

Santa's Senior Center

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www.santaseniors.com
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May 2025 - Volume V



Greetings From the President:

Hope is well with you and your families.

We have an update on the chili cook off and bake sale, with over \$800 made toward the parking lot fund! Great job to all involved.

We will soon have the raffle tickets available for my 2001 Harley Davison Ultra Classic Electra Glide with a stage three engine upgrade hi-volume oil pump, adjustable lifters, ecm delete, electric fuel pump delete, and S&S carburetor. This bike is metallic red, with chrome. There will only be 500 raffle tickets made, tickets are \$20 each, drawing will be held when all tickets are sold.

When the raffle tickets are available, members are encouraged to pick up a few books to sell them to your family, friends, neighbors, and anyone else you can think of. Proceeds will go towards the Parking Lot Re-Paving Fund.

Sincerely your president,
Joseph Gelinas



RAFFLE TICKET	
Your Event	
1st prize	
2nd prize	
3rd prize	
Need not be present to win.	

(Stock photo)

Santa's Senior Center Corporation Inc.
101 E. 5th Avenue
North Pole, Alaska 99705



Our mission is to create inviting and enjoyable programs that encourage older adults to utilize their skills, develop their potential, and remain engaged in the community.

Santa's Senior Center Corporation, Inc. 2025 Board of Directors:

President Joe Gelinas 907-347-1774
Vice Pres. Ruthie Sevy 907-322-6433
Treasurer Rochelle Renner 907-322-7889
Secretary Greg Corbett 907-322-7251
Candy Clarke 907-987-0188
Cora Williams 907-388-3577
Lamie Ellsworth 503-568-9666



Parliamentarian: Cora Williams

The Board of Directors Meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month. The next meeting will be May 14 at 1pm.

The Meeting Minutes can be found on our website:
www.santaseniors.com

Highlights from the last Board Meeting:

March Volunteer Hours = 239.5 Current Members = 181

- ♦ A fundraising raffle for the parking lot re-paving fund is being organized. Joe Gelinas donated a Harley Davidson motorcycle. Joe & Barbara Sevier will lead.
- ♦ Other items are also being donated for fundraisers: flat screen television & blu-ray player, quilt, pickled beets.
- ♦ New rack-card have been ordered and received. Board members will distribute to rack-stands at visitor centers.
- ♦ The Use Agreements for the Facility and Tables & Chairs have been revised.
- ♦ The By-Laws committee has submitted changes for approval by the board.

Santa's Senior Center Welcomes:

Linda Kihn
Jana Howard
Eileen Lyons



April Birthday Lunch:



Birthday Girls:
Michelle Vedder
Sharron Hunter
Ellie Herrera
Jo Small
Agnes Beavers



50/50 Drawing: \$132/\$66
Jo Small



Guest Speakers:
Paula Scaglione & Alexis Blake from American Red Cross

May Birthdays:

Date:

- 1 Doneva Cheeseman
- 2 David Hastings
- 4 Kim Cook
- 8 Jim Hunter
- 16 Bruce Hartford
- 23 John Spitzberg*



**Happy Birthday
to all members born in May!**

**Please join us on the 3rd Wednesday
of each month to celebrate birthdays.**

Lunch is \$10. If it's your birthday month lunch is on us.



May Anniversaries:

Date:

Years Married:

- | | |
|--------------------------------|----|
| 5 Linn & Randy VanderMolen | 14 |
| 21 Mark & Rochelle Renner | 38 |
| 31 Christina & Richard Foytich | 50 |



May's Birthday Lunch will be cooked by *Jo Small*.

**May's Guest Speakers: *Kathy Hamby* from the Food Bank
and *Brandy Nelson* from TLC Care Services.**



At TLC Care Services, we are dedicated to providing the highest quality of care in the Home Care Profession. Our team of caregivers and staff service whatever the needs of your loved ones may be, TLC Care Services can provide the proper assistance from companionship to Respite Care. Serving all of Anchorage, Matsu, Fairbanks, and the entire Kenai peninsula!! Our job as senior care providers are to help your loved ones live safely and confidently at home. At TLC Care Services, we will work closely with your family to establish a customized care plan based on your needs.

