



Laurel Hill Valley Citizens

N E W S L E T T E R



Fall Neighborhood Meeting

7pm Wednesday, November 19, 2014

at Northwest Youth Corps, 2621 Augusta Street



Neighborhood Elections

Once the big election on November 4th is over, it's time to vote for neighborhood executive committee members. These are the people who (among other things) organize these meetings, publish this newsletter, and organize responses to developments being planned for our neighborhood.

Officers are elected for two year terms. Gunnar Schlieder is staying on as co-chair. Jan Wostmann will complete the last year of Betty Hosokawa's term as the other co-chair. Betty is stepping down after three years in that office. Stephanie Midkiff will continue as secretary and Betty Hemmingsen will remain as treasurer.

Current members of the executive committee who are running for re-election are: Bill Blix, Kathy Frazer, Mitch Hider, Betty Hosokawa, Deborah Kelly, Sheryl Kelly, and Natalie Whitson.

New people who have agreed to run are: Seamus Corbett, Kaye Downey, Adam Jones, Paul Orum, Andree Phelps, and Susan Ratzlaff. Thank you!

Two current members are stepping down for now. Many thanks to Cedar Caredio and Johanna Mitchell for all you have done to support the LHVC neighborhood association!



At This Meeting

This Meeting will include **voting** to elect our neighborhood leaders and to make some necessary bylaw changes (see page 2), plus a food drive (page 2) with the food being donated to Food for Lane County to help relieve hunger in this area.

Also at this meeting we will have a Laurel Hill Valley **history panel** as a special event. Several people with long histories in the Laurel Hill Valley will share stories of our local past with us. If there is time, maybe some audience members will share some of their local history stories as well.

Do you enjoy baking? Then please bring some **cookies** (or other finger food) to share with your neighbors and help make this meeting special. Thanks!



Holiday Sing-Along

by Mitch Hider and Deborah Kelly

Come celebrate the season with song at the third annual neighborhood Holiday Sing-Along **Wednesday, December 10th** beginning at 7pm at the Northwest Youth Corps building (on Augusta Street next to the park). The very talented Mitch Hider has agreed to be our leader again and he will provide song books, hats, and props. The spectacular audience participation production of the 12 days of Christmas will also be part of the fun.

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Canned Food Drive



Please bring canned or packaged food to our neighborhood meeting on November 19th and we will donate it to Food for Lane County (www.foodforlanecounty.org). The need remains high and this local organization has distributed more than 95,000 emergency food boxes in Lane County this year.

Most wanted foods include canned meats (tuna, chicken, salmon), low-sugar fruit, dried fruit, jams and jellies, unsweetened apple sauce, canned and dried beans, canned stew, chili, and soup, boxed macaroni and cheese, pasta, rice, cereal, corn meal, cooking oil, canned tomato products (tomato paste, spaghetti sauce), peanut butter, and ethnic spices and sauces.

News about our Non-Profit Status

Since we applied for our own Federal Employer Identification Number (FEIN) in 2006, the Laurel Hill Valley Citizens Association has been organized and treated by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization. While not formally recognized with 501(c)(3) status, we were considered a non-profit entity as long as our average annual income was less than \$5000. We never crossed that income threshold until 2013 with our successful fund-raising campaigns for the Laurel Ridge and Landmark PUDs. All the contributions made in 2013 were tax deductible for the donors, but our income aberration could have resulted in a potential change in our tax exemption status. Therefore, on 9/14/14 I submitted for the LHVC an Application for Recognition of Exemption under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Our application was quickly accepted and approved, and on September 30 we were declared a public charity, exempt from federal income tax under the IRS Section 501(c)(3). This means donors can deduct contributions they make to LHVC, and we are qualified to receive tax deductible bequests, transfers or gifts. Now we're official!

Respectfully submitted, Betty Hemmingsen, Treasurer

Proposed By-law Changes

Because of our new status as a 501(c)(3) organization we need to make some changes to our by-laws. These will be voted on at our neighborhood meeting on November 19th.

Article III, Section 1 shall be replaced in its entirety with "Section 1. Purpose. LHVC is organized exclusively for charitable and educational purposes under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future federal tax code. The primary purpose of LHVC is to maintain and improve the community at the neighborhood level and to allow the neighbors to have a voice in community decision making."

(Article III, Section 1 currently says "The purpose of LHVC is to maintain and improve the community at the neighborhood level and to allow the neighbors to have a voice in community decision making.")

There is currently no section regarding dissolution. To remedy this we will add:

Article IX. Finances. "Section 5. Dissolution. Upon dissolution of LHVC, assets shall be distributed for one or more exempt purposes within the meaning of section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or corresponding section of any future tax code, or shall be distributed to a local government for a public purpose."

Save The Date

*Winter Neighborhood Meeting
Wednesday, February 18, 2015*

*Family Bingo Night
Wednesday, March 4, 2015*

Development News

At this time (mid-October), there is no new news about developments in the valley. If there is news by the meeting date, it will be announced there.

Neighborhood Cleanup

by Kathy Frazer

The neighborhood cleanup on October 4th was a great success. Nineteen people, including five children, came out to help on this beautiful sunny day. In two hours we had collected two truckloads of trash that we took to the dump. Most of the trash was along Laurel Hill Drive and near the I-5 exit. There were lot of bottles, cans, and fast food containers, as well as jeans, socks, and sleeping bags. Thank you volunteers for helping to improve the look of our neighborhood. We were not able to move the hot tub but the city took care of that and reported the person who dumped it to the police. Let's continue to keep our neighborhood clean.

(Holiday Sing-Along, continued)

The holiday sing-along is a family friendly event which is fun for kids of all ages. If there are songs that you'd like included, please bring song sheets with the words so that everyone can join in.

Mitch Hider is an award winning whistler and variety performer and a member of the national whistlers' Hall of Fame. He has been the master of ceremonies for international whistling contests in the US, Canada, and Japan and is the only whistler to have ever performed a duet with Bertha the harmonica-playing elephant. Mitch also occasionally walks his invisible dog Roscoe in the neighborhood.

More on Keeping Our Neighborhood Clean and Looking Good

from City of Eugene Website

Behold the sound of a Thundercan. We hear it roll through our neighborhoods each week when our neighbors walk their empty garbage and recycling bins in from the street.

Did you know garbage and recycling bins can remain on the curb for no more than 24 hours? It is a City Rule, but it is also who we are. We are residents of Eugene who contribute to more livable, less cluttered streets, and enjoy making a little thunder along the way.



Thanks!

Thanks so much to Laurel Hill Valley resident Tim Clancey of Clancey Printing (www.clanceypainting.com) for printing this newsletter at his cost to help us deal with the city budget cuts.



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All uncredited text written by the newsletter editor, Deborah Kelly. Illustrations are public domain clip art. Please send articles, comments and concerns to dskharp@yahoo.com.

Laurel Hill Valley Citizens is Eugene's oldest neighborhood organization, chartered by the City Council in 1974. General Meetings are held quarterly to learn about and discuss issues relating to the quality of life in our neighborhood. The LHVC Executive Committee meets at other times to discuss and represent the interests of the neighborhood.

For more information see our website at www.lhvc.org or contact Gunnar Schlieder, LHVC co-chair at 541-729-4271 or gunnars@clearwire.net. You can also email LaurelHillValleyCitizens@gmail.com and we have a Facebook group. Just go to Facebook and type in Laurel Hill Valley Citizens.