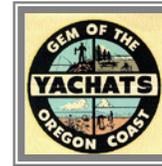




CITY OF YACHATS NEWSLETTER



DECEMBER 2012

THE YACHATS CITY COUNCIL VISION

Adopted: April 2, 2009

Our village is a place where natural resources are valued and protected, where diversity is celebrated, and where a vibrant economy and sense of community pride create and recreate a living spirit. Yachats cares not just for its citizens' basic needs but also supports them in their efforts to excel mentally, physically, artistically, and spiritually. It is a community with an enduring sense of itself.



Mayor's Message

By Ron Brean,
Mayor

'Tis the Season

This time of year you hear a lot about spirit, love, joy, peace and good will, and good wishes for happy holidays. Care is taken to make lights glow, tinsel sparkle, sleigh bells ring, stars glow, and children giggle. Fantasy reindeer, elves, snow people, and even occasional Grinch's are brought to life in an attempt to bring a taste of joy and good will to those around us.

I have fond memories of this season from my childhood. My mother would spray fake snow in the corners of the living room windows to make it look like it was north-pole-cold outside. She spread cotton batting under our Christmas tree to create the illusion of snow there. In that field of snow she placed miniature houses around miniature trees and light posts and fences. Near the houses she would nestle a small mirror under the cotton so that an ice-covered pond reflected the colored tree lights in her magical Christmas village. Around all that, and in all that, she placed packages of spirit, love, joy, hope and good will. I watched her wrap many a package, but I still don't know how she got all that in the boxes and sealed it in with Scotch Tape, wrapping paper and ribbon.

If I close my eyes and think about those times, I can still smell the scent of that holiday tree, the warm sweetness of Christmas cookies cooling on metal racks cut in to the images of Santa, reindeer, evergreen trees and snowflakes. My mother grew up in the desert country in Arizona. When I was a child we lived in San Diego County. To the best of my knowledge she never

saw a pond frozen over, rode across fields of snow in a horse drawn sleigh, or was in haling distance of a reindeer...let alone an elf. Her ability to capture the essence and spirit of the holiday season and share it with those around her did not come from her experience of the world, but rather from some internal magic.

In Yachats, we don't see all that much snow either but we have an abundance of the same kind of magic. We have a lot more evergreen trees around us, of course, but precious few reindeer, elves, snow men, or other Currier-and-Ives trappings. But we do have everything else that my mother captured in her imaginary village. We have people who care about each other. We have a spirit of giving and sharing. We have the wonder of a spectacular environment. We have the joy of good neighbors. We have hope and goodwill that only a magical village can capture.



The most magic thing of all, though, is that it doesn't just happen in December. It doesn't matter what month it is, I can through open my window, take in a deep breath, take a look at what and who surrounds me and I can almost smell those Christmas cookies cooling. Best wishes for a wonderful holiday season.



City of Yachats
By Nancy Batchelder
City Recorder

**Wishing everyone a very Merry
Holiday Season!**



Don't Feed the F.O.G. Monster!

By John McClintock,

While monitoring our system we have observed that quite a bit of F.O.G. originates from households throughout Yachats. We check manholes in neighborhoods and the wet-wells in our pumping stations and see it on a regular basis. What is often overlooked is the fact that F.O.G. is not only a problem Public Works must deal with but F.O.G. can block not only your household drains but your neighbor's as well creating sewage back-ups and overflows that are messy, costly, and a potential threat to your health and to the environment.

When most of us think of F.O.G., the source we think about most often is generated by local restaurants and we tend to dismiss the seemingly small amount households produce. However the by-products of cooking and the content in prepared foods add to the overall amount of fats (solid), oils (liquid), and grease (semi-solid) that are disposed of through household drains. Meats, poultry, fish and cooking oil readily come to mind as dietary sources of F.O.G., but other foods such as: butter/margarine; pastries/baked goods; salad dressing; and dairy products also contain F.O.G.

Some simple steps such as disposing of cooking oil, fat trimmings/drippings (in a disposable container) and wiping residue from dishes/pots with paper towels then disposing of them in the garbage are the easiest ways to help minimize this problematic maintenance issue. Keeping just 1 tablespoon of F.O.G. out of your drains (or toilets) daily adds up to 12 pounds of F.O.G. each year not running through your pipes, the City's sewer system, and wastewater treatment plant.

The City of Yachats has two ordinances aimed specifically at other sewer system users to keep F.O.G. out of the wastewater system: Yachats Municipal Code 4.08.030, Section H. Transient Rental Licenses Standards requires all transient rentals to provide a grease container, replacement liners and instructions for proper disposal of F.O.G.; Yachats Municipal Code 8.08.040, Section E. Grease Traps Other Pretreatment requires all restaurants to have onsite approved and functioning grease traps that are periodically cleaned and inspected (by the City).

