



CITY OF YACHATS

NEWSLETTER



FEBRUARY 2015

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.

**WELCOME
TO THE
VOLUNTEERING
VILLAGE**



Mayor's Message

By Ron
Brean, Mayor

I have occasional opportunities to get together with old colleagues. We're all retired State Park Rangers. Most of us promoted to the ranks of management and served long careers with one department of state government. The parks profession is somewhat different in that regard. Most people who work for the state, any state, move from one agency to another and consider themselves "state employees". State Park employees are, of course, state employees too but that's not how they will identify themselves. They will tell you they are "park employees". Most will describe those they work with as "the Park family". It is extremely common for these people to work their entire careers serving the park visitors, teaching them about the outstanding scenic, natural and cultural resources that each park preserves. These are important and fulfilling responsibilities. It's hard for them to consider working in the more mundane (albeit necessary and important) services provided by the state once they have experienced the rewards available working for parks.

I just got back from one of those gatherings of a group of retirees. There was a lot of golf involved, as well as a lot of old war stories and a lot of laughs and a lot of catching up on what's happening in our lives. In some ways it was very much like a family reunion. One common theme

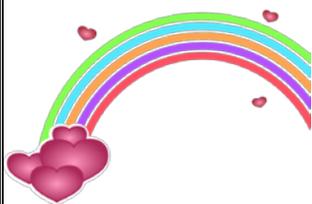
was our current involvement in some level of service as a volunteer. Remember now, these are all retired guys who worked hard for decades and with great dedication for a cause they believed in and still believe in. It turns out that a dedication to service is a hard thing to retire from. One colleague is coaching high school basketball. One is serving on a non-profit board trying to raise funds to protect wild lands. Another has gotten a dog and gone through search and rescue canine training. He and his dog have been responsible for finding lost people and saving their lives.

One thing we have all discovered in our new ventures is that there are members of the "Park Family" that never worked for a parks agency. Whatever that gene is that yields dedication and draws people to serve important causes and beckons people forward to fill a need, you can find it wherever people are volunteering to serve. Some people care about natural land and wild environments so they give their time and energy to protect it. Some care about people and public safety that they invest their time and money on equipment and training and even on dogs so they can help when someone desperately needs help. Some care about kids and work to help those kids do better. And some care about their communities and contribute wherever they can to help it and its people thrive. All around Yachats you see that "Park Family" kind of dedication. Looking back it's probably one of the reasons I was attracted to Yachats in the first place. It has been suggested to me many times that I must be a little bit crazy to take on the

thankless job of being a volunteer mayor. I have one friend who told me that I'm actually failing retirement. Why would anyone want to take on such responsibility when they could be doing...well, whatever else they might want to do?

Well, here's the secret. It isn't a thankless job. Most people in Yachats are appreciative of volunteer efforts, in part because they are probably also volunteering their time in some way that serves their neighbors; in some way that protects nature, that keeps people safe and healthy, that nurtures children, or that serves our community in some way. This little village thrives and survives through the dedicated efforts of volunteers. You and your neighbors have skills and those skills help us all do better.

To those of you serving in such a capacity I want so say "Thank you!" For those of you that haven't yet found your place to contribute, keep looking. We have vacancies on a number of City Commissions that could use your help and your ideas. There are also programs and projects and events that may need you. You see "it takes a village" to do more than raise a child. It takes a village to make a village work. Those people working alongside of us are our own park family, but we don't call them that. We call them Yachatians.



City Council Briefing

By Nancy Batchelder City Recorder

Welcome to Max Glenn who was appointed to Council!

Small Marketing Grant Announced

In the current budget, there was money set aside for small grants for new or expanded events that promote visitors coming to town. The Marketing Committee has been working on the application and process for reviewing and awarding the grants. Information regarding the application process and an application may be

obtained online at the City's web site or by contacting City Hall.

The deadline to apply has been set as April 1, 2015.

