

Kelowna and District Society for Community Living (KDSCL) Newsletter

website: www.kdscl.bc.ca



Support the United Way



Growing Together

Volume 3 Issue 1

Celebrating 54 Years of Service

December 2007

THANK YOU

- ♥The Genovese family for their donation.
- ♥Jazel Homes for their donation (see highlights of the fundraiser in the next Newsletter).
- ♥Soctiabank for their donation.
- ♥Mary Brown for her donation.
- ♥Chuck and Beryl Hopkins for their donation.
- ♥Jenny Kung and Jim World for their donation in Memory of Mary Preston.
- ♥Gerald Theissen for donating many, many hobby and craft items.

Inside this issue:

- *Staff Profile: Wayne Major* 2
- *Janet Asselstine* 3
- *KDSCL Craft & Bake Sale* 4
- *Attitude*
- *KDSCL Services, What we do!*
- *KDSCL Annual Closures* 5
- *\$20-A Story*
- *Holiday Greetings* 6

Lorne MacLeod Wins Stanley Simpson Memorial Award

By Leslie Munro

November 30 was a busy evening for Lorne MacLeod. He attended the annual Kelowna Special Olympics Christmas Banquet and walked away with some lovely memories.

Lorne has been attending Special Olympics Five Pin Bowling for many years (approximately 20). I have never seen Lorne bowl, but I can imagine he approaches the game the same way he takes on most things in life; with dedication, hard work, and a great attitude.

Lorne started off his evening by winning a great door prize from Starbucks. Lorne loves coffee so I'm sure he will enjoy it. Then the medals and awards were given out.

Lorne's bowling teammate Stanley Simpson passed away just over a year ago. The Simpson family sponsors an annual award in Stanley's name. Sharon Simpson explained that the trophy is awarded not to the bowler with the most skill or highest score. It is awarded to an athlete who really enjoys the game, and doesn't get to travel away to tournaments, or win big trophies. When Sharon announced that this year the winner of the Stanley Simpson Memorial Award is Lorne MacLeod, the room exploded with cheers and applause. Lorne walked proudly to the front of the room and accepted the award. Lorne has a trophy to take home with him. His name has also been engraved in the plaque which remains on display at Valley Lanes. Way to go Lorne!

A telephone conversation overheard in ICO...

"Good afternoon ICO... , KDSCL... yes KDI.... Yes first CLBC... used to be MCFD. Money? PWD?... right... used to be HPIA. Through MEIA, used to be MHR.... Work? MEIA, yes EPPD, SEP ... or ICO. We'll do an ISP... right CARF... then GPITs. O.K.? A.S.A.P."

Maybe we use a few too many acronyms???

STAFF PROFILE: Wayne Major

By Rod Oranchuk



Wayne was born in New Westminster, BC in the late forties, putting him at the tail end of the baby boom generation. He is the second of six children and has two brothers and three sisters. It was a fun time growing up in New West as a kid with his brothers and sisters, in a yard with apple, cherry and plum trees; close to Brunette creek. The city has changed a lot since then. His dad, who usually worked in sawmills on Vancouver Island, was rarely at home. One day he decided that it was easier to get married again than to raise six kids. So that's what he did! He left and Wayne's mom became a single parent and went to work leaving the six kids on their own. They had a great time. During this period Wayne spent a lot of time reading. It became a lifelong habit.

Wayne attended New Westminster Senior Secondary School, at the time the biggest high school in the province, but he didn't graduate. In fact he was expelled for poor attendance. While in high school he won a world wide essay contest sponsored by 'The Great Books' publications. The prize was \$1,000 and a set of "The Great Books" donated to the school's library in his name. The high school librarian gladly accepted the donation but the principal refused to make an announcement because he had actually expelled Wayne from school just a few days before. Even though he didn't graduate, Wayne somehow managed to get into Douglas College where he received a degree in Anthropology. It was there that he met a fellow student, Michael Douglas, who years later, became his instructor in Human Services at Okanagan College

After college Wayne travelled around BC for a couple of years. He lived in a lot of small towns as far north as Fort St. James and Vanderhoof doing all types of work such as carpentry, surveying, tree planting, flagman and tree falling. He worked as a night security guard in Historic Barkerville where he started to write a history of the mining town. The work is still in progress.