Because local businesses no longer sell grease containers and replacement liners, the City now

sells the Fat Trapper® brand at cost inside City Hall during regular business hours, weekdays 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. (except holidays). The "Starter Kit" as seen below (a container w/lid and two heat resistant foil liners) costs \$4. Containers sold individually cost \$2.78/ea and replacement liners cost \$.62/ea.

Fat Trapper® Containers & Liners

We appreciate everyone's cooperation. If you have any questions or would like to see what F.O.G. looks like give Public Works a call at (541) 547-3243.



Yachats Academy of Arts & Sciences

Donald Niskanen, Chair

Monmouth Taiko Drummers

The Academy invites you to celebrate the beginning of its fourth season of programming on Saturday, December 8, 6:30 PM at the Yachats Commons. The Academy will be presenting the Monmouth Taiko Drummers for an evening performance.

This ancient Japanese art form will literally take your breath away. At times it feels like the drumbeats are emanating from your own chest.

Tickets are only \$10.00 and available at Toad Hall or Waldport Video.

Earlier that same day the Monmouth Taiko Drummers will host a Taiko drumming workshop from 2:00 PM until 3:30 PM at the Yachats Commons. The \$10.00 fee will allow you to play on these hand-made Taiko drums. Reservations for this limited participation can be made by contacting Todd Wilson at TWilson@greydigger.com



Winter Solstice Celebration and Bonfire

Friday, December 21st at 4:30 PM by the Picnic Shelter (behind Yachats Commons)

Please join us for this ancient celebration of the longest night of the season and the beginning of the new light. There will be light refreshments and music. Bring a log, which you can add to the bonfire. There is no charge for this Community Celebration. The Academy is supported by the Friends of the Yachats Commons Foundation. For more information, go to GoYachats.com or call 541-961-6695.



Yachats Trails Update By Jan Brown, Leader, Communications

Yikes! It's December *already!* While short days and stormy weather keep us trail hikers indoors more than we'd prefer, they also provide a momentary pause to consider all that has been accomplished by the intrepid Trails and YIPS! crews in the year that just whizzed by.

As we look back over the past year there are hardly enough words to thank all the wonderful, hard working volunteers who turned out in numbers – not only for monthly trails and YIPS! work, but also many “good neighbor” projects throughout the community. The time, energy and unfailing good will that has gone into improving and maintaining the Prospect, 804, Amanda and Gerdemann Garden trails, as well as the Prospect and Whale parks, among other sites, has been truly amazing. And the war on weeds – now a community cause – has achieved unprecedented results as you will read below. Thank you all for all you do to make Yachats and its surroundings a healthier and even more beautiful community for our citizens and a special oasis for visitors.

And – THE EXCITEMENT CONTINUES!



New Year's Day Amanda Peace Hike It's time to mark your calendar for the 3rd **annual Yachats New Year's Day Peace Hike.** Please plan to be part of this powerful, inclusive

and energizing community experience. We'll wind our way over the river, along the ocean and through the woods from the Commons to the Amanda Trail and the magical grotto where the Amanda Statue stands. There we will gather together to welcome

the New Year and offer our individual and collective blessings for peace on earth. You are then invited to return to the Commons for a community celebration with restorative snacks, beverages and camaraderie – and, of course, the highly coveted commemorative pin that all participants receive following the hike (this year designed by the oh-so-creative Dave Baldwin).

This year's hike will take place on **Tuesday, January 1, from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.** Plan to gather in the Commons where we will briefly review the plan for the day before setting out. The entire round trip is 6 miles so be prepared for a moderately strenuous walk. If, along the way, you experience difficulty, several private vehicles will be stationed along the route to shuttle participants who find they're not able to negotiate the entire distance. Shuttles back to the Commons will also be available for those who prefer not to walk back. However, those who shuttle either to the Amanda Grotto or back to the Commons, will need to wait for the rest of us before proceeding with that portion of the event.

Dress in layers for changeable weather, wear sturdy shoes and bring your walking sticks. The hike will be on both paved and narrow dirt trail surfaces with some stairs and moderate inclines. In the event of heavy rain or wind that would make the trail unsafe, we will walk on a shorter alternate route. We've had glorious weather and a terrific turnout for the first two hikes and hope you will start out your new year on the right foot (so to speak) by joining this inspiring event. For additional information or questions, contact Lauralee Svendsgaard at 541-547-3640 or lsven@peak.org.

