



CITY OF YACHATS NEWSLETTER



JANUARY 2016

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

It's not always easy to

decide what to write about. It seems like a January article ought to be easy...another new year, new beginnings, what lies ahead...and the like, but how many times can you do that? You would feel like you were reading an article from some previous year and I'd feel like I'd just warmed over some idea from the past.

My wife is fond of asking on any given holiday "What does [*insert holiday name here*] mean to you?" She asks with a grin knowing that, in spite of our many years together, I am going to be ill-equipped to answer coherently. In momentary flashes of brilliance I've gotten in ahead of the game and asked the question first, hoping to catch her off guard for a change. It doesn't work of course. She usually has an answer, delivers it succinctly, and then turns the tables right back around to me. And just for the record, she will not allow me to get away with "Me too what you said".

So here it is again. I'm faced with another January article, another new year's article, which forces me to look at the question. What does January mean? What does a new year mean?

I have seen quite a number of Januarys now. For my first one I was just short of three weeks old so it probably was focused on warmth, milk, and

fresh diapers. As I grew older I began to realize that folks put some emphasis on a new year, but it was something that happened between bed time and waking in the morning. It seemed to be some sort of adult event, vaguely mathematical, that happened mostly without my notice or blessing. As an adult it became a time to celebrate the passage of one year and the arrival of a new one to which we attributed hope and promise and a new chance to get it right.

Of late it seems to me that it's just another day, the marking of the passing of time. We ascribe special meaning to it, therefore it has special meaning, however don't we have the ability to make each new day an opportunity to reflect on the past (yesterday, last week, last year, our life to date), and to embrace hope and promise and energy for the future (today, tomorrow, next week, next year, the rest of our lives)?

Of course we have that ability, but somehow we rarely do it. Without something to bring us to focus, without someone to ask the questions, we tend to drift on down the roads of our own choosing without looking back, without carefully noticing the scenery we're passing, without being especially conscious of the progress made and the journey ahead.

So let's take this artificial opportunity to focus, to reflect, and to attempt some vision. Looking backward I see a community that has come together to help each other, to solve problems, even to celebrate each other. I see boundless creativity. I see talent freely shared. I see

hard work and hardy laughter and heartfelt compassion. We are so blessed in this country, and especially in this community. (It is small wonder that the tired, the poor, the huddled masses yearning to breathe free are still trying to find their way to our land of promise and away from the threats of tyranny, chaos and extremism.) Looking forward I see nothing but more of the same. I see pride in being a Yachatian.

So what does January, the New Year, mean to you? And I won't take "Me too what you said" as an answer.



Yachats Public Library
By Janet Rackleff

Happy New Year 2016

The holidays are over and at this stormy time of year it just feels good to curl up with a good book. We have something for every interest - stop in at the library for mysteries, thrillers, and current magazines or other good reads.

If your resolutions include some house cleaning, donate your unwanted books to the library for the Friends book sale coming up in late March. We accept all books in good condition except textbooks, encyclopedias, and old computer manuals. In other media we welcome dvds, music cds and vinyl records but please no VHS or cassette tapes.



Little Log Church and Museum
By Mary Crook, Events Coordinator

Recently a few of the Board were treated to a visit by Marilyn Myers, formerly of Yachats, now of Orcas Island, Washington. Marilyn came to Yachats with her parents in 1939. She was just three years old. Her father, Lyman Myers, became the minister at the Little Log Church at that time. He also served Waldport, Bay View and Camp One. The family lived in the parsonage on the church's property.

Marilyn told us she was going through some family keepsakes and found a number of items and records that might be of interest to the Log



City Council Briefing

By Nancy Batchelder
City Recorder

Annual State of the City Event Sunday January 24th 2:00 pm

Do you know what City Council and the Commissions accomplished in 2015? Do you want to know what City Council and the Commission's plan to work on in 2016? Then come to the Annual State of the City Event for presentations from Council and the Commissions. You can meet the Volunteers who are working to keep Yachats Great and learn how YOU can volunteer too!



