



**November 2013**

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**Hoe-Down Happiness!**

A month before the Hoe-Down, I was a mess. Turns out I picked the busiest Saturday in the history of Hood River - geeez! With two weeks to go, I had 42 *Nos* and only 21 *Yeses* - and more volunteers than guests. I had to give myself a timeout and sit quietly to hear the lesson - dang it - same lesson I always have to learn . . . **Faith, Trust and Gratitude!**

**Faith** - that everything is out of my hands and will turn out all right in the end! **Trust** that I can get out of my own way and let things "auto-magically" work out - OK, with hours and days of hard work by a lot of wonderful people, and **Gratitude** for when it is over and, once again, successful.

With fewer guests and a couple of amazingly generous donors we made even more than we did last year - what a crazy blessing!! So many people to thank, and so much good news. Please check out the end of this newsletter for all of our Hoe-Down thank-yous!!

**Other Great News**



*Susie Pitts - such a blessing!*

**Scattered Site Grant** - we have been awarded another HUD grant for 2014, which will allow us to continue to provide housing and support for eight of our graduates and other homeless young people. We are crazy grateful to **Susie Pitts** and her company, **JSC Support**, for their purchase of our

other manufactured home, and leasing it to WINGS for our graduates! Life-changing!

**Lake Family Foundation** - Once again we have been amazingly blessed with a generous donation from the **Lake Family Foundation**. One of those crazy miracles; every year a check arrives!

**Oregon State Marine Board** - WINGS received a matching grant from the **Oregon State Marine Board** which allowed us to do \$6,000 worth of work for the **Port of Hood River** on their public and maintenance docks! Thanks to all!



*Crew completed work on the Maintenance Dock!*



*Hymns of Thanksgiving*

**Mid-Columbia Community Choir** has once again selected WINGS to be the recipient of this year's offering during their wonderful **Hymns of Thanksgiving** concert at 7 pm, November 23 at Riverside Church!

Please join us for this heart-warming start to the holiday season!



**Harvest Fest** - we love the **Hood River Chamber**. **Ashley** and **Dean** are awesome, and we were so grateful to be given the work of set-up and take-down of the Harvest Fest, as well



as the guys getting some much-needed cash for being Gate Attendants! Thanks sooo much!!

**SDS Lumber** - we are so grateful to **Jason Spadaro** and **Greg Ferguson** from **SDS Lumber**. They have graciously offered us space in one of their buildings to process our firewood. Our apologies to everyone who has been requesting wood - we hope to be getting our deliveries restarted by the end of the month!



*Walt thanking Greg Ferguson!*



*Thanks George, she's a beauty!*

**Buick Beauty** - Don't you just love **George** and **Charlene Fort**? We were in desperate need of a car that could hold a lot of testosterone and get good gas mileage and George called with an amazing offer - this wonderful **Buick LeSabre!** Thanks so much you two!!

**Walt's BD** - We are so grateful for our amazing **Crew Leader Walt**. The guys had great fun ribbing "Papa Woodchuck" at his birthday dinner last month!



## PLEASE HELP!!

We hope you can help us with a few things! Please call Allyson with ideas - 541-380-3820.

**TRACTOR** - we received a wonderful grant from Boeing for \$5500 for a tractor, but we have a lot of items on our wish list - diesel, front loader, 25-30 horsepower and, of course, any 3-point implements would be awesome!!

**STORAGE** - we lost our wonderful storage space, so if anyone has a clean, dry space, close to town for storing furniture and treasures, we would love to hear about it!

**TIRES** - the White Suburban needs new tires - any chance you have some 275 75 R15 tires in pretty good shape? - we could really use them!

**JOBS** - Both AJ and Adrian have graduated this month into their own housing and are looking for work! AJ would be an awesome addition to any construction crew, and Adrian is trying to break into an office setting. There is a great plan at WorkSource where employers can get salary match to hire interns - great guys for \$5.00 per hour - call for info!

**HOUSING** - we have young people ready to get their own place and some who have contacted us who do not qualify for our program, because they don't really need our help - just a place to live! If you have a small apartment or room, we have great kids who just need a chance!

## So Many Hoe-Down Blessings



*Bridger making his presentation!*

Always want to thank my darling husband, **James**, for his constant kindness and support. My best pal, **Kate**, came up from CA to help - would have been lost without her! **Shawn** and the guys were amazing - getting everything set up and taken down. The highlight of the evening were the speeches made by **Adrian, AJ, Bridger**, and **Cruz** - not a dry eye in the place!

**Petrina** helped them with their speeches through her journaling class - and always helps **WINGS** in a million ways! **Walt** was awesome in his speech and hugs to **Julie Buntrock** from the

**Employees Community Fund of Boeing Portland** who announced our \$5500 grant for a much-needed tractor. We were able to match their grant and can now start looking for the tractor!



*Julie Buntrock*

**Mark Amsberry** did a rocking job on the ribs - "best ever" was the review. Watch for his new restaurant, **Lilo's**, opening this winter! **Viento** supplied the wine, **Dickey Farms** the corn, **Hood River Fire Department** the BBQ grill, **Hood River Supply** the straw, **Larkspur** the wonderful entertainment, and **Luke Adams** the dancing!

Love the **WINGS** Board - HUGE thanks to **Elise Venusti, Lisa Brown, Charlene Fort, Deirdre Kasberger, Glenn Taylor, Debbie Dennis, Karon Peterson, Paul Dezurick** and our newest member, **Angela Schock**. Of course, HUGE hug to the amazing **Paula** and her darling **Jason**. Thanks to **Ashley** and **Dean** from the **Chamber**, and **Glenna** and **Carrie** for their help!

So many folks either attended or sent a donation and we cannot thank you all enough! Once again, I am reminded how much of our success is due to the amazing support of our donors and "Friends of WINGS." Bless you all!!

**Thanks so much to all of these folks who helped make our event such a success!**

**Wine:** Viento, Jacob Williams, WyEast, Garnier, Cerulean, Phelps, Naked, White Buffalo. **Art:** Steve Kastner, Tim Doty, Charlene Fort, Terri Johanson, Kelly Phipps, Jan Byrkit, and the BEAUTIFUL quilts from Tualatin Quilt guild and the amazing Elizabeth Garber. **Restaurants:** Maui @ Celilo, Brian @ Brian's, Chuck @ Riverside, and Revelyn @ Pampered Palate! **Retailers:** Gorge Dog, and Hood River Jewelers. **Adventures:** Bob Niehaus, Sunriver Brewing, Sunriver Resort and Golf Course, Bill Marick, Shawn Bergman, and Wet Planet. **Golf:** Bob Allen, Allan Conant and Elk Ridge! **Other Fun:** Gorge Window Cleaning, and Tri Counties Hazard for the composter. **Please thank these vendors with your support!**

**As we close in on the Holiday Season, we are so grateful for all of you who are willing to share your bounty of blessings with us! We cannot thank you enough for your continued and generous support! Happy Thanksgiving!**

## Become a Fan on our Facebook Page!



When you just can't wait for the next **WINGS** Newsletter, head on over to our Facebook page. Just click on the "f" and you'll see lots of great photos and read about everything the **WING-men** and their supporters have been up to!

*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