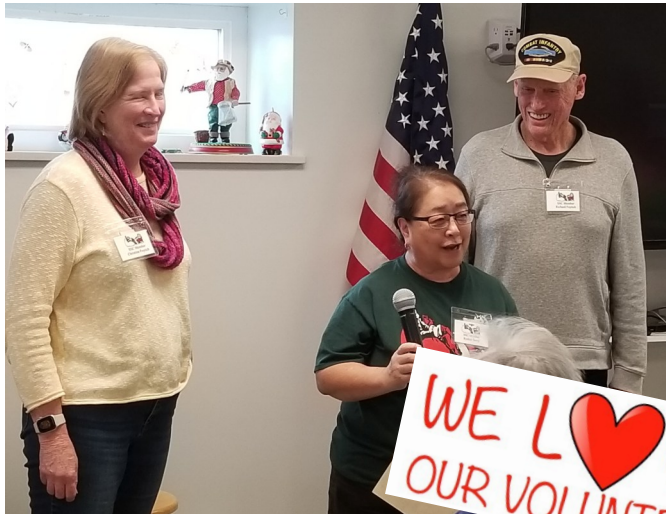


March Volunteer of the Month: Agnes Beavers

Back in 2023 she volunteered to help Pat Arthur take care of the flower boxes in front of the building and come this summer will be planting the flowers under Pat's supervision. Also Agnes started leading the Mondays and Fridays morning exercise classes in place of Pat Arthur who had fallen and now cannot lead the classes. Last fall she has volunteered to make the salad bowls for the monthly luncheons. She also helps me decorate the ceiling in the great room each month.

Congratulations Agnes!

Ruthie Sevy



WE LOVE
OUR VOLUNTEERS

April Volunteers of the Month: Christy & Richard Foytich

Christy and Richard Foytich became a member of the Santa's Senior Center back in 2022. Their involvement to the Center started by them participating in the Mondays and Fridays morning exercise classes. As they would get to the Center a bit early for the classes Richard would get the coffee ready, which is very important to our members.

Agnes and I would get together to decorate the ceiling each month for the birthday luncheons. As time went by climbing the ladder and the tables got to be very weary on us short people. Then one day Agnes asked the Foytich if they would like to help us decorate, as they being both tall. They accepted, which made an hour and a half work to be just an hour making it easier on all of us.

Congratulations Christy and Richard.

Ruthie Sevy

Parking Lot Re-Paving Fund



Show & Tell

Zuni Seniors - Rena Clark

I went on a recent Southwest road trip with my big sister Grace. We began our epic adventure, our Elder tour, in Austin, TX on March 23rd. Headed west to El Paso to meet 4 month old baby boys who made me a great-grandma. Next, up to New Mexico to Zuni Pueblo near Gallup. One of my ancestral homes. My mother was born there and her father, on back for hundreds of generations. Met family, saw Indian dances and went into the old adobe Catholic Church built in the 1600's. My grandfather, and ancestors are buried within the walled cemetery grounds.

While at Zuni we stopped into their very modern Senior center; I said, "I bring greetings from Santa's Seniors in North Pole, Alaska!" There was a group of elders working on paper mache pottery style baskets and another group that were in the Adult Day Care, provided by the center, getting seated for lunch. Behind the seniors and the large picture window stands the Zuni people's sacred mountain, Dowa Yallane. What a beautiful backdrop these elders have from their very special Senior center!

The rest of our travels were just as historically important and heartwarming and we reconnected with family. Zuni Senior send their Greetings to You!
Elahkwa (Thank you)



THIS AND THAT FROM SENIORS

Quote from the bulletin board:

*"To keep the heart unwrinkled,
To be hopeful, kindly,
Cheerful, reverent---
That is to triumph over old age.*

By writer Thomas Bailey Aldrich

I heard recently from **Jennie Palazzo**, our former Board Secretary who now lives in Washington state. I recall that she won a former *Chili Cook Off*. She said her grandson still has the Blue Ribbon they won, displayed on their refrigerator. Congrats to this year's winners, **Jana, Greg and Thor**. Fun and tasty event! (See related article.)

I talked to **Sharon Kubacki** who just discovered she has pneumonia. Quote from Sharon: "I have COPD, but I am kicking it in the butt, and will be fine!" For entertainment she does jig saw puzzles. Her son and daughter-in-law, who live upstairs, sometimes join her around the puzzle for a fun-family get-together.