Wayne stumbled into the Okanagan in March of 1970 and immediately fell in love with the lake and the valley. It is here that he decided to settle down. He and a group of friends rented a house in Peachland for the summer, and when the summer ended he moved to Kelowna. One day, at a fondue party, he met his soul mate, Doris. One of the first things she said was that she wouldn't date anyone unless he drove a truck. "I've got a truck." Wayne said. "Well where is it?" she asked. "I have to park it over behind the neighbor's garage," Wayne said, "because I'm three months behind on my payments and they're looking to repossess it." That was the beginning of a beautiful relationship. They soon got married, bought a house and had two boys, Tristan and Richard. Time has quickly passed. Tristan is now at the University of Toronto getting a PHD in Medieval studies and Richard is taking courses at Okanagan College to become an Occupational Therapist.

Wayne has worked in many of the service agencies in Kelowna. He started off being the first employee of TIER Support Services and worked there for seven years. He helped develop the senior's program for the Kelowna Community Development Society. He started at KDSCL in 1996 and recently received his ten year Service Certificate. Wayne enjoys working for the society and really believes that it is the best organization in Kelowna, with the most dedicated staff.

Janet Asselstine



Janet Marie Asselstine was born November 14, 1963 in New Westminster, BC. She was the youngest of six children and when her parents, Marlene and John moved to Kelowna,

Janet attended school at McWilliams Centre and Glenn Avenue School.

Janet graduated in June of 1983 and started attending KDSCL in July of that same year. She was involved in the Basic Skills group which was run out of the old residence (now the Legion). She joined the KDSCL choir and Special Olympics Bowling.

Janet worked at the Recycling Depot on Cawston Avenue for a few years and moved to Campion Road when the depot moved to a bigger place. Janet liked to put the paper through the shredding machine, and if the paper got stuck and/or jammed she would say a few choice words to it. She worked alongside her good friends, Karen and Carrie, giving them heck whenever the need arose.

When the recycling crew came back to Fuller Avenue, Janet worked in the contract department. Contract services moved to Bay Avenue and Janet joined the group down there.

Janet was a neat person and everything had to be put away in the right spot or there would be complaints. Janet loved to do the dishes and didn't like her hands being sticky or dirty. When First Choice on Bay Avenue closed, the individuals moved back to 555 Fuller Avenue.

Janet remained part of the Day Services until September of 2006, but moved to the house at 925 Sutherland.

The house was opened to provide a smaller, quieter environment but individuals were still involved in daily activities in the house and out in the community. Janet loved to listen to Thomas play the guitar, have tea with her friends and help to bake. Cookbooks and books about cats were her favorite books to get from the library.

Janet passed away this August and will always be remembered for beautiful smile, contagious laugh, her love of tea, music and cats. Her famous words "Why you!" will remain part of Janet's memory. We will miss her very much.

Respectfully written by Cyndi Omand

A Poem for Janet

Why you? Who are you?
 This was Janet through and through
 Janet's strong personality shone like a light
 Forever kind and always bright
 For us who knew this friendly soul
 She was never to be doubted in all that she
 would know.
 Strong willed and determined was her way
 She would not sway on any given day.
 Janet's way meant you should never delay
 As you could become the wrath of her
 dismay.
 All of the good years that passed Janet by
 Will never be forgotten by those of us who
 knew she wasn't shy.
 Janet's legacy left us with an inspiration
 To do what is right for our own
 determination
 Now she is in peace
 In her final resting place
 We will all meet Janet again, when we
 finish our own race.

Written By Ruth Dodds

KDSCL CRAFT AND BAKE SALE

ATTITUDE

Submitted by Ruth Dodds

KDSCL staff, led by Johanna Poplawski, held a very successful Craft and Bake Sale fundraiser. We are very grateful for the time and energy they put in to make this event a huge success and raise over \$3,000!

In addition, we would like to thank the following for their donations:

Costco, Kelowna Wines, Dyck's Pharmacy, Pacific Sun Retirement Living (formally Stillwater's), Wal-Mart Kelowna, Mickey's Pub, Coffee Café, Jack Kelly, Kelowna's Rockets, McCurdy Bowling, PM Automotive, OK Propane, Browning, Home Outfitters, Moxies, Wendy's, Safeway (downtown), David Harley, Rafter's, Gourmet Outfitters, Anderson's Appliances, Beachcombers, Red Robin, Napa Autoparts, Home Depot, Save On Foods, Capri Travel, Annegret's European Chocolates, Creations by Mom and Me, Player's Choice, Cinnzeo Cinnamon Place, Scandinavian Hardwood, Mark Kay (Ginny Konechney), Cleanway Supply, John Revill (artist), L and O Jewelry, All Day Automotive, Towing and Recovery (James William Gloucher), Rose's Pub, Ramada Inn, Mohawk (Sexsmith Rd), Homesense, Dairy Queen (Highway 97 and Gordon Rd), Dan's Tire Service Ltd, Phoenix Food Services (Peter & Loise Fusco), Marc Houde (artist), Bob and Jean Hadgraft, Larry's Cycle and Sports, KDI Wood Shop, Glenda Mallach, Johanna Poplawski, Cyndy Omand, Ruth Dodds, Susan Harney, Susan Batch, Christian Lafrance, Linda Weaver-Horton and the KDSCL staff, parents and friends who donated baking!

