

MARCH

2017

Friends of McMinnville Senior Center



Executive Board

Chair:

Karen Ostrand

Vice-Chair:

Available

Treasurer:

Kim Rocco-Beach

Secretary:

Ed Kaleta

Members-at-Large

Robin Hager

Jean Lierman

Mary Maas

Loretta Willard

Gordon Winter

Chats from the Chair

Hello everyone! You may have noticed that there was no insert from the Friends into the Senior Center Newsletter for January. It was inadvertently left out because of an email address change that I was not aware of. So, a lot of the information in this month's chat is from the missing pages.

Your board has started the New Year with a rebellious move. Some of you may have noticed that no elections were held for 2017 and here's why. Not a single person came forward to run for any position on the board and I was not about to go begging or guiltig anyone into doing so. I volunteered to return as your Chair and Ed Kaleta volunteered to take over as Secretary. Many thanks to Joanne Walker for her service the last few years. We also have a replacement for our Treasurer LaVerne Rickart, even though she is irreplaceable in my book, with Kim Rocco-Beach. Welcome Ed and Kim! Our Vice Chair Naomi Nelson has also decided not to return so we are actively looking for someone to take over that position. We may have someone interested!

So, at our first board meeting of the year, we motioned and approved to waive the requirement in the bylaws for holding an election for 2017 and appointed Ed and Kim, in the two vacated positions. You received an email about this a few weeks ago.

We also approved the purchase of much needed kitchen island replacing the two tables. The current ones are not of the same height and are too low for most volunteers and Meals on Wheels staff to comfortably work at. These will be provided by the same folks that built our new lobby furniture and storage wall unit in the exercise class. We should see the island arriving soon.

Karen

In other news.....

Three big hearted elves were spotted taking food and presents into the home of Russ and Jeannie. This elderly couple were chosen by the Board to



receive a special surprise this Christmas Eve. Laden down with a huge turkey dinner and groceries for the couple, the elves served the couple dinner and had several wrapped presents for each of them. The couple was truly overwhelmed and thanked the Board (who represented you!) for everything. Our three little elves left feeling blessed for their part in making this Christmas special for the couple.

And speaking of Christmas, the Friends put together 95 Christmas Bags that were presented to the recipients of Meals on Wheels! We'd like to thank Parkway Natural Foods for donating packages of hot cereal, Smith Cookie Company for donating three cases of individual wrapped cookies and Hyder Family Dentistry for toothpaste. We also received cash donations from several members of the Friends. Thank you all!

The Win Back Your Tuition Program had its first winner! Congratulations to Joann Macey who won back her tuition for a computer class she had signed up for. You too can win but you have to enter. If you are a member of the Friends and sign up to take a class given here at the Center, just write your name, phone number and tuition amount on a piece of paper at the Friends Kiosk and drop it into the plastic container. Winners drawn once a quarter. Good Luck!

We also had our second request from the "Friends in Need" program. We supplied \$100 to a person that needs to take some exercise classes here at the Center.

We have delivered our scholarship applications to the high school and hope to have as big an interest this year as we had last.

We hope you all remembered to nominate the Friends in First Federal's Customer Ballot voting that ran in January and February. We only had to have 10 votes to qualify for some money so here's hoping that all of you with a First Federal account put our name down.

The Pancake Breakfast was a success! But you must remember that even though you are a member of the Friends and the event is free, you still must sign up to let us know you are coming. There was some confusion the morning of the breakfast with folks showing up thinking they could just walk in and others who thought they had signed up but hadn't. We will try to remind everyone for future events to sign up early.

We held a contest in January to have patrons of the Wortman Park Café guess the total number of customers served in the Café in their first full year of operation. The winner received a punch card good for 5 free lunches and was provided by the Friends. The actual number of those served was 5,680 with the winning guess by Richard Rubicam of 5,640! Not bad!

We also want to remind folks to get your 2017 dues paid if you haven't already. Remember it is still \$15 for singles but household dues are \$20. Remember dues consist of a major part of our revenues.

The friends have established a Sunshine Fund to send out get well wishes, sympathy cards, etc. to our members when appropriate. The board would appreciate members alerting us when they know of a member needing special thoughts.

