



Vida McKenzie Community Center

FALL 2011

Vol. 10 No. 3

**IT'S THAT TIME OF THE
YEAR ALREADY..
CHRISTMAS BAZAAR
SATURDAY DEC. 3RD
WALTERVILLE GRANGE**



It was all there, soup to nuts and more. Something for everyone to fill that hanging stocking or just a little surprise for someone.

The raffle board will display all kinds of certificates from your favorite chocolate factory to country foods and pizza. There will be water trips, massages, a place to get your hair done. Like to play golf? We got it. How about over night stays at several casinos? Health stuff, we (cont p2)

WRITERS WORKSHOP Another Success Story

They wanted pick his brain so they listened, took notes and followed lesson plans. When it was over, with goodbyes said and notebooks in hand, participants headed for their cars. Writing techniques were probably foremost in their thoughts during the drive home. These thoughts may have been ideas of how to integrate what they had just learned to allow their writing to flow like paint while drawing a picture with words.

Bob offered suggestion and tips for better writing which included: Researching and knowing the subject being written about, the importance of being able to hook the reader early and using details to paint a picture. Other tips included the importance of clear and concise writing by telling a story with a beginning, middle and end. Since readers like suspense the knowledge that timid writers write in a passive voice and confident writers write in an active voice were helpful hints for the class members. After writing a story it is important to read it aloud because a person will often hear things needing to be changed that is not seen on the written page.

Much of the above was taken from the hand-out notebook given to attendee's. (cont on P2)

Have some fun at the Center

SEW & SO's * YOGA * NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH * BINGO
LATE BLOOMERS GARDEN CLUB * BUNCO * TEXAS HOLD'EM



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Walter Wilson
VMCC President

The seasons come and go so fast the first thing you know Christmas music will be coming from our radios. When fall fell it really came fast and when the time changed it really got dark quick. But that's what we live for here in the northwest.

We did a little decorating around the Center for the little goblins when they came to visit. It was fun and really added the bright orange pumpkin color around the Center and parking lot.



We had our annual free night of bingo in August. This was our 9th year since we started have the games at the Center, 108 games and counting. It's been a good fundraiser for the Center thanks to the wonderful response of our community.

The first of October we lost a dear friend, Marge Estenson. As many of you know Marge was we a mover and shaker around the Community Center, going back to the day of the McKenzie River Club and it's beginning in the early 1940's. She loved that old building and the memories it held for her and so many of her friends. She loved the McKenzie Valley, giving her heart and soul to make it a better place for everyone to live. She was the teacher in so many ways, teaching the children and then teaching the children's children. So much history we have lost with her passing. So much we will miss. I've included a little segment of Marge's life in the newsletter. Maybe you have read it before, but take another minute or two and think about our friend.

The Christmas Bazaar is upon us. Many of our members will be helping to make it a success again this year. We got lots of things to do to set up the Grange building, so if we come calling, please help us out. If we forget, and many times I do, give me, Vern, Sue, Sandy or Linda a call. The more friends the better. Hope to see you on the 3rd.

BAZAAR: got it. Food, we got it. Things to do, we got it. From A to Z we got a raffle prize for you. We'll have the best food laden snack bar along the



McKenzie Highway just waiting for you. And we will have the most colorful, friendly helpers in town to serve up your needs.

For the young and not so old, we got Santa. His arrival time will be around 11am. He will have other rounds to make so he'll have to be leaving at 1pm.

Come and have some fun. Make some new friends. This is our 9th year at putting on the bazaar and our major fundraiser for the year.

Hope to see you there.



WRITERS: Our friend Bill Stenstrom has attended the 2010 and 2011 workshops. Bill provided some of the insight of the workshop and wanted to say, "Thanks Sally for a delicious lunch"

For information about upcoming workshops, go to bobwelch.net or call 541-517-3936.



SPONSORS OF BINGO GAMES

The Center has been contacted by Kimlyn (Kimm) Esser, Financial Representative of Country Financial in Eugene. Kimm has offered to support the Center during its monthly bingo game night fundraiser. Kimm, as she is known by many, was a Board Member of the Center during the transition of the McKenzie Valley River Club to the Vida McKenzie Community Center. Kimm has continued her membership and supported the Center even though she and her family moved into "town".

The Vida Poker Group has also agreed to provide some support during the bingo games.

President Walt said, this is going to be a new adventure for the Center. He went on to say, it will be an exciting time when the games are announced. Everyone playing should really enjoy the night.

It is hoped this new adventure in bingo games will start with the December 10th games. Of course you have to be there to take advantage of it.

DECEMBER 10th, 7:00pm, Let the Fun Begin

The snack bar will be serving starting at 6:15pm

Linda Schaefers and her crew will be serving from the snack bar.