Yachats Lunch Bunch



By Will Williams
Coordinator

The Yachats Lunch Bunch will meet on Thursday, February 26th, 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 February is The Yachats Ladies Club. They are preparing: Meatloaf & Mac-N-Cheese, green Salad, Rolls with butter and no doubt something sweet and wonderful for desert. There is a suggested donation of \$5 per person. Don't forget to wear Valentine RED!

Yachats Trails

Update



By Jan Brown, Trails Committee Communications Leader & Joanne Kittel, Development Committee and Amanda Trail Leader

We would like to report on the 5th Annual Yachats New Year's Day Peace Hike, which was a complete and total success. While preparations for the Ducks' game and icy roads in the valley may have kept some folks home this year, over 170 came together to experience this inspirational event.

Its success, of course, was due to the many volunteers who ensured that all ran smoothly and that hikers were well cared for and safe. Native American flute playing and singing by the generous participation of Jesse Beers, Mark Petrie, Doc Slyter and a number of Tribal

Members from the Confederated Tribes of Coos, Lower Umpqua and Siuslaw Indians, as well as Mary Beth Nickel, set the tone of peace and tranquility as hikers arrived in the Amanda Grotto. A special thank you goes to Nancy Oltman for her contribution of this year's beautiful design for the Peace Hike button and her donation of the original art for auction. The Trails Committee is also grateful to the Yachats Ladies Club for baking and serving many delicious types of bread for our hikers and to the Yachats Coastal Gems members who joined us this year in making the event a success. And finally a big community thank you goes to Trails Committee Chair, Lauralee Svendsgaard who helped found this event and whose vision, passion and leadership has made it the deeply impactful experience it has grown to be.

The next big occasion on the Trails and YIPS! (Yachats Invasive Plants Subcommittee) crews' calendar will be National Trails Day on Saturday, June 6th. This day is celebrated in many ways around the country and you can find out more about it online at: www.nationaltrailsday.org. Locally, activities will begin at 9:00 a.m. at the Cape Perpetua Visitor's Center. In collaboration with our friends and colleagues from the Siuslaw National Forest, there will be a hike into the beautiful Cummins Creek Wilderness area where participants will also pull several stands of Tansy Ragwort, an invasive plant species that is highly toxic to many grazing animals, including local livestock. The work session and scenic hike will be followed by a luncheon either at the Cape Perpetua Visitor's Center Deck (weather permitting) or the Yachts Commons Picnic Shelter. Watch for more details coming soon.

Upcoming Trails, YIPS! and Related Events for February and March

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 celebration of our accomplishments at the end.

Upcoming events to add to your calendar:

February 7th (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: Trails Crew work event (TBA).

February 21st (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.: YIPS! work event. (TBA)

March 7th (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. Trails Crew work event (TBA).

March 21st (Saturday) 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. YIPS! work event. (TBA)

For more information, 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
- 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

Time to Say "I Do" Again

A bit of history: On February 14, 1996 nine couples came to the Little Log Church and Museum to renew their marriage vows. It was our first-ever group ceremony offering couples the opportunity to re-state their commitments to one another. As facilitator of that event (and, as a brand new minister, my own "first-ever" gathering of that type) I was delighted with the turn-out. The old pump organ was put into service for a few romantic tunes beforehand, played by a lovely organist with the delightfully euphonious name of Inez Lush. The ceremony lasted about thirty minutes, and our nine couples were enthusiastically appreciative. I was buoyant, and thought that perhaps this might be an annual event.

Inez came back the next year, and she and I witnessed more couples celebrate Valentine's Day by renewing their vows. Longtime local residents Jack and Ellie Ewan were among those present, and Jack announced to the group that the Little Log Church was the only place where a couple could have their vows renewed by a Crook and a Lush.

The annual Valentine's Day group ceremony of renewal and commitment at the Log Church has become a long standing tradition. This year, in fact, will be our 20th year of celebrating marriage, partnerships and personal commitments.

Folks have come to Yachats for a Valentine's celebration from throughout Oregon, as well as other states. One year two couples from Indiana scheduled their vacations in February in order to include the Log Church in their plans. Another couple was "thinking about" getting married at the Log Church, and wanted to attend just to see what it was like. They were married later that year in our garden, and have returned to renew their vows every year for the last five years. Our numbers have increased to full capacity. For each of the last few years our little church has been host to between 25 and 28 couples.

