

December 2014

Quick Links

WINGS Website
 Newsletter Archive
 WINGS Facebook Page

In This Issue

[Friends-Giving](#)

[Patricia and Hal](#)

[Patricia Varga](#)

[Farm To Table Dinner](#)

[US Bancorp Foundation](#)

[NAILBA Grant](#)

[What? More Birthdays?](#)

[My Amazing Team](#)

[Four Ways You Can Help](#)

[How You Can Help](#)

[Join Our Mailing List](#)

It is early and I can't sleep. My heart is just so full. November has been such an amazing month. When you run a homeless program for six years, you see so many young men come and go. Some leave in great shape, some leave when you think they are not ready and some are not ready to be in WINGS. But you have to wonder, where they are, how they are doing...



Daren - looking good!!

But, this month has been amazing! I have heard from a number of the guys who were in WINGS. If you have been with us all these years you will remember **Daren**. He was our first WING-man. I just had coffee with him, and after working for a year at the *Shell* next to *Rosauers*, he just started a great new job at *Cardinal Glass*. Married, happy & on his way!

Brandon got lost again after he left WINGS, but found love and he and his girlfriend got their acts together. He stopped by with his beautiful family to bring flowers, to show me his sobriety coin, and to talk about his great job at *Oregon Cherry Growers*.



Brandon and his darling family!

Pablo brought his wife and baby by - clean, sober and working at *Elephants Deli* in Portland. I recently had coffee with **Cody Edwards** and he is doing great; has a girl friend and working at *UPS*.



Pablo and family!

Riley is working and has a wonderful girl friend - looks so great! Heard that **Jason Blanc** is with a great gal, working at *Dakine* and expecting a baby boy! **Ryan** graduated into Phase Two and is working full time at *Ryan's Juice* and living in our Phase Two housing.



Cody Edwards - looking great!

It fills my heart with joy to know that we have made a difference for these young men. Sure, we can't save them all, because sometimes it is hard to compete with the poison of Meth and enabling families. But for the most part, WINGS works. We are doing good things here, changing lives forever for the better and YOU make this happen with your kindness and support.

Want to see something cute?

Chris was heading home for Thanksgiving and saw the KOIN TV Channel 6 Thanksgiving display. He was on TV giving his thanks to WINGS - So cute and brave!! [Click here to see the video](#) or see it on our Facebook Page [here](#).

We have five guys at the house right now - bursting at the seams - and three wanting to come in. I know we need to grow and we are working on that. **Petrina** is leading the charge to apply for a **YouthBuild** grant to expand our program. More on that next year!

Friends-Giving

The guys just made Thanksgiving Dinner for 30 people this weekend - oh, my gosh - delicious! Two turkeys, four sides, salad and four desserts - I am still full! For the first time, we were joined by our three young women, who live in our housing in The Dalles, with their four kids - so cute. Also, good friends and staff and spouses filled the table! Everyone shared something personal they were grateful for, and it was perfect.



Patricia and Hal



Patricia Kaseberg

Just after we finished our house flip on Methodist, I was contacted by the amazing **Patricia Kaseberg**. She is a CPA in The Dalles and she asked if we could help with demo on a flip she was doing with her cousin **Hal**. From the first hard working day, she fell in love with our program and has hired us to work with Hal to get their house done as well! Great work for us, great training for the guys and we get paid - whoo hoo! Thanks, you two - you rock!



Walt and Hal!



House Flip in The Dalles Underway!

Patricia Varga

Great month for Patricias in my life! **Patricia Varga** recently moved to the Gorge and has brought her talent and amazing heart to become our newest Board Member! She runs a foundation that weaves art and healing into the lives of women who have suffered abuse or illness. For more information on her foundation check out www.womenwings.com. Welcome Patricia, and thank you!



Garden To Table Dinner



Farm to Table Dinner!

Bob Morus and his adorable new wife, **Lynette**, shared a bounty of scrumptious wine with us as well! What a beautiful spot, great ambiance and decorations, fabulous food, and amazing wine. Thanks so much!!

Oh My Goodness - what a spread! **Patt & Gary Blake** set a very high bar for our **WINGS Dinner Parties!** Wow!



Gary & Patt Blake with Bob Morus from Phelps Creek Winery!



Sam Bauer - you rock!!

US Bancorp Foundation

So grateful. We have again been blessed with a grant from **US Bancorp Foundation**. This year the grant will help offset expenses for **Petrina's** wonderful journaling and life skills class. Big shout out to **Sam Bauer** of our local US Bank. He is a great cheerleader for our program - thanks Sam!!

NAILBA Grant

You may remember **Jess Wardwell**, from **CPS-Impact Insurance**. He helped us get a wonderful grant from the **National Association of Independent Life Brokerage Agencies**. Well, we have had a great time spending their money on much-needed items. We purchased a great used work trailer and have also outfitted the guys with their own sets of tools, tool belts, and winter work wear. Jess and NAILBA - can't thank you enough!



WING-men, Walt and the new trailer

What? More Birthdays?

Daniel and **Walt** shared a birthday week and we celebrated with Thai food and waaay too much ice cream cake! Hugs to both of them!!



Daniel & Walt

My Amazing Team

I may be the face of WINGS, but my team makes up the heart and soul! **Walt** continues to amaze me - working now with five young men on a construction site - teaching and supporting them and never losing his cool. **Shawn** has been with us almost from the start. He brings energy and focus and kindness to weekends and the program. **Petrina** ROCKS. She is managing the crazy paperwork side of WINGS, five women and four kids in housing in The Dalles, and keeps me tethered to the planet. Houseparents **Gina** and **Alan** have added a whole new level of loving kindness (and cleanliness) to the house! Lucky me, lucky WINGS!

4 Ways You Can Help This Holiday Season!



1. The easiest way to support WINGS is to click on this link - [Holiday Donation](#). Even if you can only spare \$10, that will help us help them! Check out our fun categories - from Stocking Stuffer to Funds for Fixing Santa's Workshop!

2. If you are shopping with *Amazon* this year - you can shop AND donate! Check out smile.amazon.com. Search for *Give Them Wings, Inc.* When you click on our name a portion of some sales will be automatically donated to WINGS!

3. Save your stuff! We will be having a Treasure Sale again this year and will be accepting donations for all types of clean, usable items after the first of the year! Really need dressers, working laptops, household items, and men's warm clothing!

4. Join us for *New Year's Eve at Lakecliff*. **James** and I will ring in 2015 at our house with great appetizers and all the holiday festivities. This is one the WINGS Dinner Parties - if you can't make it to ours, check out all of the amazing hosted dinners offered! (www.getwings.net/dinnerparties) Tickets for New Years are \$100 each - did I mention *Jacob Williams* wine and *Viento Sparkling*?? Click here to join us - www.brownpapertickets.com/event/839595

Thank you, as always for your kindness and support. Know how grateful we are to be able to offer safety and support to young men and women who have felt lost and alone. We know we could not do this without you and we are, as always, forever in your debt! Wishing you all the Bounty of Blessings in the Holiday Season!

Facebook



I am a dinosaur in the internet age and struggle to keep our Facebook page current - but if you have a page, please like WINGS if you have not done so already. We are trying to get the word out to folks and could use your help - [facebook/getwings](https://facebook.com/getwings).

Give Them Wings, Inc is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit corporation doing business as WINGS. WINGS is a two-phase program which provides housing, work, trade and life skill training, education and wrap-around services for 18- to 23-year-old young men in Hood River and Wasco Counties who were formerly in foster care or are currently homeless and in need of support.

Sincerely,
Allyson Pate
WINGS

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