Help Wanted: Happy Birthday Yachats

July 18, 2016 marks the Yachats' 50th Anniversary and the City is seeking volunteers to serve on a committee to come up with some fun ways to celebrate the occasion. If you are interested please complete a volunteer application and drop it by City Hall.



Wishing you a very Happy New Year!
By Larry Lewis, City Planner

Church Museum, and she asked if we were interested. What treasures she delivered!

An enthusiastic and engaging story teller, Marilyn told us that with her father's guidance and encouragement, she gave her very first recitation in the church's sanctuary when she was 3 $\frac{1}{2}$. That, she said, began her life-long love of public speaking. She became a high school history teacher - a wise career choice, for in her presentation to our board it was apparent she loved to make history live.

Marilyn recalled the parsonage had one bedroom, a small bath, and one long room. It kept them warm and dry. However the church was not quite finished. There were no window casings, the floor was shiplap, there was no foundation, and it was drafty. Reverend Myers, along with any help he could acquire, was able to put in a foundation and make the inside of the church more comfortable. Mrs. Myers helped paint the interior, and she made curtains in a rich dark burgundy color. They then held a rededication.

Marilyn was just a few weeks from her fifth birthday in 1941 when they learned that Pearl Harbor had been attacked. Her father told her that he had to leave for a while and gave his wife and little Marilyn specific instructions to sit under the kitchen table and stay there until he got back. Marilyn remembers wearing her Sunday "go to church" dress, and holding her mother's big blue mixing bowl in her lap. She knew her mom made bread nearly every day, and that bowl was important to her family. No one on the Oregon Coast knew what to expect on that December 7th. Reverend Myers reported sometime later that he personally had seen Japanese submarines from his post near the Sea Lion Caves.

Among the items donated to our Little Log Church by Marilyn Myers were the big blue bowl she held in her lap on December 7th, the ledger her mother kept in which all their income and expenditures were meticulously recorded, many photos, her mother's wedding dress and shoes,

her father's fishing pole, and a toy chicken that lays marble eggs - given to her by Mrs. Garrison, owner of the Garrison Vacation Cottages where C&K Market and the row of shops are now.

And the best news is that Marilyn's wonderful living history talk has been recorded and put onto a DVD by board member Leon Sterner. The DVD will be available to view at the LLC&M later this month. Our heartfelt thanks go to Marilyn Myers for bringing those days to life and adding to the treasures that reside here.

Make it a New Year's resolution to at least come by and see that big blue bowl!



Commons Events

By Leon Sterner,
Coordinator

Sincere thanks to all who have contributed and supported the goings on at our Commons community center in the past year. It has been busier than ever and it seems, better than ever **due in part** to the City Council, City staff, Public works, and to the myriad of volunteers who contribute time and resources to both sustain and improve the physical facility, as well as contribute to the wide variety of activities that have taken place over the past year. Making reservations thru the Goyachats.com website continues to be easier and more successful as a tool for planning events and avoiding 'scheduling conflicts' as we move thru our busy calendar of events at the Commons. The "events" tab on the website - which is the community calendar - is a reliable and easily accessible resource for information about the entire goings on in our community. When at this site, one can scroll "backwards in time" to see what has happened over the past

months and years, and scroll "forward" to see what is planned for the future.

And by the way, as we look forward to the New Year at the Commons, things are looking good. And if the LED lighting project is successful, things will be looking even better!

For the past month or so, I have been gathering information from representatives from PUD and lighting manufacturers who specialize in LED technology, and local electrical contractors to determine how we might transition from our current "fluorescent" lighting to a new and more efficient LED system. Such a transition would result in less electrical energy used, and this translates into dollars saved. The new LED light fixtures and bulbs will offer improved (more even) lighting and require much less maintenance than the fluorescent tubes currently in use.