Rob Fraizer will be doing the bingo calling.

Andrea Cunningham and Vern Blumhagen will be meeting/greeting and handling the Buy-in's and raffle tickets.

For a fun evening, come on down.

McKENZIE RIVER YOGA

**Starting November 22nd,
the class time will change to 5:30pm.**

The yoga class sets the tone for your mind and body. A time to relax, to reflect up on the day and to let it go. It will also give your body a chance to increase energy and a chance to wind down.

POKER AT THE CENTER CLOSING IN DECEMBER AND JANUARY

Walt Wilson said the games have been fun and enjoyable with people coming as far away as Creswell to play. It's a friendly game that many in the community have enjoyed. We get players from Eugene, Springfield and up and down the valley. The whole evening is one of self-serving, the snack bar is loaded with cookies made by Eleanor Rodakowski. Walt has the hotdog's on and everyone is on the honor system when it come to paying.

Walt said there will be no games in December and January. He expects to restart the fun time again with the February 22nd game.

Mark your calendars. Come on out and play.

NEWSLETTER AVAILABLE VIA EMAIL

Several members have asked if this newsletter could be sent to them via the email. Many members now have the high speed Internet connection that allows for faster down loading of products like this newsletter. Some are interested in helping the environment by reducing landfill sites, saving paper and trees.

To answer the question. YES, the newsletter can be sent via email. It would come in PDF format. Many members have already asked to be put on the Email list to received the newsletters.

If you would like to give it a try, send an email to: walter1ww@aol.com.

Email Address

Many members have changed their Email address over the past couple of years and many since Qwest/Century Link has installed High Speed in many areas of Vida. Please update your email by sending a message to:

walter1ww@aol.com

thanks...



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A peek into the life of Marge Estenson by Joyce Wilson

Marge Extension was a big part of the Vida community for over 70 years. Her involvement with the garden club, bridge club, bunco, pinochle club and Neighborhood Watch, all of which meet at least once a month, kept her an active participant in community activities. Marge is one of those rare finds – she was actually a native Oregonian – but beyond that she had a wealth of information about the area we live in and saw many changes over the years. She not only knew about much of the history but knew many of the people in the valley and most people knew her. Marge had a brother, Bud Landwing, who lived in the area (he passed away a few years ago) and she has two nieces, Barbara and Carol; one lives in Bend and the other lives in Redmond. Marge also has two nephews who live out of state.



Marge did not start out in Vida; she grew up in Scottsmills, Oregon. She came to Vida in 1941, as a new bride. She was married to Roy for 42 years and they lived on Goodpasture Road when they first came to the area. Goodpasture Road was just a logging road back then and not the paved highway it is today. After a few years Roy and Marge bought the old dance hall, tore it down and built the house she lived in for over 70 years.

Marge lived in Scottsmills until she left for college at Oregon State University after high school. Following one year at Oregon State she transferred to Oregon College of Education, now known as Western Oregon University in Monmouth, where she obtained her teaching credentials. Marge was able to teach while fulfilling her goal to continue her education. She completed her BS and Master degrees at the University of Oregon by attending night classes and summer school and teaching during the day. In 1943 Marge began teaching at the McKenzie Elementary School. She taught third grade for 20 years and was the elementary principal for 17 years. In 1980 Marge retired after spending 40 years in the educational field.

Over the years Marge enjoyed a variety of hobbies including hiking, fishing and hunting and she settled in a terrific area to indulge these hobbies. When Marge was teaching she was active in Girl Scouts and 4H. Her community involvement eventually no longer included Girl Scouts and 4H activities and her hobbies were not pursued as they once were but her dedication to community service was not lessened with the years.

Marge also traveled extensively. She travelled to most of the states and took a Clipper Cruise ship on many rivers including the Mississippi, St. Lawrence, Chesapeake Bay and the Hudson River, to name a few. She also visited Costa Rica, Panama Canal, Sea of Cortez and the Florida keys. She travelled to Alaska four times and the first time she and her husband traveled to Alaska it was on the Alaska-Canadian Highway before it was paved. Driving the unpaved road in a pickup with a camper was an experience. Another trip was by bus from Eugene to Alaska but at least the ride was easier since the highway was paved by then. Marge went to 14 European countries on various tours and to three countries in Africa. Her favorite trip was an African Wildlife Safari but a trip to Turkey for the Filbert growers' tour was also an interesting journey. She went to Morocco for another agricultural tour that took in Spain and Portugal. She also visited New Zealand, Australia, Korea and Japan. When she traveled to Japan she went to visit Eugene's sister city and the Mayor of Eugene, Oregon at the time, Jeff Miller, was also on that trip. There were a total of 15 people on the tour and they stayed with families in Japan. Although Marge did not travel to exotic locations in recent years she expressed fond memories of her many trips and had interesting stories to tell about her travels.



