



**MENUCHA**

*Sacred Space - Purposeful Work*

# The Menucha Meander

## We invite you to join the CREATIVE ARTS COMMUNITY "ARTS AT MENUCHA" August 6-19, 2006

Creative Arts Community proudly announces its 2006 edition of Arts at Menucha. Anyone interested, from the novice to seasoned professional, is invited to come and discover his or her own creative path.

This year Creative Arts Community celebrates its 40th summer of providing a wonderful experience and opportunity for artistic growth in all types of individuals.

Every summer since 1966 the CAC has provided unique residential workshops at Menucha, just 20 minutes east of Portland, Oregon. Overlooking the spectacular Columbia River Gorge, the historic 90-acre Meier estate offers walking and jogging trails, meditative gardens, tennis and volleyball courts, and a summer outdoor swimming pool

In two one-week sessions, the workshops feature outstanding instructors and a variety of small classes in a nurturing community atmosphere. Studios are open 24 hours. College credit is offered through Portland State University.

The impressive instructor lineup this summer includes:

### WEEK 1 August 6-12, 2006

#### COLLAGE

Linda Berkley

#### PRINTMAKING/MONOTYPE

Debby Neely

#### SCULPTURE

Steve Tilden

#### CERAMICS

Steven Mickey

#### OPEN STUDIO PAINTING

Paul Missal

#### WATER MEDIA

Susan Cowan



### WEEK 2 August 13-19, 2006

#### WRITING

Martha Gies

#### PASTEL

Barbara Black

#### DRAWING

Trish Harding

#### LANDSCAPE PAINTING

Phyllis Trowbridge

#### CERAMICS

Natalie Warrens

#### OPEN STUDIO PAINTING

Sandy Roumagoux

#### WATER MEDIA

Sarah Wolf Newlands



### MEET OUR NEW PROGRAM DIRECTOR



We are very pleased to announce the addition of a new Program Director. Scott Crane will join our staff the first of April. Originally from Salem, Oregon, Scott graduated from Willamette University with a Masters of Arts in Teaching and from Union Theological Seminary/Presbyterian School of Christian Education in Richmond, Virginia with Masters of Divinity and Masters of Arts in Christian Education degrees. He comes to us from the year-round programs of Camp Henry, located in Newaygo, Michigan. While there, his position allowed him to experience a variety of roles, from teaching outdoor education to training staff to the role of Chaplain for summer camp to assisting with programming for church and youth group retreats on site. Before Michigan, Scott was located in Anchorage, Alaska where he was Director of Christian Education and Children's Ministry for First Presbyterian Church of Anchorage. Prior to that, he was a teacher in the Oregon public school system. Scott's background and past experience have well prepared him for the role of Program Director at Menucha. He is currently a part-time Doctorate of Ministry student through Drew Theological School in the Camp/Retreat Leaders Certification program. His personal hobbies include making and participating in music, organic gardening, landscaping, racquetball, spending time with family and friends, occasionally being artsy, reading books, outdoor recreation, and various forms of folk dancing. Please drop by our office and join us in welcoming Scott to our staff.

The Creative Arts Community is a non-profit organization that is run entirely by a volunteer Board of Directors who work together year-round planning this special retreat for people who love art.

For additional information, contact John Kinyon at 503-760-5837, or by email at [info@creativeartscommunity.org](mailto:info@creativeartscommunity.org). You can find lots of information about CAC on their website at [www.creativeartscommunity.org](http://www.creativeartscommunity.org)



## CHANGING TIMES—Spencer Parks, Executive Director

I'm always a bit skeptical when an organization tells me that they are making progress. All too often I've found this to mean more work on my part and less service on theirs. So when I see signs with slogans on them such as "Watch us Grow!" or "Coming soon...our new (fill in the blank), designed to serve you better." I hold my breath. It has seldom been my experience that their growth will benefit me or that their new innovation will provide me with better service. Now I'm sure that *they* view this as progress. After all, they are able to cut their costs and raise their profitability. On the other hand, I would have probably been a lot happier with a lot less progress.

So, in this first newsletter of 2006, I'm not going to tell you about our progress over the past year. I'd rather list the many ways we have changed in order to better serve our guests and meet the mission of the facility. For us, our ability to meet our mission is the only real measure of how well we are doing. Just to refresh your memory, we believe that:

**Menucha is a sacred sanctuary held in stewardship as an ecumenical, community-based mission of First Presbyterian Church - Portland, Oregon.**

**Our mission is to offer the finest retreat and conference center experience possible by providing opportunities for reflection, spiritual discovery, renewal, education and enrichment for individuals, families and communities.**

In the past year, we really have made a remarkable number of changes. Now to be perfectly honest, we hope that a good number of these changes have gone unnoticed. Most of these are internal changes that help us operate more accurately, and efficiently. Things like our new booking system, or our expanded accounting program, or our new IT components all operate very quietly in the background so that we can continue to provide a high level of service and keep things affordable.

