



# Canyon Lake Senior Center

*March 2010 Online Newsletter*

## **Prez Sez**

*By Ron O'Connell*

I didn't expect to be in this position, but now that I have it, it is my obligation to complete it to the best of my ability.

First of all, what makes this position easier is a board of directors who volunteers their time and efforts to hopefully manage the business and guide the Center in a proper manner.

The staff, committees and activity leaders provide the environment to assist the members' enjoyment of the Center.

However, without participation of the membership in the activities available, the facility is only an empty shell. Only through participation does the membership make it a place to enjoy.

Do you participate in any of the over 40 activities of the Center? If not, why not? Is there any activity that we don't have that you would enjoy?

Any new activity needs a leader, so, if you would enjoy the activity enough to be the leader, let us find an available space and time slot to give it a try. One such activity now being enjoyed is the Pilates group, which meets Wednesdays and Fridays in the upper exercise room.

Like any organization with a large membership there are always undercurrents of dissatisfaction whether real or imagined. If these are not expressed to an individual on the board as a whole, it will continue to fester and make it very difficult to address and connect. If you have a problem, let it be known. Remember every board meeting is open to all members!

Always have a smile on your face. It makes people wonder what you are up to and makes the day a little brighter.

Have a very happy St. Patrick's Day!

## **Memorandum from Michael**

*By Michael LaBelle*

March is here and I will soon be celebrating the 57<sup>th</sup> anniversary of my birth. Sometimes it feels like the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary. As I look around at our members, I sometimes wonder what I will be doing in 2028 when I turn 75. Will I be busy volunteering like so many of our members or in a nursing home? Only time will tell.

On the subject of volunteering, the Center has received 21,216 hours of volunteer time for our activities in 2009. We will use that number in writing our grant request showing the involvement of our members to the success of the Center's programs. Believe it or not, I am sure that is not all the hours we receive from our members. If you volunteer time for the Center and haven't recorded it as RSVP hours, we need to talk. So many members do so many good things for the Center and we need to make every effort to accurately record those hours to demonstrate the involvement of our members for reports and grants. Think about it.

The spring rummage sale is coming March 25 to 27. This is another opportunity to help our Center raise funds. Not only can we use help getting ready, but also we can use pies, cakes and other baked goods for the bake sale. Don't worry if you cannot bake or physically help; we will take a monetary donation and apply it to the income for the sale.

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## **AARP Tax Aide**

*By John Wolf, AARP*

AARP Tax aid is offering free tax preparation for taxpayers starting in February 2010 for 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  
Beginning Feb. 3 to April 14  
Walk in –Sign up roster

Minneluzahan Senior Center, 394-1887  
315 North 4th Street  
Wednesday 9 a.m. to 12 noon.  
Beginning February 3 to April 14  
Call for an appointment

Please bring the following: Copy of last year's taxes, photo identification, Social Security cards for taxpayer, spouse and dependents, all other income statements and information on deductions, as well as property taxes paid.

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## **Pre-Spring Rummage Sale**

*By Carol Hamann*

Canyon Lake Senior Center will have a pre-spring rummage sale. I am sure that when you shop with us, you will discover some hidden treasures.

There will be a pre-sale on Thursday, March 25, from 4 to 6 p.m. There will be a \$5 entrance fee, for all those wanting to get a jump on the goods.

The other days will have no entrance fee and will be on Friday, March 26, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday, March 27, from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m.

We hope you will join us for this rummage sale. I know there are items that you can't live without. This seems to happen to all of us.

Lunch will be available and is priced very reasonably, so come hungry.

There will be a sign-up sheet on the Activity Counter if you are interested in helping. This event greatly helps set the future for our Center, so let us unite and make this one of our top fund raisers. Volunteers are greatly appreciated.

We would also like to thank everyone for their generous donations of items to sell. If you still have any items hanging around your house, garage or wherever, you can drop them off at the Canyon Lake Senior Center. It's easy and, if you need some tax write-offs, we have sheets in the Office to fill out.

We look forward to seeing you there.

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## **Buck-A-Month Club Is Looking For Members**

*By Nila Boone*

Won't you consider joining Canyon Lake Center's Buck-A-Month Club? The cost is just \$1 a month or \$12 a year payable in the Office.

Membership in this important club is down somewhat from previous years. Without members and their "dues," the club is unable to fund projects suggested for the benefit of the Center. Any member of the Center is welcome to suggest projects to be funded.

Throughout the Center you can see projects that the BAMC funded since 2006, such as the wall-attached coat racks in several rooms, hand-rail in the hall, pleated window blinds in the Library

Lounge, recumbent bike in the exercise area, signs designating different rooms, heavy duty can opener and ladder in the kitchen, sewing machine in the Annex, United States flag, round table cloths, laminating machine and Mity-Lite tables. You can clearly see how much the BAMC has benefited the Center in several areas.

All BAMC members are encouraged to attend the next meeting on Wednesday, March 31, at 3:30 p.m. in the Library Lounge.

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### **Wanted**

*By Irvin Sterner*

Members interested in a brighter future for Canyon Lake Senior Center and would serve on the Endowment Committee, please call Irvin Sterner at 718-2186 or Bob Fischer at 716-7188.

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### **Leaders to Meet April 19**

*By LaVonne Sartorius*

On Monday, Jan. 18, we had a leaders meeting with 19 leaders present. Where were you? All other leaders need to know these meetings are for you! You learn to know what is happening with the other activities. You learn what is coming up in the Center and you can explain your activities.

Leaders will meet again on April 19 for a new members brunch. It would surely be nice to have all the leaders present. This gives new members a chance to meet you. Leaders, you may get a member to join your activity.

I would like to see all leaders at this meeting

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### **Aerobics Chase Blahs**

*By Pat Anderson*

Gals, get hooked on aerobics and put those mid-winter blahs on the run.

“Keeping myself active gives me the strength and ability to live a full and active life,” said Marilyn Bergman, leader for the aerobics group at Canyon Lake Senior Center. The gentle twists, stretches and bends, geared especially for seniors, will soon have your body toned for an active summer of fun in the sun.

That’s aerobics, Monday through Friday, at 8:30 a.m. upstairs in the exercise area, for a healthier lifestyle.

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## **Character Counts**

By Sena Zoller

Trustworthiness was the character trait for the month of January at Canyon Lake School. We were so happy to have Paul Anglemeyer there to give the children ideas and demonstrations on how to be trustworthy. He really knows how to get the ideas across.

Twelve children were nominated for student of the month and received awards. It is wonderful to have programs like this in our schools. Go Canyon Lake Shooting Stars.

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## **Cards for Recycling**

*Nila Boone*

The card recyclers thank you for donations of used greeting cards, but there are a few cards that we do not use.

Now that Christmas is over, some members may be thinking, “What should I do with the Christmas cards I received? I know, I’ll take them to the Center.” Whoa. The card recyclers do not use Christmas cards. Most people don’t buy individual Christmas cards; usually they buy a box of cards.

Since most members no longer have older relatives, we do not recycle cards for mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles or grandparents.

Also, the inside verses of other types of greeting cards that we do use are part of the card and very important. If the backs with the verse have been torn off, then those cards are not used. We need the front and the back, or in other words, we need the whole card. Recyclers have no time or inclination to read the personal notes that are written in cards so there is no need to cut off anything.

Sorting cards for recycling takes time and, if this article helps cut down on cards that aren’t used, it will be appreciated.

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