Gerdemann/Fisterra Trail Link Update
Now, as we look toward the New Year, our network of trails and hiking opportunities is set to expand even further! In November we began work on a footpath between the Gerdemann Botanical Preserve and Fisterra Gardens. Thanks to stellar prep work (brush-whacking and chain sawing) by our partners on the Angell Job Corps Urban Forestry team, the 15 enthusiastic trails crew volunteers who turned out to launch the project were able to make a great start. With its old-growth trees, fern-filled gullies, gurgling creek and scenic vistas, this will be a beautiful place to work and walk and will eventually link the Preserve and its surrounding trails to the Prospect Trail in town. People of all capabilities will be needed to help make this long-time vision real so if you would like

to be involved in this rather wondrous endeavor, just contact any of the Trails Committee members listed below or show up at one of our always-convivial monthly work gatherings:

January 5th, Saturday, at 10:00 a.m. – Trails crew work event. We'll be continuing initial work on the Gerdemann/Fisterra trail link. Additional details will be sent via email to the Trail Committee's contact list. To be added to the list, send a request to one of the emails listed below.

January 19, Saturday at 10:00 a.m. – YIPS! work event (location to be announced via email to the Trail Committee's contact list. To be added to the list, send a request to one of the emails listed below.)

No experience is needed, you may join for any length of time you have available and there are always a wide range of tasks to choose from at any of our events. So... hope to see you there!



YIPS! News (Yachats Invasive Plants Subcommittee)

We're pleased to report that 2012 has been a very good year for our war on bad weeds. A small but fiercely dedicated core of volunteers has turned out regularly for our third-Saturday-of-the-Month forays into enemy weed territory. In addition, we are extremely gratified by how Yachadians in general have embraced this initiative over the past year and helped raise public awareness of our weed problems – and ways to solve them. Here's where we stand with some of our community's "Most Wanted – Dead" weeds:

Scotch Broom has been one of our primary targets, and it is now safe to say that along the 101 corridor in Yachats, mature broom plants are almost non-existent. That's a BIG victory! Nonetheless, seeds will continue to find their way to this area and germinate, so it will remain an ongoing exercise for all of us to keep broom at bay.

Knotweed, which is a much tougher problem than Broom, is another critical weed on our list. While we have made inroads against smallish knotweed populations (at Sea Aire, on the Prospect Trail and in the new Community Garden) several larger

stands remain and must be dealt with. This is an ongoing challenge in the year to come.

Thanks to the help of many hands, we are making good progress in the fight against Tansy Ragwort both in and around Yachats. As with Broom, seeds will continue to arrive from surrounding populations so we will remain watchful. Cinnabar moth larvae, which feed on tansy, appear to be making a comeback in this area and they may help our efforts to control this weed. It will be good to have these voracious tansy flower eaters on the team!

Ivy is still abundant all over town – some of it planted deliberately; much of it escaped from cultivation. We have aggressively gone after the ivy in both Whale Park and on the 804 Trail, north of the Adobe. In fact you may have noticed the riot of colorful wildflower blooms at the Whale Park this summer, which now replace the ivy, blackberry and morning glory that used to cover the stone wall there. The park beds have also now been planted with a variety of shrubs and bulbs so watch for an even more delightful color display this spring.

Another place to watch is the Prospect Trail demonstration garden where we are slowly but surely driving back long established invasives and are working with a botanist from Oregon State Parks to plant native, wildlife-friendly shrubs and trees along with wildflowers and bulbs.

While working on these spaces, we have been extremely fortunate to have not only a team of dedicated volunteers, but also the services of natural resource crews provided by the Mid Coast Watersheds Council at no cost us. These crews of young people have been a huge help in speeding the progress of YIPS!' endeavors, particularly at Whale Park and the Prospect Garden. If you see them out and about in the community be sure to let them know how much we appreciate their great work!

If you have questions about weeds, call Don Niskanen (541-961-6695) or Wally Orchard (541-547-5474)

For more information about the Yachats Trails Committee, its activities or to be added to the Committee's email list simply contact one of us via phone or email:

- Lauralee Svendsgaard, Chair, Yachats Trails Committee at 541.547.3640 or lsven@peak.org

- Joanne Kittel, Leader, Development Committee & Amanda Trail at 541.547.3144 or jnkittel@peak.org
- Wally Orchard, Leader, YIPS! at 541.547.5474 or worchard@peak.org
- Jan Brown, Leader, Communications at 541.547.4927 or espressobrown@gmail.com

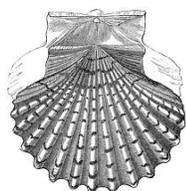


Little Log Church and Museum

By Mary Crook,
Events
Coordinator

Are you ready for the holidays? The Little Log Church will help get you in the mood on Friday, December 7th at 7:00 p.m. with the annual Opening Ceremonies for the Yachats Winter Celebration. The event will be followed with refreshments and entertainment by the Central Oregon Coast's Sweet Adelines. And to keep you in the holiday spirit, the LLC&M will host an Open House during the week between Christmas and New Year's. Watch for time and date on the Yachats Community Page and bulletin boards.