They will be much more energy efficient, have a very long life, and provide a quality of light that will be more pleasing. The discomfort many people notice with fluorescent type lighting will be eliminated. Flexibility is another advantage of these lights. For example, there will be the option for "dimmers" which will allow adjusting the intensity of light. Dimmers on the ceiling lighting in the MP room will allow us to adjust the light levels and more easily accommodate the wide variety of events occurring in that space.

As of the writing of this article, all of the existing lighting fixtures in every room on both floors of the Commons have been inventoried. It seems like we will be able to eliminate around 20 percent of current fixtures which will result in an even greater efficiency measure in determining the 'rebate' incentive for this project. Public works and city leaders are being consulted as we move forward with this project. It is hoped that the Friends will have details and permissions to prepare a grant proposal opportunity by mid-January of this year. Low maintenance, less expensive to use, long life, better quality of light - yep, if this works, things will be looking even better in the upcoming year for the many people attending events in the Commons.

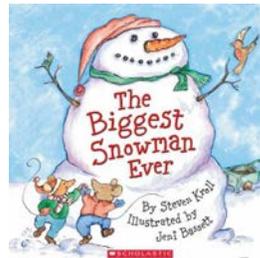


Yachats Lunch Bunch

By Will Williams,
Coordinator

The Yachats Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, January 28, 2015 in the multipurpose room. Doors open at 11:30 a.m. Lunch served at noon. Everyone 55 or older is welcome.

Our "guest chef" for January is our fabulous Yachats Ladies Club. The menu is being kept under lock and key...but there is no doubt of how fantastic it will be! There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person.



Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program

By Alice Beck,
Executive Director

Families Together in January

Please join us at the Yachats Community Presbyterian Church at 360 W. 7th street on January 29th from 6-8 pm. There will be free dinner and story time featuring "The Biggest Snowman Ever". Each child will take home a copy of the book and there will be other, age appropriate books for older siblings. After dinner there is always a craft related to the story for the children. We do hope you will join us for this fun, family evening.

YACHATS LIONS CLUB

ANNUAL CRAB FEED

Saturday, January 30, 2016

Until the food is gone! All you can eat crab with garlic bread, cole slaw, baked beans, and choice of coffee or soda. FMI call: Kevin or Peggy York, 541-563-5629.





Yachats Trails Update

By Jan Brown,
Chair
Communications
Leader

On December 18, we received the very sad news that the Amanda Trail Bridge and the Amanda statue were washed away during the heavy rains and storms occurring at that time. The Amanda Trail is now closed indefinitely and the trail remains too hazardous for visitors. The spirit of Amanda remains resilient however and the 6th Annual Yachats New Year's Day Peace Hike was quickly re-planned for a new locale. We hope you were able to make it to the alternate hike from the Commons to the Ya'Xaik Trail and Gerdemann Botanical Preserve as well as the Peace Ceremony held at the Commons. (See events section below for details.) As to the next steps for recovery of the Amanda Trail, and hopefully the statue, we will provide updated information in the February issue of the newsletter.

The New Year will bring some very positive opportunities. We'll start by flagging the circumference trail proposed in the Commons Park concept plan, and then begin construction in the coming months. We're also looking forward to starting work on a trail that will run along the east ridge of Yachats. We've had a number of wonderful new volunteers joining us recently, which will help us move forward on a number of projects. In addition, the very first docents for the Gerdemann Botanical Preserve have been in training and will graduate in mid-January. As you stroll the GBP's Public Trail watch for their yellow vests and be sure to thank them for helping to keep the garden open, safe and thriving.

We have also received superb help from the collaborative work of area agencies. The most recent example is the Oregon State Parks and Recreation Department (OPRD) staff and the County Work Crew's diligence in rehabbing sections of the Amanda Trail under the supervision of Doug Sestrich. We are also pleased to see the return to the area of Dennis Comfort, a true supporter of the spirit of the Amanda Trail, who has been promoted to Coastal Region Manager for OPRD. While earlier working as South Beach area manager he and OPRD teamed with the Yachats Trails Committee, View the Future and the Confederated Tribes of the Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians to build the new Amanda Bridge. Dennis moved to a different position in 2012, but his heart always remained at the coast and we are very happy to have him back.

