



Santa's Senior Center

(907) 488-4663
santaseniors@alaska.net

NEWS

101 E. 5th Avenue
North Pole, Alaska 99705

February 2024 Volume II

Hello members : this last month has been busy for me, transferring signatures on bank accounts, running my first board of directors meeting, renewing our insurances and workers comp paperwork. It was also my first time as the mc for the birthday luncheon.

I also appointed new committee chairs and asked for membership to talk with the new directors about ideas or concerns to be brought forth at the board meetings. This will streamline the board meetings as all concerns will be addressed in a timely manner while also giving the board time to review these items before the meeting.

On a different note the belly dancing day was well received by members that came out to have a good time.

Chicken Cordon bleu dinner also was well received . The North Pole JROTC served the dinner and provided clean up. A donation of \$270 was provided to the Group. We had hoped for a50/50 but we could not get it done.

A number of members have been inquiring about wine and beer at some functions and I have been looking into this. More to come later.

As you know we canceled next month's BOD meeting because most of the board will be out of town or indisposed in one way or another.

So plenty of time to talk with board members that are available to discuss your concerns or give positive feedback.

I will sign off on this news letter, keep warm and all

My best wishes Joe G

Joseph Gelinis, NPSSC President

Santa's Senior Center Corporation Inc.

101 E 5th Avenue
North Pole, Alaska 99705
907-488-4663

February



Our Mission is to create inviting enjoyable programs that encourage older adults to use their skills, develop their potential, and continue involvement in the community.



**Santa's Senior Center Corporation, Inc. 2024
Officers and Board of Directors**

President Joseph Gelinas 907-347-1774
Vice-Pres. Lamie Ellsworth 503-568-9666
Secretary Sharon Corbett 907-590-9286
Treasurer Rochelle Renner 907-322-7889
Director Candy Clarke 907-987-0188
Director Judith Hastings 907-488-2145
Director Cora Williams 907-388-3577



Parliamentarian Cora Williams

SSC Board of Directors meeting for February will be canceled due to not having a quorum. The March Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13th, 2024 at 1pm.

Check out www.santaseniors.com to review the Board of Directors Meeting Minutes.

JANUARY BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- Sunshine Committee Established
- Update Secretaries / Gaming Computer
- Annually Update all three computers going forward.
- Audio Recoding has been deactivated on the security system.
 - Some 2024 Committee chairs were identified.
- Suspended standing rule that states a board meeting needs to be rescheduled as soon as possible if it can't be held.
 - Update signatories on the Mac account.
- Maintenance Committee Notes were discussed.



Santa's Senior Center Welcomes:

***Dinner at the Center
Steak Dinner***

*Friday, February 23rd
5:00pm \$25.00 per plate
Reservation Required*



If you would like to sign up for a weekday lunch please call by noon at least 1 business day before so we can plan accordingly.

Lunches are offered Wednesday, and Friday as scheduled.

Suggested donation is \$6.00 per meal

Lunch cards can be purchased for a suggested donation of \$30.00 for 6 meals.

**Is Medicare
Sending Out
New Cards?**



**NO.
Medicare is NOT issuing
new plastic cards!**

If you get a call saying you qualify for a new card - HANG UP! This is a scammer calling. Do not verify your Medicare number or other personal information.

Have you given out or confirmed your Medicare number over the phone? The Alaska Senior Medicare Patrol can help you protect yourself. Call us for help.

(907) 269-3680 or
1-800-478-6065
www.medicare.alaska.gov



State of AK Dept. of Health • Division of Senior & Disabilities Services • Medicare Information Office. This project was supported, in part by grant number 90AEP00016, & 90BPA00002 from the U.S. Administration for Community Living, Department of Health and Human Services, Washington, D.C. 20201.



FARKLE

We had our first 2024 Farkle Tournament on January 15th. Had a great turnout of participants including our 2 Fairbanks Parks and Recreation exercise instructors Marya Lewanski and Kris Tacheny. Pictured front row, from left to right are our winners. Goldie Southwood took first place, Barbara Sevier took second place, Sharron Hunter took third, and Jo Small got the Red Lantern. After our morning exercise lead by Agnes Beavers, than a great potluck and socializing the tournament began. I think Jana can tell you that we all got pretty loud with our talking and laughter amongst us. I want to thank Jo Small for providing the prizes and all the participants for making this a great success again.



Belly Dancing looks like they had a good time!



Single Lunch Ticket Winner Goldie Southwood Congratulations!!!

Chicken Cordon Bleu Dinner

Thank You!



Thank you Gregory & Sharon Corbett for planning, providing, and hosting the Chicken Cordon Bleu Dinner.

Event raised \$620

Everyone said they has a great time!



**Fairbanks Concert Association Presents
THE SOUND OF (BLACK) MUSIC
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 10
2024, 7:30 PM HERING AUDITORIUM**

I have 10 tickets available for this concert. Please contact the office to sign up.