Thinking of serving a classic holiday dish, Yachats style?



In an article that appeared in the *Chef's Corner* of Newport News Times in the late 1970s, Eloise Canfield, a long time Yachats resident and head chef at Beulah's Sea View Inn (later known as the Landmark), shared

her recipe for Oysters Prince Charles:

- 1 cup chopped celery
- 1 cup chopped green peppers
- ½ cup chopped onions

Cook in a small amount of water while preparing the following white sauce:

- 1 tsp salt
- Dash of pepper
- 1 pint canned milk
- 6 tbsp flour
- 6 tbsp butter
- ¼ cup sherry
- 2 tsp Worcestershire sauce.

Melt butter in pan, add flour and blend. Add milk and the rest of the ingredients. Cook

until thick. Sauté about a pint of small oysters in butter until they curl. Combine vegetables, oysters and white sauce. Put in a buttered casserole, top with buttered crumbs and bake in a 400 degree oven for about 15 minutes. Serve in patty shells or toast points.

At the time this article appeared the Canfields had lived in Yachats for 30 years and were very active in the community. Her husband Charlie was later instrumental in the restoration of the Little Log Church in 1993, when he was 87 years old.



Yachats Public Library

By Sandra Calkins

In 1986 Robert Fulghum published a series of essays in a book entitled ALL I

REALLY NEED TO KNOW I LEARNED IN KINDERGARTEN. These are the things he learned: "Share everything. Play fair. Don't hit people. Put things back where you found them. Clean up your own mess. Don't take things that aren't yours. Say you're sorry when you hurt somebody. Wash your hands before you eat. . ." There are several more items—most of which we could all learn to use in today's frantic, fast-moving world. In this special month of December, in these years of economic troubles, I would like to focus on sharing.

We are very lucky in our country. Most of us have more than we need. When compared with third world countries, even those suffering in our country have abundance. I once spent a ten hour lay-over in the international lounge at O'Hare Airport in Chicago. There was little to occupy my time but to look at the pictures on the walls. A photographer had gone to different countries. In each country, he had picked out a typical home, had asked the occupants to move all of their belongings outside in front of the house where he had photographed them. The disparity between people's possessions was amazing. Even the poorest of those of us who have a home in the United States have immensely more wealth than most people in the world.

Whatever holiday traditions you share with your family, let us try to make the season better by sharing. Do you have a neighbor who is a shut-in and could use a good meal delivered or some help picking up something from the store or just a visit with someone who cares? Do you have a family

near you who will be struggling to provide for their children? Perhaps you can help with a gift? Do you know a homeless person who could use some help? Giving enough to help them buy a warm bowl of soup or dry clothes might make a big difference in their life.

Maybe you can share by helping a child who is struggling with reading or mathematics. Maybe you can read to someone whose eyesight is failing. Maybe you can give food to the food bank. Maybe you can donate to your favorite charity or give of your time in other ways. Robert Fulgham was right. Everything we need to know we learned in kindergarten, and one of those main lessons was to share.

Those of us who volunteer at the library want to share our best wishes for a wonderful holiday season for you and those you care about.



Commons Events

By Leon Sterner,
Coordinator

Ornamental Appreciation

Have you ever decorated a Grand Fir Tree for the holidays? Opportunity

awaits you to do just that - you can find it in the Main Lobby of the Commons. And it's a chance to decorate with an added purpose in mind. The Grand Fir came from a sustainable Christmas Tree Farm in Kings Valley, Oregon and is gracing our Lobby with both its physical beauty as well as its wonderful scent. It is serving as a "giving tree" for the Friends of the Yachats Commons, and will receive its 'decorations' as an expression of appreciation and support from community members who wish to contribute to the ongoing work of the Friends organization.

So just what is it that the FYC organization does that might well be worth supporting? A look at a quite recent and very successful event that the Friends sponsored might lend some insight into what the Friends are all about. The event - the 11th Annual Yachats Celtic Music Festival - brought many out-of-towners and locals together with a host of "top of the line" Celtic musicians for a three day weekend filled with Celtic music, culture and cuisine. Several of the Cameo appearances and workshops were held at the Ladies Club and the Little Log Church but the bulk of the activities were based inside the Commons itself.