If you are interested in hearing about upcoming trails events as well as occasional announcements about other organizations we work with (OPRD, Siuslaw National Forest/Cape Perpetua, etc.) be sure to get on our e-mail list by notifying any of the Trails Committee leaders below.

YIPS! (Yachats Invasive Plants Subcommittee) News

At the beginning of a new year one often wonders what that year will bring. One thing we know for sure... there will be enough invasive weeds around Yachats to keep our YIPS! volunteers busy all year round. We will continue our effort around the Commons wetland park, where we have already made great progress in laying down weed barrier and mulch. Ivy and blackberry are still widespread in the park, and we will focus on those two throughout the year. Later, when Scotch Broom and Tansy Ragwort start flowering we will target them as well. If you would like to read our brochure on invasive weeds you can find it at <http://www.ci.yachats.or.us/weeds/Brochure-weeds.pdf>. Also, if you have additional questions about weeds in our area, or need tips on how to

control them, contact Wally (541-547-5474) or Don (541-961-6695) for more details.

Upcoming Trails, YIPS! and Related Events

The Yachats Trails Crew meets on the first Saturday of each month and the YIPS! Crew on the third Saturday, both from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. There are always a wide variety of tasks for all levels of interest so come join in the fun. We guarantee you a warm appreciative welcome and a friendly social get-together to celebrate our accomplishments at the end.



January 1st
(Friday) 9:45
a.m. - 2:00 p.m.
- 6th Annual
Yachats New
Year's Day Peace
Hike and
Celebration -
Yachats Commons

At 9:45 Yachats Mayor Ron Brean will introduce Doc Slyter, Elder, Tribal Flutist and Tribal Council member for the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians who will tell the story of Amanda. Participants will then move to the covered shelter behind the Commons where a ceremonial fire will be lit and the group will have the opportunity to contemplate and offer blessings for peace in the New Year.

Weather and trail conditions permitting, participants are then invited to hike a 3.5-mile round trip on the 804 Trail to the Ya'Xaik trail then on to the Gerdemann Botanical Preserve and back to the Commons. There the celebration will continue with tribal music, refreshments, displays and presentations from groups such as the CTCLUSI, U.S. Forest Service, State Parks, View the Future and more. Participants may then also pick up their Peace Hike 2016 commemorative pins.

If you have any questions, please contact any of the Trails Committee members listed below.

January 16th (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: YIPS! Crew work event. (Location TBA)
February 6th (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Trails Crew work event. (Location TBA)

For more information on Trails and YIPS! activities, and to sign up for the mail list, contact any 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

Loren Dickinson, Leader, Trails Crew at 541-547-4559 or loren.dickinson@gmail.com

Wally Orchard, Leader, YIPS! at 541.547.5474 or worchard@peak.org

Jan Brown, Leader, Communications at 541.547.4927 or espressobrown@gmail.com



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5th Annual **YACHATS** **AGATE** **FESTIVAL**

