



Canyon Lake Senior Center

April 2010 Online Newsletter

Prez Sez

By Ron O'Connell

Oops, I was remiss last month in not explaining how I became president in the middle of a term. Marvin Espeland had health concerns within his immediate family, which were going to require an inordinate amount of his personal time to satisfy. He therefore believed it best to resign as president of the board. As first vice president it is therefore now my responsibility

How can we better communicate within the Center? We have nine bulletin boards, an activity counter and the Senior News, all of which set forth the activities and special events taking place during the month. Yet we always have questions asked about when an event covered in the paper or on bulletin boards is going to occur or comments of "I didn't know about that" after the event has occurred.

We can then only assume that much time and effort are put forth to prepare and disseminate material that no one, or at least very few, even read.

Do we keep doing what we have been doing and expecting different results or apply our efforts in a different direction? Hopefully this question will result in some complaints, comments or suggestion that can be put to good use.

My Prez Sez article last month basically discussed participation. To carry it a little further, how many activity leaders, committee chairs and board members read the binder on the new members that is on the activity counter? Are we too busy in our own pursuits to see if we might find a new member that we can ask to join our activity or serve on our committee? The answer rests with each member to do their part.

By the way, we are in dire need of volleyball players and Lavonne is looking for people to help in the kitchen.

Have a Happy and Joyous Easter.

Memorandum from Michael

By Michael LaBelle

With the successful completion of the spring rummage sale, financially Canyon Lake Senior Center is looking good. However, those funds will run out about August, so we need to come up with new ways to raise funds. Last year's Challenge 2009 was highly successful and Challenge

2010 has already started with the Library fund and the enchiladas sales in April. So we are off and running into the year with a positive approach.

We do, however, have an area of concern, membership renewals. There are still over 500 members from 2009 who haven't renewed for 2010. Every year we have some members who wait several months into the new year and then complain when we catch them still participating in the activities without paying dues. We understand about members going south for the winter. That is why we accept dues in September for the next calendar year.

Folks, we operate on a calendar year, so the dues should be paid in January. I guess it is like Easter, Thanksgiving and Christmas where they just sneak up on us unannounced. By the way, Christmas will be on December 25th this year.

The Center runs all year without fail, and it costs money. Like every other business in Rapid City we have experienced rate increases for services and products. This requires money to pay the bills. If you haven't paid your dues or activity fees, we just might not survive as a business. Is that the legacy you want to leave for upcoming generations of seniors?

I would be remiss if I don't express a thank you to the members who have already paid for 2010 and continue to support the Center with their time and funds.

Writing Is For Everyone

By Craig Schaffer

One fun form of writing is the limerick—a five-line poem usually intended to be witty or humorous.

The rules of our language are quaint
And often result in restraint
For as I try to find
The right word in my mind
The one I think proper just ain't

Sometimes in order to adhere to the limerick-rhyming scheme, word order has to be changed.

Before you set sail 'cross the ocean
I recommend drinking a potion
For if you're one of those
Who when ill up he throws
You'll be spared from the sickness of motion

If you enjoy writing, or you think you'd like to try but aren't sure how or where to start, then the Canyon Lake Senior Writers is the group for you.

The group meets every Tuesday at 1 p.m. in the CLSC Annex. Members share their work in a non-critical setting and engage in writing exercises that always prove to be interesting and fun.

Some members write poetry, some write short stories, and others pen essays, memoirs and family histories. Whatever the genre, group members encourage and support one another. And did I mention we always have fun?

So come check us out.

We'll even provide coffee and snacks.
We meet every Tuesday at one
Come join us and you'll have some fun
Bring some paper and ink
Write whatever you think
And after two hours we're done

Yes, I am a Senior Citizen

Submitted by Sylvia Schafer

I am the life of the party even if it lasts until 8 p.m.
I'm very good at opening child-proof caps with a hammer.
I'm usually interested in going home before I get to where I'm going.
I'm smiling all the time because I can't hear a word you're saying.
I'm very good at telling stories; over and over and over.
I'm so cared for: long-term care, eye care, dental care, Medicare.
I'm not at all grouchy! I just don't like traffic, waiting, crowds, lawyers, loud music, unruly kids, commercials, religious zealots, loud cell phone users, barking dogs, politicians and a few other things I can't remember.
I'm wrinkled, saggy, lumpy and lame. And that's just my right leg.
I'm wondering, if you're only as old as you feel, then how could I be alive at 150?
I'm also wondering if you're only as old as you think, then how could this 30-year-old woman be trapped in this 65-year-old body?
I'm a walking storeroom of facts, but sometimes I forget where I put the key to the storeroom door.
Yes, I am a senior citizen, and I think I am having the time of my life.