Inez and her husband have moved out of the area, so we've had other organists play for us, as well as harpists and other instrumentalists.

Because this is a banner year for us, we've decided to hold two seating's on Saturday, February 14th - one at 12 noon and one at 5:30 p.m. Local violinist Ruth Mock will play at the noon ceremony and Celtic harpist Khlo Brateng will play at 5:30 p.m. Reservations are required, as seating is limited. Couples will be given a special certificate as a memento of the occasion. The museum suggests a donation to the Little Log Church of \$10.00 per couple, still a bargain after all these years. To reserve a place, please call me, Mary Crook, at 541-547-4547.



Yachats Public Library

By Janet Rackleff

February in the Library

A good month to recommend a book that deals with many types of love and many ways of caring. Here's library volunteer Carita Edson's review of *All the Light We Cannot See* by Anthony Doerr: This is a wonderful story of a bright young German soldier, Werner Pfennig, and a perceptive blind French girl, Marie-Laure LeBlanc, during World War II. Their paths come together just before D-Day towards the end of the novel. The short chapters alternate between the stories of Werner and Marie-Laure beginning in 1934. It takes place in Germany and France before and during the German occupation of France. The novel begins when Marie-Laure is living in Paris with her father. She learns to navigate by memorizing an intricate model of their neighborhood built by her father. Werner is living in an orphanage in a German mining town. He is accepted and sent to an academy for Hitler Youth where he is trained to become an elite cadet for the Third Reich. When the Nazis occupy Paris, Marie-Laure and her father go to the walled city of Saint-Malo on the Brittany coast. Werner is sent to track the resistance there. There is also a subplot about a huge diamond called Sea of Flame and the villain who pursues it. But it is Doerr's writing that makes this book so special. It is beautifully written with detailed descriptions which bring to mind wonderful images and scenes. Doerr gives the reader many messages throughout the novel. "Open your eyes and see what you can see with them before they close forever" has layers of meaning in this best seller. *All the Light We Cannot See* was a finalist for the National Book Award.





Yachats Youth and Family Activities Program

By Alice Beck, Executive Director

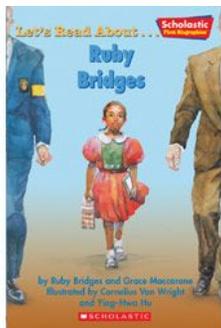
Little Sweetheart's Valentine Dance

Bring your little sweetheart to the third annual YYFAP family Valentine Dance. Mother/Son, Father/Daughter, or any couple combination of friends and family young and old alike. There is no age limit. Each adult receives a flower to give their date and there will be refreshments and couples photos too. Music will be provided once again by our very own local DJ-JD. Time is 7-9 pm on Friday night, February 13th at the Yachats Commons Multipurpose room. Cost is \$10 per couple or \$15 per family.



Friends"; we are making some mighty nice changes inside our Commons facility. In the hours preceding the State of the City event last Sunday, Jan 25th, Linda and Tom from the Drift Inn removed the old Wolf gas stove from its home of 20 some years in the Commons' kitchen. They purchased the old stove as part of our kitchen remodel project. The project was funded, in part, from a grant that was received from **The Ford Family Foundation**. Linda and Tom helped move the new Southerland stove into position. It will be hooked up this week and will be ready for its inaugural use at the February Lunch Bunch. The electric-spark pilots on the gas stove will provide much safer operation by the variety of users who cook in our kitchen.

Also received and soon to be installed in the kitchen, is the new Blodgett electric convection oven. This full sized commercial oven will be a "huge" improvement over the old unreliable residential ovens. This convection oven along with the conventional oven in the gas range, will provide much desired "oven space" when we host our larger catered events like weddings, conferences, Lunch Bunch etc.



Families Together

In honor of Black History Month come join us for "Let's Read About... Ruby Bridges" on Friday night February 27th at the Yachats Community Presbyterian Church for our February Families Together Dinner.