January 16-17,
2016
Saturday and

Sunday
10 am-4 pm, at the Commons

The Village Gem invites you to the 5th annual Yachats Agate Festival and Gem-Mineral-Fossil Show. The festival weekend will feature spectacular displays as well as family friendly learning opportunities for all ages. There will be special guest speakers and the Oregon Coast Agate Club will also be joining in with demonstrations and club displays. Presented by Planet Yachats and sponsored by the Yachats Area Chamber of Commerce.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<p>Monthly Tsunami Siren testing 11am January 6th</p>	<p>2016 New Year's Day Peace Hike</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Happy New Year 2016</p> <p>City Hall Closed</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>3</p> <p>Dances of Universal Peace 6:30pm (MP)</p>	<p>4 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 8) Exercise Class 10 am (MP)</p> <p>Zumba® 6 pm (MP) 6pm Open & Honest (Rm5) 7pm Open Gym + ping pong (MP)</p>	<p>5 8:30am Marketing Comm.</p> <p>Pickleball 1:15pm (MP)</p> <p>Emergency Planning Cmte 2 pm (Civic Mtg Rm) Public Works & Streets Mtg 3 pm (Civic Mtg Rm)</p>	<p>6 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm8) Exercise Class 10 am (MP)</p> <p><u>1pm Art in the Kitchen</u></p> <p>Zumba® 6 pm (MP) Pickleball 1:15pm (MP)</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Pickleball 1:15pm (MP)</p> <p>Big Band Dance 7 pm (MP)</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Exercise Class 10 am (MP)</p>	<p>9</p> <p>Runners Race (Commons)</p> <p><small>© Can Stock Photo</small></p>
<p>10 Yachats Song Circle 3pm(Rm 3)</p>	<p>11 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 8) 9:30am City Council Work Session (Civic Mtg Rm) Exercise Class 10 am (MP)</p> <p>6pm Open & Honest (Rm5) Zumba® 6 pm (MP) 7pm Open Gym + ping pong</p>	<p>12</p> <p>Pickleball 1:15pm (MP)</p> <p>6:30 pm Tribal Fusion Movement (MP)</p> <p>Friends Bd Mtg 5:30pm</p>	<p>13 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm8) Exercise Class 10 am (MP)</p> <p>Finance Committee 10 am (Civic Mtg Rm)</p> <p><u>1pm Art in the Kitchen</u> Pickleball 1:15pm (MP)</p> <p>MOVE (MP) 6pm Zumba® 6 pm (MP)</p>	<p>14</p> <p>Pickleball 1:15pm (MP)</p> <p>2pm City Council Meeting (Civic Mtg Rm)</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Exercise Class 10 am (MP)</p>	<p>16</p> <p>5th Annual Yachats Agate Festival (Commons)</p>
<p>17</p> <p>5th Annual Yachats Agate Festival (Commons)</p>	<p>18 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 8) Exercise Class 10 am (MP)</p> <p>6pm Open & Honest (Rm5) Zumba® 6 pm (MP)</p> <p>7pm Open Gym+ping pong (MP)</p>	<p>19</p> <p>Pickleball 1:15pm (MP)</p> <p>Planning Commission Work Session 2 pm (Civic Mtg Rm) Planning Commission Mtg 3 pm (Civic Mtg Rm)</p> <p>6:30 pm Tribal Fusion Movement (MP)</p>	<p>20 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm8) Exercise Class 10 am (MP)</p> <p><u>1pm Art in the Kitchen</u> Pickleball 1:15pm (MP)</p> <p>Zumba® 6 pm (MP)</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Gentle Healing YOGA 11am (Rm3)</p> <p>Pickleball 1:15pm (MP)</p> <p>Parks & Commons Commission 3 pm (Civic Mtg Rm)</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Exercise Class 10 am (MP)</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24</p> <p>State of the City Event (MP) 2-4pm</p>	<p>25 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 8) Exercise Class 10 am (MP)</p> <p>6pm Open & Honest (Rm5) Zumba® 6 pm (MP) 7pm Open Gym + ping pong</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Pickleball 1:15pm (MP)</p> <p>6:30 pm Tribal Fusion Movement (MP)</p>	<p>27 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm8) Exercise Class 10 am (MP)</p> <p><u>1pm Art in the Kitchen</u> Pickleball 1:15pm (MP)</p> <p>Zumba® 6 pm (MP)</p>	<p>28</p> <p>11:00am Yachats Lunch Bunch 55+ (MP) Pickleball 1:15pm (MP)</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Exercise Class 10am (MP)</p> <p>6pm Families Together @YCPC Dinner & Story!</p>	<p>30</p> <p>12pm Lions Club Crab Feed (MP)</p>



Cheers to a New Year and another chance for us to get it right! -Oprah May it be your best ever!