But there are a number of changes we hope you have noticed. We hope that you appreciate the new mattresses on many of our beds (almost 100 of them). We hope you like the fluffier towels we've begun putting in your rooms. We hope you will find our expanded wireless internet service more convenient. And when you drink our coffee, we hope that you will appreciate our commitment to support coffee growers by using only fairly traded coffee. We've been using only fair trade coffee for about 6 months. And while this means that our coffee costs about 30% more than it did, we feel that it is the right thing to do.

And there are more changes yet to come. We want to provide more and more opportunities for reflection, spiritual discovery, renewal, education and enrichment. To that end, we are adding a Program Director to our staff (please see the article introducing Scott Crane on page 1). Scott will be responsible for developing programs, seminars, workshops and retreats that will address the needs of people that live and work in our community and in the greater Pacific Northwest. We want to continue to make a difference in the lives of those that visit here. We feel that this addition to our staff will enable us to take a very proactive approach.

We invite you to join us as we reach out to others. Become a part of that sacred sanctuary that is Menucha. Your financial contributions help us grow and develop. It is only through the generosity of people such as yourselves that we are able to continue to expand our mission and improve our facility. Please carefully consider our donor form enclosed on the newsletter insert. We promise that we will use your gift wisely just as we promise that your gift will make a difference in the lives of those around us.



## THE MENUCHA COOKTOP—FROM OUR KITCHEN TO YOURS — ENJOY!

SUGAR COOKIES—Makes approximately 5 dozen

2 cups sugar  
1 ½ cups margarine or butter, softened  
1 cup flaked coconut  
1 teaspoon vanilla

3 cups flour  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
½ teaspoon salt



Heat oven to 350°. In a mixing bowl, cream sugar and margarine or butter until light and fluffy. Mix in coconut and vanilla. Combine flour, soda and salt. Add to creamed mixture and mix well. Shape into round balls and place on an ungreased cookie sheet. Flatten with the bottom of a glass that has been greased and dipped in sugar. Bake about 8-12 minutes or until edges are golden brown.



## STAFF SPOTLIGHT Betty Welch

In November 1991 I drove down the winding road that leads into Menucha, answering an ad for a part-time housekeeping job. At that time I knew nothing about Menucha nor could I pronounce it correctly. Little did I know what an important part the next years at Menucha would play in my life. I was in awe as I looked around the grounds and entered Wright Hall.

I was hired that day and my love for, and dedication to, Menucha began. I immediately came into contact with the staff, and to this day I count many of them as my best friends. Winter passed and spring brought an influx of guests, all of whom I enjoyed assisting and talking to. They shared with me the stories of the wind, rain, beauty and tranquility;

I had already discovered Menucha to be a truly therapeutic haven for all who visit.

In 1985 Cindy Wheeler became the Housekeeping Supervisor, and she and I worked closely to improve the appearance of the buildings. We hung curtains, pictures and mirrors, fixed lamps and bought new lampshades, and purchased additional lamps, small tables, dressers, vases and many decorative items. All of these things were purchased with monies we collected from bottles and cans left at Menucha by guests. We took great pride in leaving each building clean and comfortable for the next guests. We were also proud of the improvements we had made at no cost to Menucha.

In 2001 I was working only a few hours a week when Becky Leamy asked me if I would be interested in assisting in the office while Carolyn McCall was recovering from a serious illness. I was happy to have the chance to be able to continue to assist guests and also be a part of the ministry here.

I have raised four sons. My oldest son, Ken, was a foreign service officer killed by a terrorist bomb in Beirut. My youngest, Gerard, lives near me in Corbett and is a Supervisor for Multnomah County Corrections Department. Two sons live in Michigan. I had four grandchildren. My oldest, Shane, passed in 2001. I have two (soon to be three) great-grandchildren. My family is scattered in different areas of the states, so I content myself with emails, pictures and phone calls.

I live in a cozy cabin in the Corbett area. I stay busy working in my large yard, crocheting afghans, going to estate and garage sales, and collecting cookie jars — I have gathered over 100. I enjoy the daily crossword and going to interesting and historic places with my friends. I am also active in the Corbett Grange.

My joy is on Sunday when I can return to Menucha and be a part of the ministry here. I still get that special feeling when I drive down that winding road. Assisting guests and staff is my personal mission.

## MENUCHA NIGHTS — Tom Showalter

It is winter at Menucha.

Wind, rain and snow do not make for good viewing through the Nadal telescope. It can do a lot, but the atmospheric events are sometimes more than it can handle, not to mention the discomfort afforded the viewers. None the less, the winter skies on a clear night are spectacular.



Orion the Hunter dominates the sky with Taurus the bull and Canis Major and Minor (big and little dog). Betelgeuse, a super red giant star and Rigel, a hot blue white star, along with the great Orion Nebula dominate the constellation Orion. Canis Major and Minor, Orion's faithful companions, are nipping at his heels. Sirius, a famous star used by navigators for centuries because of its brightness, often referred to as the Dog Star, is easily seen in Canis Major.

