



Santa's Senior Center

(907) 488-4663
santaseniors@alaska.net

NEWS

101 E. 5th Avenue
North Pole, Alaska 99705

May 2024 Volume V

Hello members: this last month has been another productive month. We will be getting our septic line rebuilt in the first weeks of May and our corner post rebuilt around the same time. The exact date has not been decided. Keep an eye out for updates. Remember this will be a construction project so once it starts park accordingly. Do not walk around or through the work areas. Your safety is of the utmost importance.

Secondly, Ruthie has constructed a yearly calendar board so when you come to your center if you need to find out when an activity is happening you can find it.

Gregg Corbett has had the dishwasher/ sanitizer fixed. It was striped gears in the timing mechanism.

Also, Greg is addressing slow faucets in the men's bathroom. Our Hawaiian luncheon was enjoyed by all we had storytelling about pipeline times on Second Ave, seen through the eyes of one the first woman police officers.

I want to let you all know it was Jana's seventh anniversary as our administrator at the senior center, our big thank you to her.

Thanks for all the support you have given your board.

To do the work that will hopefully continue to make this place more enjoyable.

I have written two letters, one to Conoco Philips and one to Foundation Heath for donations to the center no word back yet.

We have also consolidated our monies into one bank, something the board has been working on for several years.

The board adopted a new legal form for the intake of valuable things like paintings. This will give all rights to ownership to the senior center.

Remember to talk with any board member that you see about agenda items. They are posted in advance of the board meeting. If you do not give your opinion your voice is not heard.

Sincerely Santa Senior Center President Joseph Gelinas

Santa's Senior Center Corporation Inc.

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



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 is on Wednesday, May 8th, 2024 1pm. The June Board of Directors meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 12th, 2024 at 1pm.

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

APRIL BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

- *Voted to move forward with repairs to the front awning using Trost Construction.**
- *Voted to move forward with repair/replace sewer line in the back parking lot using Alaska Drilling.**
- *Voted to have 17 Mile Homemakers run the Trunk Sale during SSC Annual Rummage Sale.**
- *Voted to close Mac account and consolidate SSC Funds all at Mt. McKinley.**
- *Voted to only have tinsel in the window during Christmas Season.**
- *Voted to have our Treasurer added to our gaming members to streamline our process.**



**Santa's Senior Center Welcomes:
John Tobin & Gail Chagnon**



**Maintenance Team Notes
03 April 2024**

The Maintenance Team Director (Greg Corbett), SSC President (Joe Gelinas) and the Financial Officer (Rochelle Renner) met on Wednesday 3 April 2024 to discuss past, present and future maintenance budget matters for the Santa's Senior Center (SSC). A thorough assessment of past expenses, monthly utility costs and upcoming maintenance items were discussed at length.

The good news is that currently it appears the past years upgrades to the SSC have made a small but noticeable reduction in fuel oil usage. This will hopefully continue and provide slight monetary savings over the next few years. Water and electrical usage have stayed relatively the same over this same period.

Upcoming required maintenance items were brought to the committee:

- #1. Replacement of the front lanai corner post, new concrete base foundation, and leveling the roof. Trost construction has placed a bid and timeline for this project. Monies from the gaming fund will be used to complete the project this summer season.
- #2. Removal and replacement of the broken drain line behind the SSC. Alaska Drilling & Dirt Works have submitted their estimate for this repair. The SSC board will be presented with the information at the April meeting to discuss and decide how we want to proceed. Again, monies from gaming will be used if the board moves forward with the suggested repairs.
- #3. Painting the outside of the SSC has been proposed. The maintenance team is looking into working with the local Painters Union to repair and paint the outside of the building to present a better aesthetic appearance. The SSC would be required to purchase all supplies and materials, with the local union supplying the labor.
- #4. Normal annual maintenance requirements, inspections, and costs were presented to the committee, i.e.; furnace tune up, vent range hood cleaning, fire suppression inspection, HVAC filter replacement, smoke detectors, quarterly kitchen inspection, snow plowing, and upgrades/improvements. All items were noted and what the annual cost was for normal upkeep to the SSC.

Reviewing the past several years expenses and proposed maintenance items required a lot of thought, investigation and discussion. It is very important to understand the importance of gaming money to the SSC. Current income from dues and fund raising cannot support all of the required infrastructure. The maintenance team submitted their proposals and requirements to the budget committee. We will make every effort to keep costs below previous years' expenses.



***April Volunteer of the Month
Rochelle Renner***

Rochelle has been a member since June 2022. She is up at 6 am and does not slow down until just about or when her husband gets home from work and this is every day of the week. As busy as she is she makes time to get on the plane and visit her 7 grandkids when they ask her to come and visit them.

She is full of energy just like the Duracell Energizer Bunny. She makes me tired just watching her and she always seems to have a smile on her face joking around and making us laugh.

In fact, someone even told her that she should become a comedian.

Anyway, Rochelle's volunteer hours here at the Center involve being the Treasurer on the Board of Directors. She makes weekly trips to Salcha Senior Center getting free breads, chips, snacks, etc., and bringing them here to the Center for anyone who wants them, she also does this for St. Nicholas Catholic Church where she attends. When time permits she's here volunteering at our monthly Birthday luncheons, serving and helping clean up, and she has donated food and supplies when needed.

The following are also additional things that she does:

Volunteers making lunches for underprivileged kids in the community.

On the finance & Parish counsel at St. Nicholas Catholic Church.

Helps out with the community outreach program.

Donates purchased items for those in need.