Maintenance Team Notes

27 December 2023

The Maintenance Team met Wednesday 27 December 2023, with the following members in attendance; Joe, Thor, Christy and Greg. A meeting was called to discuss future maintenance requirements for the Santa's Senior Center.

We are looking into why the furnace room is remaining so cold. Joe spoke to a Holiday Park Engineer, and he will do a no cost audit to see what we may need to do to relieve this situation. We have adjusted the furnace exhaust flapper valve. In addition, Thor and Greg will look at the fresh air inlet on Friday 5 January 2024 to see if there are any repairs or additions that might be made to aid in reducing the cold air situation.

One item that was discussed was the occasional sewage smell in the center. We need to ensure that all drains and pee traps have been used and have water in them to keep air from flowing backwards in the drainage system. The HRV system should help eliminate these odors. This will also be addressed when the engineer makes his audit visit.

We discussed a listing of upcoming projects and made a list of priorities.

#01. Cold Air in building/furnace room

#02. Damper valve in exhaust stack. (damper weight adjusted, will monitor results)

#03. Review building plans and make notes of parking lot dimensions.

#04. Cracks in the asphalt

#05. Corner lanai post replacement

#07. Gutter installation

Future large and costly projects were discussed. Painting of the outside of the building, was brought up. Greg will investigate having the local Painters Union apprentice program volunteer to complete this project. Repaving of the entire parking lot. Cost is a prohibitive factor, permitting by the city of North Pole and the Fairbanks North Star Borough will have to be addressed. Bringing natural gas into the building for heating and cooking will be researched.

The maintenance team will develop an ongoing maintenance schedule. Update on the HVAC system to ensure it is being maintained properly and regularly. Tune up the furnace and heating system on a regular basis. The fire suppression system is scheduled and inspected regularly by the North Pole Fire Department (would they be willing to do a courtesy inspection of the kitchen stove exhaust ducts).

Next maintenance team meeting scheduled for the fourth Wednesday of the month, 24 January 2024 at 10:30 A.M.

Report submitted by: Gregory Corbett, Maintenance Committee Chairman



January Volunteer of the month – Wanda Weatherby

Wanda became a member of the Santa Senior Center back in 2022 with her husband Thor, who is on the Building Maintenance Committee. Her and Thor would show up at our Monday's and Friday's morning exercise classes and would quietly watch and listen what was going on around them and now they participate in all of the very interesting topics that we all would talk at these exercise sessions, and if anyone of you have been to these classes you would know what I mean. With Pat Arthur temporarily out of action, Wanda is Agnes' partner and backup in leading these classes.

When Goldie Southwood told Cora and I that she was stepping down from decorating the tables at the monthly luncheon Cora and I automatically thought of Wanda, because by then Wanda talked about and showed us some of her crafty skills that she does for her family and friends. So we asked her if she wanted to help us decorate for the monthly birthday luncheons and she jumped on it. So every Sunday before the birthday luncheons Wanda would meet up with Cora and I and she would get busy decorating the tables which she has proven her unbeatable crafty skills each time. She comes up with great ideas and with her help we would put together our ideas to make each month look good. Being a retired pharmacist she is tuned into details.

The xmas decorations outside of the building is all Wanda's idea that she and Thor did and I just learned that Wanda volunteered to be Goldie's second in her upcoming jewelry sale at the Shoppers Forum building.

What a great pair to add to our Santa Senior Center membership.

Congratulations Wanda.

SANTA'S SENIORS WITH FEBRUARY BIRTHDAYS Marked with * 80 Years or Older



1	Kayla	Torkelson
2	Joyce	Grover*
3	John	Poirrier
4	Julie	Southwood
5	Alice	Murphy
7	Cheryl	Zwolle
7	John	Halbert
8	Goldie	Southwood*
13	Joan	Weaver*
14	Barbara	Avery*
20	Jana	Sumner
27	Donald	Thompson

*"It is only with Gratitude
that life becomes rich "*
~ Dietrich Bonhoeffer



FEBRUARY ANNIVERSARIES

		Years married
16	David & Joyce Jones	45
18	William & Chrya Sanderson	52
24	Tom & Betsy Bear	51

January Birthdays
Nobody was in attendance but we sang for
them anyway!



JoAnn Perkins was at the luncheon,
and she won the free lunch ticket drawing!



Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all of the above!!!
Please join us on the 3rd Wednesday of the month to help celebrate birthdays.
Suggested Donation for Luncheon is \$10. If it's your birthday month lunch is on us.

THIS AND THAT FROM SENIORS

By Goldie Southwood 1/31/24
328 Days until Christmas

"BRRRR"..... that is the best way to describe late January! The month started on a "warmer" note when we had our Farkle Tournament, Birthday Luncheon, and on the 19th, a delicious meal, with pleasant conversation at the "**Chicken Cordon Bleu**" dinner hosted by **Sharon and Greg Corbett**. At the dinner we had great "dinner music" with **Jed and Joyce Grover and Ina Holden**. Helping serve the dinner was the North Pole Junior ROTC group. Thanks to all for a great evening!