Come join us at Menucha after the skies clear. Call first to be certain the telescope is up and running, the sky is clear and our crew is available. As the weather becomes more predictable, we can arrange star parties for groups.



## IT'S A GIRL!

Ruby Anne Kara was born to Amber and Albee Kara on Wednesday, January 18th at 5:36 pm, She weighed 8 lbs, 4.7 oz and was 21.5 inches long.



Albee is the IT contractor at Menucha and First Presbyterian, and keeps all of our computers and related software running efficiently.

Amber and Albee are both on staff at EnCompass, a non-profit dedicated to the well-being of children and families. They hold a number of their conferences at Menucha; for more information, you can find them on the internet at [www.encompassfamilies.org](http://www.encompassfamilies.org)



**Menucha Retreat & Conference Center**  
**PO Box 8**  
**Corbett, OR 97019**

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**CONTACT INFORMATION**



You may join our mailing list or update the information we have for you by returning this form to us, or by contacting us:

**PHONE** 503-695-2243  
**FAX** 503-695-2223  
**EMAIL** office@menucha.org  
**MAIL** PO Box 8  
 Corbett, OR 97019

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email address \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive Menucha communications via:  
 Email  Regular mail  
 Is this a change of address (mailing or email) notification?  Yes  No

**WAYS TO GIVE TO THE MISSION AND MINISTRY OF MENUCHA**

**PLANNED GIVING**

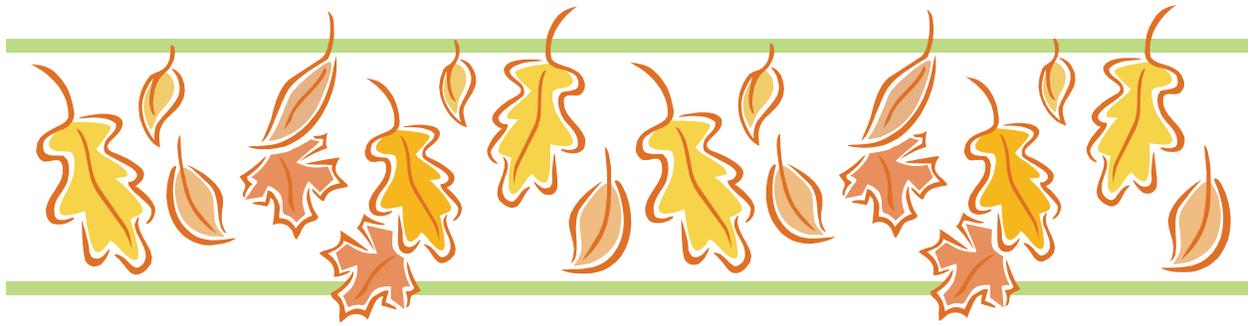
If you would like to remember Menucha in your estate planning and see the ministry and mission of Menucha into the future, please contact us. Many people have discovered the joy of planned giving as a way of being responsible stewards of the blessings God has entrusted to them. We have excellent

representatives who can talk with you about planned giving and answer any questions you might have.

**DONATE ONLINE**

You can now donate money to Menucha using your credit card with our secure on-line form. Simply go to [www.menucha.org](http://www.menucha.org) and click on the "Giving to Menucha" link. You

may also print out a Donor Form and mail it to Menucha, or simply fill out the enclosed Donor Form in this newsletter and send it to us. We are grateful for all gifts, large or small. The monies help us make Menucha available to groups and individuals from around the Pacific Northwest. Thank you for your continued support!



*Save the Date!* 

 for our fourth annual  
*Harvest Fundraising  
Dinner & Silent Auction*

*Sunday evening,*

*September 17th*

*at Menucha* 





# Donor Pledge Form

Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_  
Business (If Applicable) \_\_\_\_\_  
Address \_\_\_\_\_  
City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_  
Contact Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_ Fax \_\_\_\_\_  
E-mail Address \_\_\_\_\_

## How would you like to make your monetary pledge? Please print clearly.

Amount of gift: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

- Check Made payable to: Friends of Menucha Foundation
- Bill me:
- Quarterly, starting \_\_\_\_\_
  - Monthly, starting \_\_\_\_\_
  - Semi-annually, starting \_\_\_\_\_
  - Other, starting \_\_\_\_\_
- Credit Card:  Visa  Mastercard  
#: \_\_\_\_\_  
Exp. \_\_\_\_\_
- Other \_\_\_\_\_  
(Call Menucha at 503.695.2243 to discuss details)

### Categories of Support:

Seven Generations	\$5,000 or more
Old Growth	\$2,500 to \$4,999
Touchstone	\$1,000 to \$2,499
Journey	\$500 to \$999
Nurture	\$250 to \$499
Heritage	\$100 to \$249

\_\_\_\_\_

### Please check one:

- This donation is unrestricted
- This donation is restricted for \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_  
Date \_\_\_\_\_

*Compensation, goods or services have not been given by Menucha in return for this contribution*