Was a teacher at the North Pole Christian School.

Provides assistance & items to the FYNDOUT Free Pregnancy Center.

Provides assistance and items to the Resource Center in Fairbanks.

During her early years, she was an A-10 jet engine mechanic in the United States Air Force.

Congratulations Rochelle for being April's Volunteer of the Month.

Thank you for your selfless contributions!

***Single Lunch Ticket
Winner***

***Barbara Sevier
Congratulations!!!***

**If you signed up do not forget to
attend Senior Recognition Day!
Stop by SSC Table and see me!**



A meaningful way to honor a friend's memory is by making an in-kind donation to a program they supported. Here are the members who made donations in memory of William Sanderson this month:

Benny & Cora Williams

Barbara Sevier

J.N. & Sharron Hunter

Thank you all for your contribution!



Sewer Line work is tentatively scheduled for the week of May 20th watch communication board for cancelations to calendar if needed.

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

*Friday, May 24th
5:00pm \$25.00 per plate
Reservation Required
Please sign up by the 27th*



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.

Community engagement events we had this month:

We had some youth from the Church Of Jesus Christ Of Latter Day Saints come over and help with some spring cleaning. Thank you Greg & Sharon Corbett for overseeing that project. The coordinator from the church sent this message.

Thank you so much for allowing our youth to serve your organization. We want them to learn to serve as the Savior did. It's important to love our communities and work to make the world a better place one small act at a time. They had fun. Please reach out anytime :) Sheena Martin and all the youth From the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter Day Saints

We planted strawberries with Arctic Explorers Preschool they were so cute. They made us a paper friendship quilt. Special thanks to Barbara Sevier, Rochelle Renner, and Jo Small for helping procure items needed.



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



2	David Hastings	76
8	Jim Hunter	78
18	Louise Smith	79
21	Barbara Haney	65
23	John Spitzberg*	86
25	Mike Prax	68

*"Your spark can
become a flame and
change everything"*
~ E.D. Nixon

MAY ANNIVERSARIES

		Years married
5	Randy & Linn Vander Molen	13
21	Mark & Rochelle Renner	37
28	Larry & Sharon White	64
31	Richard & Christina Foytich	49



April Birthdays in attendance
Pictured here left to right —>
Agnes Beavers, Ellie Herrera,
Jo Small, Michelle Vedder,
Sharron Hunter

Luau Fun Below



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

THIS AND THAT FROM SENIORS

By Goldie Southwood 4/30/24
238 Days until Christmas

***David Hastings** recently had surgery to get a cochlear implant in his left ear in Anchorage. He and his wife, Judith are doing hearing exercises where she reads to him and he repeats back what he heard. He is doing remarkably well. What a blessing, after years of struggling with hearing loss. He is hearing all kinds of "new" sounds, he has not heard in years.

*Sorry to report the loss of another good friend: **Alma Rider** was an extraordinary secretary for several years at our Center and volunteered in our Gift Shop. A familiar face at Bingo and Birthday Luncheons, she was a good friend to many of us and a loyal 17 Mile Homemaker. She entertained countless visitors at her Bed & Breakfast off Peridot. A few years ago she moved to North Carolina to be near family. We will miss you, Alma.

*The attached picture is of myself with **Cora Williams**, and **Brenda Sadler** at a meeting of "**Golden Heart Women Who Care**". Members of this organization give \$100. Per Quarter to a non-profit, that we vote to ALL give to. This way our donation adds up to a significant amount. This year we have given to the "Imagination Library" and the "Local 4H Council". Anyone interested in joining our effort, just contact us for more information.



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

*Our Santa's Senior Center
Sunshine Committee*

*If you know of any members that have something
going on that we need to send a card to please con-
tact one of the committee members.*

*Judi's number is (907) 488-2145
Pam's number is (907) 385-7664*

***Bakers Fire Up Your Ovens!!!!!!
Our first bake sale is Tuesday May
7th during voting.***

*Save your Rummage for our sale in
June. Also 17 Mile Homemakers will
be running the trunk sale for us this
year.*

***WOW!!!!!! Thank you everyone
that supported our Fundraiser
Breakfast it was a really nice
event.***

Event Total was \$504.00

NORTH POLE

Santa's Senior Center

101 E. 5th Ave.

Friday, May 31st

Dinner is \$10 at 5:00 p.m.

Bingo \$15 a pkg. at 6:00 p.m.



**19 or older to attend
Public Welcome!**



 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, May 28th 2pm
 Choose your own book to discuss for this meeting.

I have 2 tickets for the Grass Roots concert on Sunday May 19th 7pm Hering Auditorium. If you are interested in these tickets let me know by May 10th and I will draw a winner from that list.



**North Pole Moose Lodge donated \$210.25 of their proceeds from their new Tuesday night bingo to Santa's Senior Center.
 Thank You!**

Pictured above Moose Administrator Jeff & SSC President Joe Gelinis

2024 Sustaining Donors

Alice Murphy
 Ramouna Sandbo
 Virginia Bell
 Richard & Christina Foytich
 Ruthie Sev
 Jim & JoAnn Perkins
 Goldie Southwood
 Mark & Rochelle Renner

Valliere Forrest
 Benny & Cora Williams
 Jo Small
 Larry & Maria Terch
 Rosalie Burch
 Ellie Herrera
 Frank & Ida Rhines
 Brenda Sadler

Barbara Sevier
 Jean Erickson
 Naomi King

Thank you!

Commitment Total for 2024 so far = \$8,140.00