

Soup Kitchenette

Wildwood Soup Kitchen, P.O. Box 1762, Wildwood, FL 34785

December 2011

Merry Christmas

From the Board

We extend to each of you and your family a very Merry Christmas and hope for a Happy New Year.

Thanks

Sumter County Chamber of Commerce requested that their members bring donations of non-perishable food to their Lunch Exchange. This was held at the Wildwood Country Resort the Wednesday prior to Thanksgiving. The food was donated to the Wildwood Soup Kitchen. They also donated the proceeds of their 50/50 raffle at the luncheon to the Soup Kitchen.

Thank You!!

www.sumterchamber.org

JOIN US ON FACEBOOK

The Villages Media Group has been holding a Holiday Food Drive that is benefitting the Lady Lake Christian Food Pantry, St. John Lutheran Church Food Pantry, and the Wildwood Soup Kitchen. Thanks to all who helped make this such a successful Food Drive.

Thanks to all who continue to make the job of feeding the hungry much easier. May you all be blessed with a wonderful 2012!!

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Thanks

The other day, we received a call from a representative of the Parady Financial Group in The Villages. They wanted to donate \$2,500 worth of food to the Soup Kitchen, and they wanted to do it that night after they got off work. The plan was to go to Sam's and get what Soup Kitchen Manager, Gail Merrell, suggested. Paul Danis from the Monday crew, met Gail there, and together with the 3 representatives from Parady, they purchased \$2,500 worth of food, including meat.

Then Mormon friends in Orlando gave us \$1,000 worth of canned beef. Each year they let us decide what we'd like. So, Gail chose to purchase canned beef. It's easy to store, and the cooks like the ease of cooking with it.

Dana McCarthy also received a \$1,000 donation from his former pastor, and a \$500 donation from the Knights of Columbus at their parish.

And the Blessings just keep coming.....

Meals Served in October

People Served	2,107
Seconds & 12:15	1,155
Youth Challenge	151
Delivered Lunches	3,010
TOTAL	6,423

Editors: jimjudy@thevillages.net

Meals Served in November

People Served	1,980
Seconds & 12:15	1,223
Youth Challenge	125
Delivered Lunches	3,097
TOTAL	6,425

2011	YTD	67,837 Meals
2010		67,124 Meals
2009		68,350 Meals
2008		62,013 Meals
2007		52,790 Meals
2006		47,534 Meals
2005		39,684 Meals
2004		33,939 Meals
2003		30,219 Meals

Board Meeting

The regular meeting of the Wildwood Soup Kitchen Board of Directors was held on Thursday, November 10, 2011, at the First Presbyterian Church of Wildwood. The meeting was called to order at 11:40 a.m. Present were: President, Nancy Purnell; Vice President, Ed Perry; Treasurer, Dianne Letch, Secretary, Marge O'Kane; Soup Kitchen Manager, Gail Merrell; Dana McCarthy, Betty Noyes, Judy Chaffin; and Jackie Turk. Bill Kramp and Audrey Edwards were absent.

Nancy opened the meeting with a prayer.

Treasurer's Report - Dianne reported that the number of people we are serving is up 12% from last year. Food expense is up 35%, a figure that is not out of line with the rising cost of food. The cost of paper goods is up 30% from last year due in part to the addition of Saturday meals and new methods of serving due to food safety concerns. The cost for food and paper products (not including overhead) was \$.85 in 2010; in 2011 to date, \$1.02. Dianne will calculate the cost

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per meal including overhead and report back at the next meeting.

Old Business

Finance Campaign - Letters were sent to forty-eight churches asking for financial support.

Food Safety Training Update - To date, one hundred volunteers have attended the Food Safety classes. Make-up classes will be available after the holidays. All volunteers must attend the Annual Training.

New Business

Certificate of Appreciation for McLinn Burnsed - The Board will be presenting a Certificate of Appreciation to Joe Thomas, Esq., of McLinn Burnsed in recognition of legal work done for the Soup Kitchen.

Because of food safety concerns, a motion was made to discontinue the practice of leaving meals in coolers at our guests' homes when they are not at home. It was seconded, voted on and carried. Alternate procedures for delivery in these situations have been set up by our Coordinator of Drivers, Don Lozier, and all have been notified.

Volunteer Appreciation Dinner - The date for the volunteer dinner is Thursday, April 19, 2012, and will be held at New Covenant United Methodist Church. More information will follow.

Business Cards and Brochure - Dana has completed the Kitchen brochure. Gail will work with Ford Press in Leesburg to have it produced. The business cards need to be changed to reflect the new P.O. box number and Saturday hours.

Volunteer Opportunities - Marge will email the newly created Volunteer Opportunities descriptions to Dana to post on the website.

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Answering Machine - Dianne and Dana will research voice mail options and present a recommendation at the next Board meeting.

Publicity Committee - It was suggested that the Board form a Publicity Committee. This will be a topic of discussion at the next meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 p.m. The next Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Thursday, January 12th, 2012.



Just a reminder that the 2012 Seeds of Hope Campaign will be February 15, 2012 - February 28, 2012, with a Pancake Breakfast to be held at the Soup Kitchen on February 25th. More information will be shared in our next Newsletter. There now is a website... www.seedsofhope-wildwood.com. Check it out.

Help Us Help Others

Interested in helping out the Wildwood Soup Kitchen? Here are some 'needs' right now.

- Do you like to bake? We can always use home baked desserts for our guests. Please deliver to the Soup Kitchen between 8:30 - 11:00 in the morning, Monday - Friday, in a non - returnable container.
- Need **drivers** to commit for summer months. Once a week - or whatever time you can give - training available.

If you can help, send your name, and phone number to: mail@wildwoodsoupkitchen.com and someone will contact you.

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Food Safety Training Update

We have conducted 5 Food Safety Training sessions so far and have had a great turn-out. We will be scheduling make-up sessions in January. Please watch for dates. Remember that all who volunteer at the Soup Kitchen need to go through this training annually.

Donations

We are a non-profit organization dedicated to feeding the hungry. We gladly accept and greatly appreciate any and all donations. Please consider the Soup Kitchen when writing your monthly checks.

Please send financial donations (check or money order made out to the Wildwood Soup Kitchen) to our mailing address:

Wildwood Soup Kitchen
P.O. Box 1762
Wildwood, FL 34785

Contribution to Soup Kitchen
From: _____
Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____
Day Phone: _____
Email Address: _____
Amount: _____
Donation in honor or memory of: _____

PO Box # Change

Please note that the Wildwood Soup Kitchen has a new PO Box. Our new address is:
Wildwood Soup Kitchen
PO Box 1762
Wildwood, FL 34785

Website

Have you checked out the Soup Kitchen website yet? **It's a MUST SEE.**
www.wildwoodsoupkitchen.com

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