~Author Unknown

Online Services

By Kathy Petersen

Social Security Public Affairs Specialist in Rapid City

You have an opportunity to file online for Social Security retirement or disability benefits at Canyon Lake Senior Citizen's Center on April 6 or April 20 from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. A representative from the Social Security office will be available to help you. Find out why Patty Duke says, "Retire Online, It's So Easy."

Already receiving benefits? You can learn about the convenient, secure online services available for you. Did you know you can request a Medicare replacement card, apply for “Extra Help” with the prescription drug program, change your address or direct deposit, get a replacement 1099 or request a benefit verification?

It’s so easy.

Driver License Requirements

By Ron Smith

You can save yourself some time and frustration by knowing what you have to have with you in 2010 to renew or replace your South Dakota driver license. To prove your identity you must have one of the following:

1. Certified U.S. birth certificate issued by a state or county (hospital certificates are not acceptable).
2. Valid unexpired U.S. passport.
3. Certificate of naturalization.
4. Certificate of citizenship.
5. Valid unexpired permanent resident card.
6. Valid unexpired employment authorization document or
7. Foreign passport with a valid unexpired U.S. Visa with I-94.

If your name is different than the name on any of the above that you take, you will need one of the following:

1. Certified marriage certificate (issued by a state vital records agency), not a copy.
2. Certified adoption document or
3. Certified court order authorizing a name change (such as a divorce decree).

One of the following documents to prove your Social Security number:

1. Social Security card.
2. W-2 Form.
3. SSA 1099 Form.
4. Non-SSA 1099 Form or
5. Pay stub (must include name and Social Security number).

To prove your residential address you must bring two of the below:

1. Utility bill.
2. Credit card statement.
3. Pay stub or earnings statement.
4. Rent receipt.
5. Phone bill.
6. Transcript or report card from an accredited school.
7. Bank statement.
8. Mortgage document.
9. Tax document or
10. Home owners/renters insurance policy.

If your name does not appear on two of the residential address required documents because you are living with another person, that person may sign a “Consent for Use of South Dakota Address” form and present two of the resident address documents of the other person.

If you live within an organization or facility, you will need a letter from the organization or facility (on their letterhead) stating that you reside there.

You may call 1-800-952-3696 with questions on any of the above.

Tax Service Still Available

By John Wolf, AARP

AARP Tax Aide is offering free tax preparation for taxpayers doing 2009 taxes. You do not have to be a member or a specific age to take advantage of this free service.

Tax preparers’ at these sites have taken an extensive course and have passed a tax exam to become IRS certified. This service is available at the following locations:

Canyon Lake Senior Center, 721-8710
2900 Canyon Lake Drive
Wednesdays from 1 to 4 p.m.
Fridays from 9 a.m. to 12 noon
Through April 14
Walk in –Sign up roster

Minneluzahan Senior Center, 394-1887
315 North 4th Street
Wednesday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.
Through April 14
Call for an appointment. Please Call Kate at 394-1887

Please bring the following: Copy of last year’s taxes. Photo identification. Social Security cards for taxpayer, spouse and dependents, all other income statements such as W-2’s; 1099, broker statements, bank interest, pension and IRA distributions SSA benefits, alimony payments received, jury duty pay and sales tax on auto purchase, information on deductions, as well as property taxes paid.

Thank You

By Canyon Lake Center Staff

The Canyon Lake Senior Center thanks Marilyn Bergman and Rose Van Blaricum for all the years they have planned and served the special meals. These two ladies planned the pancake suppers, chili and beef stew suppers, spaghetti and chicken noodle dinners. They have done an exceptional job!

When you see these gals, be sure to thank them for all their work. Now they want to rest, and we

hope someone else will take over. We at the Center all say “thank you, thank you.”

April Dancing In The Viking Hall

By Gary Reynolds

Our April dancing calendar will begin on Saturday, April 3, with the Easy Sounds Band playing. The following Saturday, April 10, will feature Stringbean Svenson and his Fiddlestring Band followed by the Midnight Sun Band on the 17th. On April 24 we will have Alan and Carlene Sack who will return from their winter in Arizona.

The following Saturday, May 1, we will have our second annual 50’s dance with the “Hollywood” Sun Band (aka) Midnight Sun playing. We will also combine this dance with the May Day atmosphere.

On February 13 we had our Mardi Gras dance with beautiful decorations done by the dance committee with assistance and great ideas from Curtis Binder. The king and queen were Ed Namanny and Linda Torgerson shown in the first photo. They selected the costume winners with the best costumes going to Ray and Rita Burrasca shown in the next photo with the king and queen. The best mask was Connie Wagner shown with her husband Dwight. The best theme costume was Dr. Keith Johnson shown with Connie Wagner. The two door prizes were won by Marian and Phelps and Mike Maxwell. Mickey Becket took all photos.

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