Then the bottom fell out of the thermometer and activities came to a screeching halt at our Center. Before the Deep Freeze, we had a long over-due visit from ***Johanna Guzman** who came for lunch and a visit with her granddaughter Makayla. **Johanna** has now moved to Fairbanks to an apartment without stairs to deal with. "*We miss you!*"

***John Halbert** is now out of state visiting with his sister in Kansas.

***Lamie Ellsworth** has a broken hip. She spent a month at Denali Center and is now doing well, although still wheel chair bound, at "Living Legacy", an assisted living home out past the Pump House, in Fairbanks.

***William Sanderson** is still in Anchorage recovering from Medical procedures. William and Chrya: *Our continued prayers are with you for a speedy recovery.*

***Pat Arthur** is still at "Timber Creek", and reports she is doing much better, walking with a walker. "*If all goes well I'll be home in a couple weeks. Say Hi to everyone and don't forget me.*" Don't worry Pat, we are not forgetting you and look forward to your return.

We are thankful for family and friends.....**Goldie**
Please call, text or e-mail, letting us know how you are doing.
Call or text (907) 378-3624 or e-mail: goldtops@msn.com

*******Vintage Jewelry Sale*******



At Annual "**Ice Loves You**" Bazaar
Sat. Feb 10th (10 am-6pm) -Sun. Feb
11 (11 am-5 pm)
Shopper's Forum Mall - Please bring
used jewelry to Center to donate.



December Volunteer of the Month – James Hunter

Hunter became a member of the Santa Senior Center back in 2012.

Did you know that in 1985 Hunter is one of three people who formed the Breadline in Fairbanks whose mission is serving food to anyone in need with the support of local churches, community members, businesses, and others who supported this financially.

He has been a member of the 17 Mile Homemakers, Fairbanks Senior Center, a commissioner for the North Star Council on Aging, a director of the North Pole St. Jukes Jubilee Center's local food pantry, a former North Pole City Council member, a Board of the Director and President here at the Center.

In the past, he has help cook at the City of North Pole Mayor's Picnic for at least 3 administrations and has helped make several Summer Festivals successful.

Whenever the Center has a fundraiser, other than baked goods, Hunter is always behind the grill or in the kitchen busy cooking himself or directing the volunteers on the preparation and cooking of the food. For many years Hunter has prepared Wednesdays and Fridays lunches here at the Center for our members. Sometimes on our Monday exercise potlucks when there is not enough food provided by our members Hunter always cook an additional or two dishes for them. For many, many years Hunter has been preparing menus and cooking meals for Thanksgiving and Christmas for all community members during the holidays. This past year, not by his choice, Hunter can no longer physically cook meals, so now he has Marie Nielson to cook for him but he still prepares the menus for all meals provided by the Center.

Even though Hunter now moves slow he still is a very busy man providing help wherever he can by recruiting volunteers where it is needed.

Congratulations Hunter.

In last months Newsletter there was a small card to fill out and return to us. We are trying to update our spreadsheet for volunteers. Please mark all the ways you are willing to help support your senior center. Thank you!

You could also call and tell Jana over the phone to save a trip in.

I only received about 10 cards back.

Santa's Senior Center Membership

Renewal for 2024 is due for all members before March 1st. If you are not sure if you are renewed for 2024 please call the office.

9					4		
4				1		5	
3			7				1
8		1		5			3
		6			4		9
7					6		2
		5	2				
		3		1			6
		4			8	7	

 Maintenance Committee meetings are scheduled the
 4th Wednesday of the month at 10:30am in the
 large meeting room. These meetings are open to all
 members and everyone is invited to participate.

Book Club



Tuesday, January 27th 2pm
 Dangerous Women
 By: Hope Adams
 &

Nine Perfect Strangers
 By: Liane Moriarty

Guys Read Gals Read

*Guys Read Gals Read will run Feb. 26—Mar. 6th with
 orientations held two weeks before. A full program
 description, dates, and on-line sign-up forms are at their
 website: guysgalsread.org*



We need silk flowers
 for boutonnieres for
 senior recognition day.
 If you have any extra
 please drop them off at
 SSC.

Inclement Weather Policy

*Members please be advised
 that when the weather is -30
 or colder according to time
 and temperature at
 (907) 488-1111
 Events at SSC may be
 canceled. Please check with
 event leaders before
 traveling to the center.*

Santa's Senior Center
2024 Sustaining Donors

Alice Murphy
 Ramouna Sandbo
 Virginia Bell
 Richard & Christina Foytich
 Ruthie Sevy
 Jim & JoAnn Perkins
 Mark & Rochelle Renner
 Goldie Southwood
 Larry & Maria Terch
 Rosalie Burch
 Jo Small
 Patty Belcher
 Ellie Herrera
 Frank & Ida Rhines

Barbara Sevier
 Naomi King
 Jean Erickson
 Benny & Cora Williams

Thank You!

Commitment Total for
 2024 so far = \$7,670.00