenings 5:30pm

All Ages Welcome — Beginner to Master

Vida Community Center — Information 541 896-3009

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SPONSORSHIP OF BINGO GAMES

The Center is looking for individuals, businesses and groups that would like to support the Center and donate a Bingo prize for one or more games each month.

For additional information about this sponsorship please call: Vern at 541 896-3814 or email to: vblumhagen@q.com

SPRING T-SHIRT SALE

The front of the T-shirt has a small logo printed on it as pictured top right.

The back has a very nice full design

T-SHIRT
SPRING SALE

\$5.50ea

Arrange for pickup at the
Community Center or
Shipping & Handling

1 shirt add \$3.00

2 shirts add \$5.25



We're still looking for a few more good members. Know someone who might have an interest? Let us know and we'll drop them a newsletter.

Your business card printed here for a donation of \$10.00 per issue or pay for a year in advance for only \$35.00.

Send your card and payment to: VMCC, PO Box 163, Vida, Oregon 97488

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Nadine Scott

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E-mail nadine@windermere.com
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Eugene, Oregon 97401
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LATE BLOOMERS GARDEN CLUB

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Information—541-746-9020



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www.wayfarerresort.com info@wayfarerresort.com

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BINGO

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Doors open at 6:15—Games begin at 7pm
We got the best snack bar on the river.
"Where friends and families meet for a fun time"

Sew and So's

Quilt and Needle Crafters of the McKenzie Valley. Meets noon to 4pm the first Monday of every month at the Vida Community Center.
Call Sara at 896-3059 for info.

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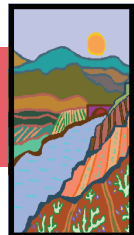
8:00 - 5:30 M-T-H-F 8:00 - 7:00 Wed. 9:00 - 1:00 Sat. Mobile Service Available

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

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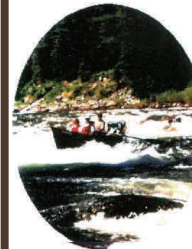
Owner - Quilter Leaburg OR

Phone: 541-896-3033
E-mail: riversedgequilting@msn.com

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Steve Schaefer's

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REFERENCES

We are trying to get on Facebook. Check it out..

THE "CENTER" IS LOOKING FOR SOME HELP

We could use a helping hand at our monthly Bingo games.

Snack Bar, setting up and serving: Give Pat Sherfield a call at 541 988-9735.

Bingo Callers. Give Walt Wilson a call at 541 896-0153

Money Takers: Give Vern Blumhagen a call at 541 896-3814

Thanks for being a friend of the Vida McKenzie Community Center. .
Your membership is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Walter W. Wilson

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Please Print this page and Send in your Membership

MEMBERSHIP FORM 2014

Name_____

Spouse Name_____

Address_____

City_____State_____Zip_____

Telephone_____Email_____

Household dues at \$10.00 per year. Good until May 2015

Any amount received over \$10.00 will go toward the building fund

Thank you for your support

VIDA McKENZIE COMMUNITY CENTER

MEMBERSHIP Dues..... \$10.00

UPGRADE Fund.....

T-Shirts.....(Size_____)._____ @ \$ 6.00 = _____

BUSINESS Card Advertisement Printed Quarterly

Printed in One Issue @ \$10.00 = _____

Four Issue Special @ \$35.00 = _____

Please include your business card.

TOTAL.....

Please make check payable to: VMCC, P.O. Box 163, Vida, Oregon 97488

T-shirts and Sweatshirts come in: **Medium, Large, XL**arge

Please indicate the size when ordering.

Pick up at Community Center or

Shipping and Handling for

1 shirt = \$3.00

2 shirts = \$5.25