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MARGE:

the tour and they stayed with families in Japan. Although Marge did not travel to exotic locations in recent years she expressed fond memories of her many trips and had interesting stories to tell about her travels.

Marge was a charter member of the Neighborhood Watch group in Vida which started in 1979. The Vida group originally attended Neighborhood Watch meetings at Blue River but when enough members from the Vida area became available the Vida unit broke off from the Blue River group and meetings were held at the Baptist Church. Eventually the meetings moved to the McKenzie River Club house, now known as the Vida McKenzie Community Center, the building where the Neighborhood Watch currently holds meetings. This is a facility Marge was very familiar with since she was part of the groundbreaking of the building and was there during the construction.

Marge and her dear friend Buck Carter were the movers and shakers in getting the community involved when it became time for the McKenzie River Club to disband and turn the club house over to the community to become the Vida McKenzie Community Center. Marge loved the old building and was grateful to the community members that made wonderful improvements. She really enjoyed how much the community had accepted the building and all the opportunities it provided. Just like clock work, Marge could be found playing bingo at the Community Center every 2nd Saturday of the month.

Once the Vida Neighborhood Watch moved to the new meeting site and became a unit separate from Blue River Marge was involved in all aspects of making the transition. Over the years she was a scheduler, newsletter editor, base, observer, driver and all-around devoted member. Marge was recognized by the Lane County Sheriff's Department in January 2002 for her outstanding contributions over the years. In May of 2003 Marge had to undergo heart bypass and valve replacement surgery but she made a speedy recovery and was back to her active schedule within weeks.

Over the past couple of years Marge had some age related medical problems that caused her to reduce some of her community involvement but she continued to be a constant source of community support and for Neighborhood Watch she was scheduled for no less than three base patrols a month.



Thanks for being the person you were, Marge, you will be missed

GOT QUESTIONS REGARDING THE WALTERVILLE GRANGE BAZAAR"

Need a table or two to display your goodies? Give Linda Schaefers (541-822-3947) a call, but hurry, the tables and space are going fast.

COMMUNITY NEWS

Walterville Feed Store Holiday Bazaar

Michelle will be opening the store on Dec. 9th and 10th for a first ever "Holiday Bazaar". She is looking for vendors to display their goods. Some tables will be available for vendor use. For additional information, please call the store at 541 741

BINGO NIGHT - 2nd SATURDAY MONTHLY - Doors open 6:15pm—Games at 7:00pm
"we've got best food, desserts, good coffee, cold drinks, great friends and games in the valley"

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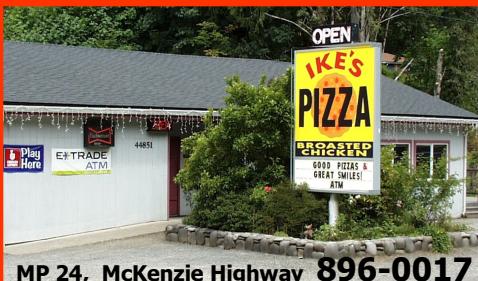
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Tuesday Evenings 5:30pm
All Ages Welcome — Beginner to Master
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Join your friends at the McKenzie River Lions



We Support Sight, Hearing, Diabetes,
and Community Service Programs;
and Present your Summer Festival



You're Welcome at our Semi-Monthly Meetings
the 2nd and 4th Monday of each Month
at 6:30 pm at Ike's Lakeside Pizza

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

VIDA MCKENZIE COMMUNITY CENTER

OFFICERS

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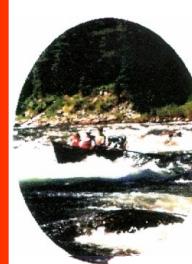


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Send your card and payment to: VMCC, PO Box 163, Vida, Oregon 97488

THE "CENTER" IS LOOKING FOR SOME HELP

We could use a few more helpers on Bingo Night helping out in the snack bar, setting up and serving. Want to help? Give Pat Sherfield a call at 541 988-9735.

We also could use several more Bingo Callers. Give Walt a call at 541 896-0153

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Thanks for being a friend of the Vida McKenzie Community Center. It is that time of the year that we ask the community to continue their support of the Center. If you have not sent in your membership dues, please take a moment, print out this page and sent it to us. Your membership is greatly appreciated.

Thank you,
Walter W. Wilson

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name_____

Spouse Name_____

Address_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Telephone_____ Email_____

Household due at \$10.00 per year and these dues are good until May 2012
Any amount received over \$10.00 will go toward the building fund

Thank you for your
support

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