THANK YOU!

The longer I live, the more I realize the impact of attitude on life. Attitude, to me is more important than facts. It is more important than the past, than education, than money, than circumstances, than failures than successes, than what other people think or say or do. It is more important than appearance, giftedness, or skill. It will make or break a company...a church...a home. The remarkable thing is we have a choice every day regarding the attitude we will embrace for that day. We cannot change our past... we cannot change the fact that people will act in a certain way. We cannot change the inevitable. The only thing we can do is play on the one string we have, and that is our attitude...I am convinced that life is 10% what happens to me and 90% how I react to it. And so it is with you...we are in charge of our Attitudes".

Written by Charles Swindoll.

KDSCL Services, What we do!

Sometimes there is confusion regarding KDSCL services. We have five specific service areas which are outlined below. Individuals and/or families seeking service should contact CLBC at 712-3609 to obtain a referral and specify the service they want.

1. Activity Service

- Day Service (2 locations): Provides meaningful productive activities in recreation and leisure, volunteerism and life skill development.
- Social Recreation Service: Provides community based evening and weekend social recreation opportunities to assist individuals to develop friendships.
- Travel Club: Provide opportunities for individuals to travel; to rest, relax and have experiences outside their own community.

Continue on page 6...

MARK YOUR CALENDARS KDSCL's ANNUAL CLOSURES

2008

Christmas: December 24 - January 1, 2008
(Reopening Wednesday, January 2, 2008)

2008

KDSCL In-service: February 15, 2008 (Closed all day)

Easter: March 21 and March 24, 2008

Victoria Day: May 19, 2008

Canada Day: July 1, 2008

Summer Shutdown: August 4 to August 15, 2008

Labour Day: September 1, 2008

KDSCL In-service: September 26, 2008 (Closed all day)

Thanksgiving: October 13, 2008

Remembrance Day: November 11, 2008

Christmas Closure: December 25 - January 1, 2009
(Reopening January 5, 2009)

\$20.00

Submitted by Darlene Hass

Sometimes we just need to be reminded!

A well-known speaker started off his seminar by holding up a \$20.00 bill. In the room of 200, he asked, 'Who would like this \$20 bill?'

Hands started going up. He said, 'I am going to give this \$20 to one of you but first, let me do this. He proceeded to crumple up the \$20 dollar bill. He then asked, 'Who still wants it?' Still the hands were up in the air.

Well, he replied, 'What if I do this?' And he dropped it on the ground and started to grind it into the floor with his shoe. He picked it up, now crumpled and dirty. 'Now, who still wants it?' Still the hands went into the air.

He then said, 'My friends, we have all learned a very valuable lesson. No matter what I did to the money, you still wanted it because it did not decrease in value. It was still worth \$20'.

Many times in our lives, we are dropped, crumpled, and ground into the dirt by the decisions we make and the circumstances that come our way. We feel as though we are worthless. But no matter what has happened or what will happen, you will never lose your value.

Dirty or clean, crumpled or finely creased, you are still priceless to those who DO LOVE you. The worth of our lives comes not in what we do or who we know, but by WHO WE ARE and WHOSE WE ARE.

You are special - Don't EVER forget it. Count your blessings, not your problems.

And remember: amateurs built the ark .. Professionals built the Titanic.

Continued from page 4...

2. Business Services

Provides opportunities for individuals to acquire knowledge and work skills in society owned businesses that either enhance the person's ability to secure gainful employment in a time limited placement or provide the person with productive meaningful activity. Services are provided at the KDI Wood Shop and Larry's Cycle and Sports.

3. Integrated Career Opportunities (ICO)

Provide opportunities for employment in community by teaching individuals the skills necessary to find, secure and maintain the employment of their choice. KDSCL staff provide job coaching at the job site to assist the person to work independently.

4. Residential Services

Provide a safe, healthy and supportive service to assist individuals to live interdependently in a manner conducive to their lifestyle choices. We support one home in the community and administer 16 apartment subsidies on behalf of BC Housing.

5. Individualized Funding Service

Provide a service that is directed by the person with a disability, their family and/or support network. Funding is provided by the person, their family, their support network or separate CLBC contracts.

For more information please go to our website at www.kdscl.bc.ca or phone 763-4837 or 763-4839. We are happy to answer any questions you may have.