The musicians played through a sound system and were nicely lit with theatre lighting equipment as the audience sat in newly purchased comfortable chairs. . Throughout the day and during the evening performances, participants were offered wonderful Celtic foods prepared in the Commons kitchen, which is equipped with an array of kitchen utensils - all part of our commercially approved kitchen. All of the amenities mentioned above are examples of physical items the Friends organization and its many supporters have provided to the Commons facility over the years.

This holiday season the Friends are providing a fun way to support all of these activities through a 'giving tree'. Please do stop by for a visit, and consider making a donation by adding your very own Ornament of Appreciation to this tree: ornaments provided..... you bring the appreciation!) Choose an ornament and make a pledge. If you can't stop by and wish to show your support from afar, feel free to contact us at P.O. Box 435, Yachats, OR 97498. If you have any questions or comments - or would like to volunteer, give us a call at 541-961-6597. And know that you and your support are greatly appreciated. Thanks for being a Friend!



GoYachats.com

By Andrea Scharf,
Marketing Director

Happy Holidays.....

Wishing everyone a very happy holiday season and a terrific 2013!



Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program

By Alice Beck, Executive Director

Breakfast with Santa

Brought to you by the Yachats Lions Club and Yachats Youth & Family Activities Program.
YYFAP (541) 547-4599.

Have you been naughty or nice? Well Santa is coming and he wants to have breakfast with you! Join Santa and his elves from YYFAP on Sunday Dec. 9th from 8:30-11:00 am at the Lion's Hall. Our friendly Yachats Lions will be making a pancake breakfast and there will be lots of fun crafts and activities for the whole family to enjoy. Santa will be there for pictures and a whisper of what you really want for Christmas. There will be photos with Santa available too. All ages are welcome to attend.

Family Dinner & Ornament Making Night

On Friday, Dec. 14th, 6:00 - 8:00 pm; the Yachats Youth & Family Activities Program (YYFAP), in partnership with Yachats Community Presbyterian Church, invites families to join together at the church, 360 W 7th St, for a delicious dinner hosted by the church followed by holiday-themed crafts tables hosted by YYFAP, and then a tree decorating. If we are very nice, we may even have a visit from Santa! This event is free. Children must be accompanied by an adult. FMI YYFAP (541) 547-4599.



Annual License Renewal Process

All current City transient rental and business licenses will expire on December 31, 2012. The City will send renewal reminders via the email address licensees have provided the City. The email reminder will direct licensees to log on to their account on www.GoYachats.com to complete the renewal process. Those licensees who do not or have not provided the City an email address will receive their renewal form through the mail as usual. Either way a licensee completes his/her renewal, the renewal payment to the City of Yachats may be made in one of the following ways:

- **Via Phone:** Visa or MasterCard debit or credit card or Discover credit card by calling City Hall at (541)-547-3565
- **Via Mail:** Check or Money Order made out to **The City Yachats** and delivered to PO Box 345, Yachats, OR 97498
- **In Person:** Any of the above methods weekdays 8:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m. (except holidays) inside City Hall 441 Highway 101 N, Yachats, OR

Drop Box 24/7: Check or Money Order made out to **The City Yachats** with the name of the business or physical address of the transient rental

indicated—our locked drop box is located outside the main entrance of the Yachats Commons. Almost all currently licensed businesses have an account on GoYachats.com. If you did not receive a login for your GoYachats accounts, please contact City Hall to have one created.

If you have not been notified that your renewal is due please call the City at (541) 547-3565 or email us at cityhall@ci.yachats.or.us prior to January 31, 2012 to avoid delinquent fees.



Yachats Lunch Bunch

By Will Williams

In this season of goodwill to all, get yourself ready to celebrate with the Yachats

Lunch Bunch! The Yachats Lunch Bunch Annual Holiday Luncheon is open to every 55+ and there is a suggested donation of \$4. As usual we'll be at the Commons on Thursday December 6th; the doors open at 11:30; and we begin serving at noon.

The meal will consist of holiday hor d'oeuvres, Roast Turkey, dressing, mashed potatoes and gravy, green salad & rolls. For dessert the Lady's Club is providing cake. The entertainment will be provided by Bob Welch.

We're asking that in lieu of gifts, or gift exchanges, that we all bring something for the Yachats Food Closet. We're going to have a table set aside for your donations. Please also remember hungry pets. It's been a tough year for so many dogs and cats.



The best and most beautiful things in the world cannot be seen or even touched. They must be felt with the heart. Wishing you happiness. -- Helen Keller