And, of course, we always need some good coffee to wash down those freshly made meals and desserts - enter the new "220 volt - double Bunn" coffee maker. This unit will make more coffee, and make it faster than our old single unit device - which has provided us with untold gallons of brew - but at a painfully slow pace! However, this older, well used coffee maker will not be retiring. Rather, it will find a new home in Room 8 - where our "out with the old, in with the new" saga continues..... Thanks in no small part to all the local organizations and community volunteers who have contributed to make these changes happen. What a cookin' community!

Commons Events

By Leon Sterner, Coordinator

'Out with the old, in with the new'...: or... 'A trip down nostalgia lane that ends up in the future!' Thanks to the work of the Friends of the Commons - and all the "Friends of the



Happy Groundhog Day!

Room 8 is next to being in the renovation spotlight as we move forward with the recently received monies obtained from the **Lincoln County Community and Economic Development Funds**. Once again, this grant was the result of

collaboration between the Friends of the Commons, the City of Yachats, and other organizations and individuals who contributed their time and talents (thank you Milo Graamans and also the "Bad Weeds" who performed for our fundraisers). The 'old' parts that are leaving the Room 8 space include; the tattered green carpeting - which has served us well in our "green room" for stage productions, and as a frequently used meeting room. In its place, there will be the 'wood like' vinyl flooring (like that which was recently installed in the MP room and Kitchen).

Also on the way out, are the equally tattered blinds that have served us well. The new blinds will be sturdier and more functional as they block out 'daylight' and create a darker room during PowerPoint presentations using projector and screen. And there is also a ceiling mounted projector on its way. This positioning of the projector will give us added 'seating space' in the room, and provide a good source of projection for the variety of media presentations that occur in the space. And it is likely that the 'old' coffee maker from the kitchen will find a 'new' home here in Room 8. These renovations will still allow our familiar uses of this space (green-room for stage productions, meetings and classes, etc.) and will now be more attractive as a full-day meeting space (with catering capacity).

So let's have a round of applause for all in the community who are shouldering up to make these exciting changes happen. So as we let go of yesteryear and move into this New Year, let's be grateful for the positive changes we are making.



Doing the right thing has never been easier...

Now there are three simple ways customers can help keep the City's cost down and help us move

towards a more sustainable future:

Receive your Newsletter via e-mail in **COLOR!** Email us at cityhall@ci.yachats.or.us and let us know that you want to receive your newsletter electronically (please include service address or account number) or call us at 541.547.3565.

AND... Sign up for ACH automatic debit payment from your checking or saving account for your water/ sewer payments. No logging on and no check writing! Saves time and paper.

Or... Register online for the eBill and /or ePay programs. eBill allows customers to receive their monthly bill by e-mail. ePay allows customers to pay online using a Visa or MasterCard. Log on to www.ci.yachats.or.us and click on eBill/ ePay link for more information. Also by choosing this option you will automatically receive your newsletter in **COLOR** by email! Email Kimmie at: kimmie@ci.yachats.or.us if you have any questions!



JAZZ CONCERT

Saturday **February 7**, at 7 pm
Yachats Commons Auditorium

In addition to their 1st Thursday dance at the Commons, the

Yachats Big Band will present a special concert on February 7 with some combo tunes, some Dixieland, and some big band charts that they don't bring out for their regular dances. Come and have some extra fun with the Yachats Big Band!



MARDI GRAS IN YACHATS

February 14-17, 2015

The events kicks off Saturday with Gumbo and other New Orleans

style food at village eateries, a starlight parade (weather permitting) and a family dance with the New Iberians Zydeco Blues Band. As the date nears, please stay posted for additional information about music, events and Fat Tuesday specials!



SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>1</p> 	<p>2 Tai Chi 8 am 10am Exercise Class (MP)</p>  <p>6pm Open & Honest Mtg. (Rm5) 6pm Zumba (MP) 7pm Basketball / Ping-Pong Amrit Yoga 7pm (Rm3)</p>	<p>3 8:30am Marketing (Civic)</p> <p>2pm Emergency Planning Comte (Civic Rom) 3pm Public Works & Streets Cmte (Civic Mtg Rm)</p>	<p>4 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 3) 10am Exercise Class (MP) 11am Qigong (Rm8) City Wide Tsunami Siren Test 11am 1pm Art in the Kitchen</p> <p>6pm Zumba (MP) Amrit Yoga 7pm (Rm8)</p>	<p>5 7pm Big Band Dance (MP)</p>	<p>6 10am Exercise Class (MP)</p> <p>6:30pm YAAS: Conservation for the 21st Century (MP)</p>	<p>7 7pm Friends: Yachats Big Band: Modern Jazz Concert (MP)</p>
<p>8</p> 	<p>9 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 3) 9:30am City Council Work Session (Civic Rm) 10am Exercise Class (MP) 6pm Open & Honest Mtg. (Rm5) 6pm Zumba (MP) 7pm Basketball / Ping-Pong 7pm Amrit Yoga (Rm3)</p>	<p>10 7pm Free Movement Dancing (MP)</p>	<p>11 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 3) 10am Exercise Class (MP) 11am Qigong (Rm8) 1pm Art in the Kitchen 6pm Joint Meeting: Lincoln Co. Council & City Council (Civic Rm) 6pm Zumba (MP) Amrit Yoga 7pm (Rm8)</p>	<p>12 2pm City Council Mtg (Civic Mtg Rm) 6pm Healthy Cooking (RM5)</p>	<p>13 10am Exercise Class (MP)</p> <p>7pm YYFAP: Sweetheart Dance (MP)</p>	<p>14 12pm LLC: Marriage Vow renewal Ceremony MardiGras..... Valentine's Day</p> 
<p>15 Mardi Gras in Yachats.....until the 17th</p> 	<p>16 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm3) 10am Exercise Class (MP) 6pm Open & Honest Mtg. (Rm5) 6pm Zumba 7pm Basketball / Ping-Pong 7pm Amrit Yoga (Rm3)</p> 	<p>17 2pm Planning Commission Work Session (Civic Mtg Rm) 3pm Planning Commission Meeting (Civic Mtg Rm) Friends Board Mtg. 5:30pm Mardi Gras</p>	<p>18 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm3) 10am Exercise Class (MP) 11am Qigong (Rm8) 1pm Art in the Kitchen</p> <p>6pm Zumba (MP) Amrit Yoga 7pm (Rm8)</p>	<p>19 3pm Parks/Commons Commission (Civic Mtg Rm) 6pm Healthy Cooking (RM5)</p>	<p>20 10am Exercise Class (MP)</p>	<p>21 Mardi Gras!</p> 
<p>22</p> 	<p>23 8 am Tai Chi (Rm 3) 10am Exercise Class (MP)</p> <p>6pm Open & Honest Mtg. (Rm5) 6pm Zumba (MP) 7pm Basketball / Ping-Pong 7pm Amrit Yoga (Rm3)</p>	<p>24 Happy Groundhog Day!</p> 	<p>25 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm 3) 10am Exercise Class (MP) 11am Qigong (Rm8) 1pm Art in the Kitchen</p> <p>6pm Zumba (MP) Amrit Yoga 7pm (Rm8)</p>	<p>26 11:30am Yachats Lunch Bunch 55+ (MP) 6pm Healthy Cooking (RM5)</p>	<p>27 10am Exercise Class (MP)</p> <p>Beachside Writers Workshop (MP)</p>	<p>28 Beachside Writers Workshop</p> 
<p>Beachside Writers Workshop</p> 	<p>2 Tai Chi 8 am (Rm3) 10am Exercise Class (MP) 6pm Open & Honest Mtg. (Rm5) 6pm Zumba (MP) 7pm Basketball / Ping-Pong (MP) 7pm Amrit Yoga (Rm3)</p>	<p>Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year, but when you volunteer, you vote every day about the kind of community you want to live in.</p>				

Every person can make a difference, and every person should try....JFK