Several of our members belong to "100 + Golden Heart Women Who Care". We each donate \$100. per quarter to a non-profits in our area. We vote who we will give to, and all donate to the same cause. So our *little bit*, adds up to a *lot*! This year, **Cora Williams** nominated Santa's Senior Center. However we decided to give to Northern Hope Center, which offers a safe haven for individuals with varying degrees of mental illness. But Cora's plea was so heart-felt that several in attendance, donated their own small donations to Santa's Seniors, along with their usual donation to GHWWC. Thanks, **Cora**!

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Sharon Geese has moved back to North Pole, and is living with her son and daughter-in-law. (**Kevin and Shannon Geese**) They live in a ranch style home, that makes it easier for **Sharon**. She is not driving, but attends Senior events when rides are offered.

Former Santa Senior Administrative Assistant, **Nina Renner** and family will be returning to Interior Alaska this summer. **Nina** took over the reins at the Center from **Sharon Geese**, when I first became President in 2016. Daughter, **Hailey** will be attending UAF and son, **Andre'** is set to report to the Alaska State Trooper Academy in July.

We are still accepting your unwanted **Jewelry** for our Sale on May 31. Even broken Jewelry is welcomed. This will be at the Bazaar and Bake Sale the same day.

We are thankful for family and friends.....Goldie

Please call, text or email, letting us know how you are doing.
Call or text (907) 378-3624 or e-mail: goldtops@msn.com



May Lunch Menu:

Wednesday

7th Meatloaf

14th Chicken Sandwich

21st Birthday Lunch

28th Tomato Soup/Grl Chs

Friday

2nd Potluck Lunch

9th Potluck Lunch

23rd Salad

30th Spagetti



First Saturday BINGO

Saturday, **May 3rd** 11am-3pm

Misc. Games @ 11am

Potluck Lunch @ 12pm

BINGO @ 12:30pm

This game is free and open to all ages.

No cash prizes.



Book Club:

Wednesday, **May 7th @ 2pm**

The Great Hippopotamus Hotel

By Alexander McCall Smith

In this latest installment of Alexander McCall Smith's beloved No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency, Mma Ramotswe and Mma Makutsi take on an intriguing new case and uncover surprising truths.

FNSB Parks & Recreation Dept.

Senior Recognition Luncheon:

Thursday, **May 8th**, 10am-1pm

@ Carlson Center - (registration required)

Santa's Senior Center will have an information booth at this event.



Fairbanks 50+ Art & Science of Aging
Healthy Living Summit

Friday, **May 9th**, 8:30am-4:30pm

@ Carlson Center - (no registration required)

Santa's Senior Center will have a craft table at this event.



For more information contact:

Carol Anthony, Community Partnership Manager

Foundation Health Partners

(907)458-5545





Fundraiser BINGO

Friday, **May 16th** @ 6pm

15 Cards for \$15

Cash Prizes

Must be 19 y/o to play. No children allowed.



AK Center for the Blind

Support Group

Wednesday, **May 21st** @ 1pm



Closed Memorial Day May 26th, 2025



Strong Memory Discussion Group

Wednesday, **May 28th** @ 1pm

Santa's Senior Center & 17 Mile Homemakers presents...



F.Y.I.

Thursday, **May 29th**, 2025 @ 10am
Dealing with Suicide



Craft Bazaar - Jewelry Sale - Bake Sale

Saturday, **May 31st** 10am-4pm



2025 Sustaining Donor Program

The Sustaining Donor Program is a way that members can continue to support the center financially through the year, by committing to a monthly, quarterly or annual donation.

thank you!

Patty Belcher
Virginia Bell
Rosalie Burch
June Cloyd
Lamie Ellsworth
Valliere Forrest
Richard & Christina Foytich
Ellie Herrera
Naomi King
Alice Murphy
Jim & JoAnn Perkins
Mark & Rochelle Renner
Frank & Ida Rhines
Brenda Sadler
Ramouna Sandbo
Barbara Sevier
Ruthie Sevy
Jo Small
Goldie Southwood
Larry Jr & Maria Terch
Benny & Cora Williams

thank you!

Commitment Total for 2025 so far:
\$10,470